

**THE TEXT IS
LIGHT IN
THE BOOK**

HANDBOOK
OF
FEDERAL INDIAN LAW
WITH REFERENCE TABLES AND INDEX

By
FELIX S. COHEN

Foreword by
HAROLD L. FOXES

Introduction by
NATHAN P. MARSHALL

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
OFFICE OF THE SOLICITOR

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FOREWORD

There are few subjects in the history and law of the United States on which public views are more dramatically and flagrantly erroneous than on the subject of Indian affairs. According to the popular view, the Indian is a vanishing race; his lands are steadily dwindling, restricted as to the hunt and denied the wapath, he has nothing to live for and nothing to contribute to our civilization; he is not entitled to the rights of citizenship, he subsists on "rations", and he cannot sign his name without the approval of a reservation superintendent.

The facts are very different. Indians today are probably the most rapidly increasing racial group in our population, the total area of Indian lands has been increasing slowly but steadily for nearly 5 years; the Indian today is making significant and vital contributions to American art and craftsmanship, and to our knowledge and enjoyment of the resources of forests, plains, streams, and trails that were here long before white immigrants came, all native Indians today are citizens, entitled to all of the rights and bound by all of the obligations of citizenship, if some of them still have equitable interests in property which they cannot alienate, they share this disability, or advantage, with a large number of their non-Indian fellow citizens.

That Indians have legal rights is a matter of little practical consequence unless the Indians themselves and those who deal with them are aware of these rights. Such, however, is the complexity of the body of Indian law, based upon more than 4,000 treaties and statutes and upon thousands of judicial decisions and administrative rulings, rendered during a century and a half, that one can well understand the vast ignorance of the subject that prevails even in ordinarily well informed quarters. For more than a century, commissioners of Indian affairs have appealed for aid in reducing this unmanageable mass of materials to some orderly form. Yet during that period none of the attempts to compile a simple manual of the subject was carried to completion.

Ignorance of one's legal rights is always the handmaid of despotism. This Handbook of Federal Indian Law should give to Indians useful weapons in the continual struggle that every minority must wage to maintain its liberties, and at the same time it should give to those who deal with Indians, whether on behalf of the federal or state governments or as private individuals, the understanding which may prevent oppression.

It is entirely fitting that this contribution to the enlightenment of administrators and Indians should have been made under the leadership of one who has striven valiantly to free our national relations with the Indian tribes from the despotic traces of less tolerant epochs. On April 28, 1934, President Franklin D. Roosevelt, in urging the passage of the Wheeler-Howard Act, which, with its recent extensions to Oklahoma and Alaska, stands today as the most important segment of our Indian law, declared:

The Wheeler-Howard bill embodies the basic and broad principles of the administration for a new standard of dealing between the Federal Government and its Indian wards.

It is, in the main, a measure of justice that is long overdue.

We can and should, without further delay, extend to the Indian the fundamental rights of political liberty and local self-government and the opportunities of education and economic assistance that they require in order to attain a wholesome American life. This is but the obligation of honor of a powerful nation toward a people living among us and dependent upon our protection.

Certainly the continuance of autocratic rule, by a Federal department, over the lives of more than 200,000 citizens of this Nation is incompatible with American ideals of liberty. It also is destructive of the character and self-respect of a great race.

The continued application of the allotment laws, under which Indian wards have lost more than two-thirds of their reservation lands, while the costs of Federal administration of those lands have steadily mounted, must be terminated.

Indians throughout the country have been stirred to a new hope. They say they stand at the end of the old trail. Certainly, the figures of impoverishment and disease point to their impending extinction, as a race, unless basic changes in their conditions of life are effected.

I do not think such changes can be devised and carried out without the active cooperation of the Indians themselves.

The Wheeler-Howard bill offers the basis for such cooperation. It allows the Indian people to take an active and responsible part in the solution of their own problems.

This Handbook of Federal Indian Law will constitute, I believe, a lasting contribution towards the ideals thus enunciated.

This work cannot have the legal force of an act of Congress or the decision of a court. Whatever legal force it will have must be derived from the original authorities which have been assiduously gathered and patiently analyzed. In publishing this work the Department of the Interior does not assume responsibility for every generalization, prediction, or inference that may be found in the volume. What is implicit, however, in the fact of publication is a considered judgment that this volume will prove a valuable aid in fulfilling the obligation which Congress has laid upon the Department of the Interior to protect and safeguard the rights of our oldest national minority.

The labors which Solicitor Nathan R. Margold, Assistant Solicitor Felix S. Cohen, and their aides and collaborators have devoted to this pioneer work will be appreciated, not only by those Indians and Indian Service administrators whose needs it most directly serves, but by all of us who hold dear the civilized ideals of liberty and tolerance.

(Signed) HAROLD L. ICKES.

JULY 9, 1940.

INTRODUCTION

1 THE BACKGROUND OF FEDERAL INDIAN LAW

We in this country are slowly learning to appreciate the significance of the problem of Indian rights for the cause of democracy here in the United States and throughout the Western Hemisphere. Over the radio, a few months ago, came the words of a man who knows more than any one else in the world about Indians as human beings. His words are a better introduction to the Indian problem than I can write.

What sort of treatment dominant groups give to subject groups—how governments treat minorities—and how big countries treat little countries. This is a subject that comes down the centuries, and never was it a more burning subject than in this year 1939—even in this month, December 1939.

So the question. How has our own country treated its oldest and most persisting minority, the Indians, how has it treated them, and how is it treating them now? This is an important question. I believe that nearly all Americans realize the importance of this question. Many millions of our citizens feel an interest, curious and sympathetic and sometimes enthusiastic, in our Indian minority.

What I shall describe will be a bad beginning which lasted a long time, which broke Indian hearts for generation after generation, which inflicted destructions that no future time can wholly repair. Then I shall describe how the long-lasting bad record was changed to something good, how, although the change came so late, it did not come too late, how when the change came, it still found hundreds of Indian tribes ready to respond to the opportunity which at last had been given them. I shall describe how the good change has developed across three Presidencies, so that it is not an achievement or program of a single political party. But I shall describe, too, the decisive and massive good change which has come under President Franklin D. Roosevelt and Secretary of the Interior, Harold L. Ickes.¹

I shall not quote the main body of Commissioner Collier's speech, for that reappears, amplified and developed somewhat, in the pages that follow. I quote, again, only his final words:

No, the task is not finished. It is only well begun. But one part of the task is finished, and it marks and makes an epoch. The repressions which crushed the Indian spirit have been lifted away. From out of an ancient and dark prison house the living Indian has burst into the light, into the living sunlight and the future. All of his age-tempored powers and his age-tried discipline are still there. He knows that the future is his; and that the century of dishonor, for him, is ended.

But he needs our continuing help, and our nation's debt to him is not yet paid.

The thing we have started to do, and with your help, you citizens of our country, will continue to do, is to aid the Indian work out his own destiny. We have helped him to return and to rebuild the richness of his own national life, and in doing this we think we have enriched the national life, the national heritage and the national honor of 130,000,000 Americans. This is the way the democracy of the United States is solving the minority problem of its first Americans.

Let me carry your thought beyond our own national borders. Our Indians are a tiny, though now a growing minority. But south of the Rio Grande, the Indians number not hundreds of thousands, but millions. Pure-blooded Indians are the major population in Mexico, in Guatemala, Honduras, Peru, Ecuador. There are thirty million Indians—one growing race, and one of the world's great races. And that race is marching toward power. It may be that the most dependable guarantee of the survival and triumph of real democracy in our hemisphere, south of the Rio Grande, is this advance toward power of the Indians, who from most ancient times, and now, are believers in, and practitioners of local democracy.

What we are doing—what with your help we shall do—to meet our own Indian minority problem has a deep significance to these 30,000,000 other Indians, and to all the countries where they are located. Here we enter within the battleground and effort-ground of our Western Hemisphere destiny. It is upon this scale of two continents, and of a democracy defended and increased through at least one-half of our globe, that world-history will view our own record with our Indian minority.

¹ "America's Handling of its Indigenous Indian Minority," an address by John Collier, December 4, 1939, 7 Indians at Work, No. 8, January, 1940, pp. 11, 16.

Against this background of history and of struggle and hope, the federal law governing Indian affairs may be viewed not, as it has too often been viewed, as a curious collection of anachronisms and mysteries, but rather as a revealing record in the development of our American constitutional democracy. The decline of dictatorship in the Indian country is fresh enough in our national memory so that we may perhaps profit from an analysis of weaknesses that dictatorial bluster ever seeks to conceal, and from an understanding of the ways in which the forms and forces of democracy have, in this small sector of an endless battle line, won victory.

2. THE BASIS OF FEDERAL INDIAN LAW

For more than a century, Supreme Court Justices, Attorneys General, and Commissioners of Indian Affairs have commented on the intricate complexity and peculiarity of federal Indian law. Yet until now no writer has attempted to gather into a single work these intricacies. The reason may perhaps best be appreciated by those who have attempted that task. The federal law governing Indians is a mass of statutes, treaties, and judicial and administrative rulings, that includes practically all the fields of law known to textbook writers—the law of real property, contracts, corporations, torts, domestic relations, procedure, criminal law, federal jurisdiction, constitutional law, conflict of laws, and international law. And in each of these fields the fact that Indians are involved gives the basic doctrines and concepts of the field a new quirk which sometimes carries unpredictable consequences.

To survey a field which includes, for instance, more than four thousand distinct statutory enactments, one must generalize. And generalization on the subject of Indian law is peculiarly dangerous.

For about a century the United States dealt separately with the various Indian tribes and the legal rights of the members of each tribe were fixed by treaty.¹ These treaties are for the most part still in force and of recognized validity. In them one finds reflected the very wide pre-Columbian divergences that existed, for instance, between the great agricultural towns and confederacies of the Southeast and the loosely organized nomadic hunters of the Plains area, or between the small fish-eating, slave-owning bands of the Northwest Coast and the great constitutional democracy that was the League of the Iroquois.

When Congress in 1871 enacted a law² prohibiting further treaty making with the Indian tribes, the form of governmental dealing with the Indians was changed, but the essential character of those dealings was not modified. Congress continued to deal with the Indian tribes, in large measure, through "agreements," ratified by both Houses of Congress, which do not differ from treaties in legal effect. The only substantial change accomplished by the law of 1871 was that whereas Indian treaties were submitted for the ratification of the Senate alone, as the Constitution of the United States provides,³ agreements are ratified by the action of both Houses, and thus the House of Representatives, which had long been excluded from equal participation in Indian affairs, has achieved an equal status with the Senate in that field. Apart from treaties and agreements with particular tribes, the dealings of the Federal Government with the Indians have been predominantly by way of special statutes applying to named tribes, and, most recently, by way of tribal constitutions and tribal charters, all varying very considerably among the different tribes. Until the last years of the nineteenth century there was very little general legislation applying a uniform pattern to all tribes, and what little there was usually turns out, on analysis, to be in the nature of generalization from provisions that had appeared in several treaties.

During what may be roughly defined as the allotment period—from 1887, when the General Allotment law⁴ was passed, to 1933, when the process of allotment came to an end—there developed a tendency to impose upon all Indian tribes a uniform pattern of general laws and general regulations. This tendency was commonly justified in terms of administrative efficiency and economy, and to this justification there was sometimes added the thought that Indian treaties, special statutes, and regional differences were all outworn relics which had to be sacrificed in the march of national progress. The effect, however, of this policy of ignoring the special rights conferred on individual tribes by treaty and statute and ignoring the political autonomy and cultural diversity of the tribes was to cause tremendous and widespread resentment among the Indians. The Indians found Indian and white champions. Protest against mistreatment of the Indian led to many investigations. A survey was conducted by the Institute for Government Research at the request of Secretary of Interior Work. The results of this study, published in 1928 under the title: "The Problem of Indian Administration," gave direction

¹ See Chapter 3, for an analysis of these treaties.

² Act of March 3, 1871, 16 Stat. 544, 550, R. S. § 3079, 28 U. S. C. 71.

³ Article II, sec. 2.

⁴ Act of February 8, 1887, 24 Stat. 388, 28 U. S. C. 381 *et seq.*

for more than a decade to Indian reform. On February 1, 1923, the Senate authorized its Committee on Indian Affairs to carry out an intensive survey of the condition of the Indians in the United States.⁶

These investigations have brought to light many of the evils resulting from attempts to impose a uniform pattern of treatment upon groups with different wants, and thus have strengthened the tendency towards special consideration of the legal problems of particular tribes. The policy of superseding the old pattern of uniformity and absolutism found expression in the Wheeler-Howard (Indian Reorganization) Act. Pursuant to this law, approved on June 18, 1934,⁷ more than a hundred tribes in the United States adopted their own constitutions for self-government.⁸ Practically all the regulations of the Indian Service have now been made subject to modifications for particular tribes through the provisions of those tribal constitutions and tribal ordinances.

These considerations indicate that a work on federal Indian law must deal with law made for, and in large part by, diverse groups with divergent economic interests, political institutions, and levels of cultural attainment.

Anyone who has worked in the field of Indian litigation is frequently asked by otherwise well informed people whether he understands "the Indian language." There are, in fact, more than 200 different Indian languages, some of them as distinct from each other as English and Chinese. This linguistic diversity is paralleled by diversities in the conditions and legal problems of more than 200 different Indian reservations.

Common opinion pictures the original American dressed in feathers and wampum, his belt adorned with scalps, mounted on a horse, gazing after buffalo. This picture blurs over the fact that many Indians, before white contact, were farmers and fishermen who had never seen feather head-dresses, wampum, scalps, or buffalo, that no Indian ever rode a horse before the Spaniards brought horses into North America, and that the special combination of striking Indian peculiarities which the modern "circus Indian" embodies did not exist before the rise of modern American showmanship.

Just as the popular picture of the Indian embodies a false juxtaposition of traits, so the popular view of Indian law embodies a false juxtaposition of ideas.

The popular view of the Indian's legal status proceeds from the assumption that the Indian is a ward of the Government, and not a citizen, that therefore he cannot make contracts without Indian Bureau approval, that he holds land in common under "Indian title" that he is entitled to education in federal schools when he is young, to rations when he is hungry, and to the rights of American citizenship when he abandons his tribal relations.

This is, on the whole, a thoroughly false picture, although historical exemplification may be found for each feature.

It would be absurd to set up in place of this false and oversimplified picture of federal Indian law any other equally simple picture. It may be worth while, however, to set forth certain hypotheses concerning the recurrent patterns of federal Indian law, which will be tested against decisions, statutes, and treaties in the pages that follow. These hypotheses may be conveniently grouped under four leading principles: (1) The principle of the political equality of races; (2) the principle of tribal self-government; (3) the principle of federal sovereignty in Indian affairs; and (4) the principle of governmental protection of Indians.

⁶ Whereas there are two hundred and twenty-five thousand Indians presently under the control of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, who are, in contemplation of law, citizens of the United States but who are in fact treated as wards of the Government and are prevented from the enjoyment of the free and independent use of property and of liberty of contract with respect thereto, and

Whereas the Bureau of Indian Affairs handles, leases, and sells Indian property of great value, and disposes of funds which amount to many millions of dollars annually without responsibility to civil courts and without effective responsibility to Congress, and

Whereas it is claimed that by the Bureau of Indian Affairs of the persons and property of Indians is preventing them from accommodating them selves to the conditions and requirements of modern life and from exercising that liberty with respect to their own affairs without which they can not develop into self-reliance, free, and independent citizens and have the rights which belong generally to citizens of the United States, and

Whereas numerous complaints have been made by responsible persons and organizations charging improper and imprudent administration of Indian property by the Bureau of Indian Affairs, and

Whereas it is claimed that preventable diseases are widespread among the Indian population, that the death rate among them is not only unreasonably high but is increasing, and that the Indians in many localities are becoming pauperized, and

Whereas the acts of Congress passed in the last hundred years having as their objective the civilization of the Indian tribes seem to have failed to accomplish the results anticipated, and

Whereas it is expedient that said acts of Congress and the Indian policy incorporated in said acts be examined and the administration and operation of the same as affecting the condition of the Indian population be surveyed and appraised. Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Committee on Indian Affairs of the Senate is authorized and directed to make a general survey of the condition of the Indians and of the operation and effect of the laws which Congress has passed for the civilization and protection of the Indian tribes, to investigate the relation of the Bureau of Indian Affairs to the persons and property of Indians and the effect of the acts, regulations, and administration of said bureau upon the health, improvement, and welfare of the Indians, and to report its findings in the premises, together with recommendations for the correction of abuses that may be found to exist, and for such changes in the law as will promote the security, economic competence, and progress of the Indians.

Said committee is authorized to send for persons, books, and papers, to administer oaths, to employ such clerical assistance as is necessary, to sit during any recess of the Senate, and at such places as it may deem advisable. Any subcommittee, duly authorized thereto, shall have the powers conferred upon the committee by this resolution.

The expenses of said investigation shall be paid out of the contingent fund of the Senate and shall not exceed \$60,000.
Res. 767, 76th Cong., 1st sess.)

⁷ 48 Stat. 984, 25 U. S. C. 461 et seq. For subsequent amendments and extensions, see Chapter 7.

⁸ See Chapter 7.

A. POLITICAL EQUALITY

The right to be immune from racial discrimination by governmental agencies is an essential part of the fabric of democratic government in the United States. In part, this right is constitutionally affirmed by the fifth, fourteenth, and fifteenth amendments to the Federal Constitution; in part, the right is embodied in statutes providing penalties for racial discrimination by agencies of Federal and State Government, and, in part, the right is no more than a moral right implicit in the character of democratic government but not always protected by adequate legal machinery.

Despite a widely prevalent impression to the contrary, all Indians born in the United States are citizens of the United States and of the state in which they reside.⁹ As citizens they are entitled to the rights of suffrage guaranteed by the fifteenth amendment,¹⁰ and they are likewise entitled to hold public office,¹¹ to sue,¹² to make contracts,¹³ and to enjoy all the civil liberties guaranteed to them fellow citizens.¹⁴ These rights take on a special significance against the background of highly organized administrative control. They indicate that a body of federal Indian law, considered as "racial law," would be as much an anomaly as a body of federal law for persons of Teutonic descent, and that the existence of federal Indian law can be neither justified nor understood except in terms of the existence of Indian tribes.

B. TRIBAL SELF-GOVERNMENT

The principle that an Indian tribe is a political body with powers of self-government was first clearly enunciated by Chief Justice Marshall in the case of *Worcester v. Georgia*.¹⁵ Indian tribes or nations, he declared,

* * * had always been considered as distinct, independent, political communities, retaining their original natural rights, * * *. (P. 559.)

To this situation was applied the accepted rule of international law:

* * * the settled doctrine of the law of nations is, that a weaker power does not surrender its independence—its right to self-government—by associating with a stronger, and taking its protection. (P. 560.)

From these premises the courts have concluded that Indian tribes have all the powers of self-government of any sovereignty except insofar as those powers have been modified or repealed by act of Congress or treaty. Hence over large fields of criminal and civil law, and particularly over questions of tribal membership, inheritance, tribal taxation, tribal property, domestic relations, and the form of tribal government, the laws, customs, and decisions of the proper tribal governing authorities have, to this day, the force of law.¹⁶

C. FEDERAL SOVEREIGNTY

The doctrine that Indian affairs are subject to the control of the Federal Government, rather than that of the states, derives from two legal sources.¹⁷ In the first place, the Federal Constitution expressly conferred upon the Congress of the United States the power "to regulate commerce with the Indian tribes."¹⁸ Matters internal to the tribe itself even to this day have been left largely in the hands of tribal governments. Federal power has generally been invoked in matters arising out of commerce with the Indian tribes, in the broad sense in which that phrase has been used to include all transactions by which Indians sought to dispose of land or other property in exchange for money, liquor, munitions or other products of the white man's civilization. The growth of the commerce clause has meant the expansion of federal power in Indian affairs, at the expense of state power.

Supplementary to the express constitutional power over commerce with the Indian tribes which was conferred upon Congress, the Federal Government was constitutionally endowed with plenary power over the making of treaties. Since the Federal Government had made several treaties with Indian tribes prior to the adoption of the Constitution in 1787, and continued to make such treaties for more than eight decades thereafter, the growth of federal power over Indian relations, at the expense of all claims of state power, was continuous and unchecked during the period in which the outlines of our present law of Indian affairs were established.

⁹ See Chapter 5, sec. 2.

¹⁰ See Chapter 5, sec. 3.

¹¹ See Chapter 5, sec. 4.

¹² See Chapter 5, sec. 5.

¹³ See Chapter 5, sec. 7.

¹⁴ See Chapter 5, sec. 10.

¹⁵ 6 Pet. 515 (1823).

¹⁶ See Chapter 7.

¹⁷ See Chapter 5.

¹⁸ Art. I, sec. 8.

At the present time it may be laid down as a rough general rule that Indians on an Indian reservation are not subject to state law. This exemption is of particular importance in the fields of criminal law and taxation. The general rule has been modified in a few particulars by congressional action confining upon the state specific power over certain subjects. Perhaps the most important of these laws delegating power to the states is the General Allotment Act,¹⁹ which provides that, when tribal lands have been individualized, the individual parcels shall be inherited in accordance with the laws of the state. Another important exception to the general rule of federal sovereignty exists in the case of Oklahoma, where very extensive powers over Indians have been conferred upon the government of the state.²⁰ In both of these cases, as well as in various other matters, the power of the state is defined by federal legislation.²¹

D GOVERNMENTAL PROTECTION OF INDIANS

Most of the legislation of the United States with respect to Indian affairs is subject to a dual interpretation. To the cynic such legislation may frequently appear as a mechanism for the orderly plundering of the Indian. To those more charitably inclined, the Government has appeared as the protector of the Indians against individuals who wished to separate the Indian from his possessions. Without attempting to anticipate the judgment that history will render on this conflict of doctrine, it may be said that at least the theory of American law governing Indian affairs has always been that the Government owed a duty of protection to the Indian in his relations with non-Indians. As was said by the Supreme Court of the United States in the case of *United States v. Kagama*:²²

Because of the local ill feeling, the people of the States where they [the Indian tribes] are found are often their deadliest enemies. From their very weakness and helplessness, so largely due to the course of dealing of the Federal Government with them, and the treaties in which it has been promised, there arises the duty of protection, and with it the power. This has always been recognized by the Executive and by Congress, and by this court, whenever the question has arisen. (P. 384.)

As a practical matter the individuals against whom the Indian needed the most vigorous kind of protection were the trader and the settler. Both wanted Indian land. The trader also wanted furs. The trader offered directly or indirectly, in exchange for land or furs, kettles, knives, clothing, liquor, firearms, ammunition, and other commodities. Some of these commodities were unknown in the pre-Columbian cultures, and the tribes had developed no adequate social controls over their use, the byproducts of this trade were disease, violence and, in many cases, the destruction of the game on which the Indians had subsisted. The settler wanted Indian land. Often he offered, in exchange for the land, the trader's goods, often he took the land without offering any *quid pro quo*. This intercourse between Indians and whites threatened the decimation of Indians through violence, disease, and starvation and imposed upon the Federal Government a tremendous cost for military protection of the white frontier families against the not always discriminating retaliation of the despoiled natives. The effort to control this intercourse was the guiding motif of federal Indian legislation down to our own generation.

Thus the problems of federal Indian law have been primarily the problems of (1) the regulation of Indian traders, (2) controlling the disposition of Indian land, (3) the protection of that land against trespass, and (4) the control of the liquor traffic. A few words on each of these four points may suggest the general contours of our federal law on Indian affairs.

(1) In 1790 the Federal Congress adopted the policy of regulating trade with the Indians through a system of licensing traders.²³ Except for a brief period, from 1796 to 1822, when a system of Government trading houses was maintained, the principle of control of Indian trade through licenses has been in force. Under this system federal supervision of the character and quality of goods sold and prices charged has been possible. Sales of liquor, and of firearms and ammunition not needed for useful purposes, have been banned. The system depended very largely for its effectiveness upon the isolation of the Indian groups affected, and in recent years the growth of towns and cities upon or near various Indian reservations and the development of mail-order trade have introduced elements of uncertainty into the question of the present efficacy and future development of our federal control over Indian trade.

¹⁹ Act of February 8, 1887, 24 Stat. 382, 25 U. S. C. § 381 *et seq.* See Chapter 11.

²⁰ See Chapter 23.

²¹ See Chapter 6.

²² 118 U. S. 375, 384 (1886). The comma after "them" in the third line of the quotation appears in the Supreme Court Reporter edition but not in the U. S. Reports edition. It is essential to the sense of the passage.

²³ See Chapter 16.

(2) The problem of federal control over the disposition of Indian lands becomes a very esoteric legal problem if pursued into the mysteries which have been created by those who sought to deduce specific limitations upon Indian land sales from the inherent attributes of the general concept of "Indian title." The notion of "Indian title," as a supposed special form of tenure involving rights of possession but no right of alienation, is a notion that depends upon certain feudal doctrines of sovereignty, dominion, and seizure, on which endless controversy is possible. The subject, however, loses much of its mystery if the sale of land be viewed against the background of federal control over other types of Indian trade. The fact is that, while recognizing that the Indian tribes owned lands in their possession and had the right to dispose of them the Federal Government has always circumscribed such disposition by means of laws prescribing the manner and terms upon which Indian land may be alienated.²¹ The economic significance of this control is apparent in the following statement of the United States Supreme Court:²²

The Indian right to the lands as property, was not merely of possession; that of alienation was concomitant; both were equally secured, protected and guaranteed by Great Britain and Spain, subject only to ratification and confirmation by the license, charter or deed from the governor representing the king. Such purchases enabled the Indians to pay their debts, compensate for their depredations on the traders resident among them, to provide for their wants; while they were available to the purchasers as payment of the considerations which at their expense had been received by the Indians. It would have been a violation of the faith of the government to both, to encourage traders to settle in the province, to put themselves and property in the power of the Indians, to suffer the latter to contract debts, and when willing to pay them by the only means in their power, a cession of their lands, withhold an assent to the purchase, which, by their laws or municipal regulations, was necessary to vest a title. (Pp. 758-759.)

The first Indian Intercourse Act²³ provided that all alienations of Indian land should be made "at some public treaty, held under the authority of the United States." In the land sales that were made by treaty the United States was generally the purchaser, but in a few cases States or private individuals were designated as purchasers of the land sold.

Apart from treaties, a series of special statutes, generally but not always dependent upon the consent of the Indians concerned, provided for the sale of Indian lands. Other statutes, general as well as special, have provided for the leasing, by the Indians or by the Secretary of the Interior on their behalf, of Indian lands and minerals and the sale of Indian-owned timber.²⁴ Legislation authorizing the allotment of tribal lands, and supplementary laws dealing with such allotments, have provided for the sale or lease of allotted lands, under various degrees of federal administrative supervision.²⁵

By maintaining its control over the transactions by which Indians dispose of land, the United States has been able to establish a degree of control over the moneys or other *quid pro quo* received by the Indians in connection with such disposition.²⁶ Thus various types of tribal and individual funds, generally representing returns from the disposition of Indian land and subject to federal control, have been established, and a good deal of the attention which Congress and the Interior Department have given to the Indian problem has been directed to the proper use of this money. Part of this vast fund, obtained from the disposition of Indian natural resources, has been used for the administration of education, health, and other public services on the Indian reservations; part of it has been distributed to the Indians in per capita payments, and part has been utilized, with or without the consent of the Indians, for expenses of government administration on the reservations. The various service functions of the Indian Service which have developed out of the administration of these funds must be left for later treatment.²⁷ It is enough for our present purposes to note that the principle of federal protection of the Indian, applied specifically to Indian lands, continued to exert its force beyond the transaction of Indian land sale, and that by virtue of this principle federal control came to be extended over almost the entire economic life of the Indian.

(3) The protection of Indian land against trespass was one of the first responsibilities assumed by the Federal Government. The promise of such protection for lands retained by the Indian tribes was an important *quid pro quo* in the process of treaty-making by which the United States acquired a vast public domain.²⁸ This

²¹ See Chapter 15.

²² *Michel v. United States*, 9 Pet. 711, 738-739 (1833). And see Chapter 15, note 38.

²³ Act of July 22, 1790, 1 Stat. 137.

²⁴ See Chapter 15.

²⁵ See Chapters 9, 11.

²⁶ See Chapter 10.

²⁷ See Chapter 13.

²⁸ See Chapter 8.

promise of protection was sometimes backed up by a treaty provision declaring that trespassers put themselves outside the protection of the Federal Government, and might be dealt with by the tribes themselves according to their own laws and customs.

It is characteristic of the piecemeal approach characterizing federal legislation on Indian affairs that despite the importance of the subject of trespass upon Indian lands no general legislation on the subject has ever been enacted. Apart from the various treaty provisions with particular tribes, there are separate laws dealing with trespass by unlicensed traders, by horse thieves, and other criminals or would-be criminals, by settlers, by persons driving livestock to graze on Indian lands, and by hunters and trappers.³² But there is to this day no general law which can be invoked against those trespassers whose occupation Congress has not foreseen. Ordinary civil actions have been brought by, or on behalf of, Indians and Indian tribes to protect Indian lands against trespass, but Indian unfamiliarity with legal procedure has often rendered this remedy ineffective. In recent years the Federal Government has devoted considerable attention to litigation for the protection of Indian lands against trespass. The right of the Federal Government to bring such suits has been justified either on the theory that title to the lands rested with the Federal Government or on the more general theory that the Federal Government has a special obligation, as guardian of the Indians, to protect their lands against trespass even where full title in fee simple is held by the Indian tribe.³³ It is pertinent to note, finally, that the federal protection of Indian lands against trespass by State authorities has given rise to the established doctrine that such lands are not subject to State land taxes.³⁴ This doctrine has been invoked, in turn, by state authorities as a reason for not rendering to reservation Indians various public services that are rendered to other citizens of the state, e. g. public education.³⁵

(4) In the belief that a great deal of Indian disorder was the result of traffic in intoxicants, Congress early established a total prohibition law for the Indian country.³⁶ This law has been maintained in force continuously for more than a century. The breaking down of early conditions of isolation has made the enforcement of this legislation an increasingly difficult problem.

E. SUMMARY

In each of the foregoing four fields of legislation the principle of federal protection of the Indians has been carried into effect by means of some type of federal control over transactions between Indians and non-Indians, whether through complete prohibition, licensing, or the prescribing of conditions governing particular transactions. It is fair to say that historically and logically federal control over transactions of these four types is at the root of the entire body of federal legislation on Indian affairs. Thus this tremendous and unwieldy mass of legislation, comprising more than 4,300 distinct enactments, may be viewed in its entirety as the concrete content of the abstract principle of federal protection of the Indian.

In terms, this principle, an offspring of the more general one of federal sovereignty over Indian affairs, is entirely consistent with the principles of racial equality and of tribal self-government in matters internal to the tribe. In practice, however, the unsolved problems of our federal law in the field of Indian affairs all deal fundamentally with the demarcation of domain among these independent competing principles.

3. METHOD OF TREATMENT

This handbook does not purport to be a cyclopedia. It does not attempt to say the last word on the varied legal problems which it treats. If one who seeks to track down a point of federal Indian law finds in this volume relevant background, general perspective, and useful leads to the authorities, the handbook will have served the purpose for which it was written. More than this might have been done if it had been possible to carry through the work on the scale in which it was originally planned by Assistant Attorney General McFarland.

The method of this handbook is dictated by its subject matter. Federal Indian law is a subject that cannot be understood if the historical dimension of existing law is ignored. As I have elsewhere observed,³⁷ the groups of human beings with whom Federal Indian law is immediately concerned have undergone, in the century and a half of our national existence, changes in living habits, institutions, needs and aspirations far greater than the changes that separate from our own age the ages for which Hammurabi, Moses, Lycurgus, or Justinian legislated.

³² See Act of July 22, 1790, 1 Stat. 137; Act of March 1, 1795, 1 Stat. 530; Act of May 10, 1796, 1 Stat. 406; Act of March 3, 1799, 1 Stat. 748; Act of March 30, 1802, 2 Stat. 139; Act of June 30, 1834, 4 Stat. 729.

³³ See Chapter 15, *supra* 101D.

³⁴ *The New York Indians*, 5 Wall. 761 (1860). And see Chapter 12.

³⁵ See Chapter 16.

³⁶ See Chapter 17.

³⁷ U. S. Department of the Interior, Office of the Solicitor, *Statutory Compilation of the Indian Law Survey: A Compendium of Federal Laws and Treaties Relating to Indians*, edited by Felix S. Cohen, Chief, Indian Law Survey, with a Foreword by Nathan B. Margold, Solicitor, Department of the Interior (1940, 46 vols.) vol. 1, pp. 1-111.

Telescoped into a century and a half, one may find changes in social, political, and property relations which stretch over more than 30 centuries of European civilization. The toughness of law which keeps it from changing as rapidly as social conditions change in our national life is, of course, much more serious where the rate of social change is 20 times as rapid. Thus, if the laws governing Indian affairs are viewed as lawyers generally view existing law, without reference to the varying times in which particular provisions were enacted, the body of the law thus viewed is a mystifying collection of inconsistencies and anachronisms. To recognize the different dates at which various provisions were enacted is the first step towards order and sanity in this field.

Not only is it important to recognize the temporal "depth" of existing legislation, it is also important to appreciate the past existence of legislation which has, technically, ceased to exist. For there is a very real sense in which it can be said that no provision of law is ever completely wiped out. This is particularly true in the field of Indian law. At every session of the Supreme Court, there arise cases in which the validity of a present claim depends upon the question: "What was the law on such and such a point in some earlier period?" Laws long repealed have served to create legal rights which endure and which can be understood only by reference to the repealed legislation. Thus, in seeking a complete answer to various questions of Indian law, one finds that he cannot rest with a collection of laws "still in force," but must constantly recur to legislation that has been repealed, amended, or superseded.

Important, however, as is the historical factor in the understanding of federal Indian law, a mere chronology of laws and decisions would be of little value. Systematic analysis is needed, the more so because no treatise has ever been written on the subject of federal Indian law. Indeed the subject hardly exists, as yet, except as a mass of rules and laws relating to a single subject matter. Unfortunately relation to a single subject matter is not enough to establish systematic interconnections among the rules and statutes so related. Thus any lawyer can see for himself by referring to treatises on "the law of horses" or "the law of fire engines." Federal Indian law does exhibit a systematic interconnectedness of parts, but to discover and define the common standards, principles, concepts, and modes of analysis that run through this massive body of statutes and decisions is an analytical task of the first order.

History and analysis need to be supplemented by an understanding of the actual functioning of legal rules and concepts, the actual consequences of statutes and decisions. Language on statute books, in the field of Indian law as in other fields, frequently has only a tenuous relation to the law-in-action which courts and administrators and the process of government have derived from the words of Congress. The words of court opinions frequently have as tenuous a relation to the actual holdings. Magic "solving words" like "Indian title," "wardship," and "competency," are often used to establish connections, between a case under consideration and some precedent, that turn out on reflection to be purely verbal. Functional study of the federal Indian law in action is essential to a work that may serve the practical purposes of administrators.

While it has been fashionable in some circles to consider historical, analytical, and functional approaches to legal problems as mutually exclusive and antagonistic, a more tolerant and useful viewpoint is expressed in the keynote article of one of the most promising of the newer legal periodicals:

Precisely because it is a very different question from these questions that have occupied so large a part of traditional jurisprudence, the question of the human significance of law must be posed as a supplement to established lines of inquiry in legal science rather than as a substitute for them. Indeed, there is an intimate and mutual interdependence among these lines of inquiry, historical, analytical, ethical, and functional.

The law of the present is a tenuous abstraction hovering between legal history and legal prophecy. The functionalist cannot describe the present significance of any rule of law without reference to historical elements. It is equally true that the historical jurist cannot reconstruct the past unless he grasps the meaning of the present.

The functionalist must have recourse to the logical instruments that analytical jurisprudence furnishes. Analytical jurisprudence, in turn, may develop more fruitful modes of analysis with a better understanding of the law-in-action.

Functional description of the workings of a legal rule will be indispensable to one who seeks to pass ethical judgments on law. The functionalist, however, is likely to be lost in an infinite maze of trivialities unless he is able to concentrate on the *important* consequences of a legal rule and ignore the *unimportant* consequences, a distinction which can be made only in terms of an ethical theory.³⁸

³⁸ F. S. Cohen, *The Problems of a Functional Jurisprudence*, 1 *Modern Law Review* (London) (1937) 5, 7.

When I assigned to the writer of these words the task of applying to the field of Indian law the standards of scholarship which he had written about and demonstrated in several other fields,¹⁰ I did so with the conviction that the resulting work would be a contribution to legal scholarship and legal method as well as to the immediate field of Indian law. Assistant Solicitor Felix S. Cohen has brought to bear in the writing of this work not only an unusual equipment in fields of research but seven years of practical experience in handling on the various Indian reservations the most difficult controversies that have arisen during that period and in drafting a significant part of the legislation about which he writes.

(Signed) NATHAN R. MARGOLD,
Solicitor.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, *July 3, 1940.*

¹⁰ *The Ethical Basis of Legal Criticism* (1931), 41 *Yale Law Jour.* 201, *Ethical Systems and Legal Ideals* (1933), (In collaboration with Mr. Justice Shientag) *Summary Judgments in the Supreme Court of New York* (1932), 82 *Col. Law Rev.* 826, *The Subject Matter of Ethical Science* (1932), 42 *Int. Jour. of Ethics* 967, *Modern Ethics and the Law* (1931), 4 *Brooklyn Law Rev.* 71, *Transcendental Nonsense and the Functional Approach* (1935), 45 *Col. Law Rev.* 800, *Anthropology and the Problems of Indian Administration* (1937), 18 *Southwestern Social Science Quarterly* No. 2, *The Relativity of Philosophical Systems and the Method of Systematic Holism* (1939), 86 *Journal of Philosophy* 87, *The Social and Economic Consequences of Restrictive Immigration Laws* (1939), 2 *Nat. Lawyers Guild Quart.* 171, *Indian Rights and the Federal Courts* (1940), 21 *Miss. Law Rev.* 148.

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Even this lengthy roster, sufficient as it is to dispel any illusory author's pride, is far from representing a complete sum of the human efforts that move through the pages of this volume. To do justice to these efforts one would have to mention the writers of books, articles and broils, which are quoted at length in these chapters, the judges whose opinions form the backbone of the volume, the administrative officials whose reports and legal

memoranda have proved so valuable in fields not yet covered by the decided cases, the statesmen in the White House, in Congress, and among the Indian tribes whose thoughts have taken form in the language of statute, treaty, and tribal law, which makes up so large a portion of this study, the many critics outside of Government circles who have brought to light defects in Indian law and administration, the critics of preliminary drafts of these chapters who have aided in many successive revisions, and the score or more of clerical and stenographic assistants who have performed many tasks incidental to the preparation of this work. But any such attempt to place on a written page all the names of those on whom one has depended would be inevitably vain. For each of us in his appointed work, in Government service as elsewhere, is the instrument of forces that run through an entire generation. What has made this work possible, in the final analysis, is a set of beliefs that form the intellectual equipment of a generation—a belief that our treatment of the Indian in the past is not something of which a democracy can be proud, a belief that the protection of minority rights and the substitution of reason and agreement for force and dictation represent a contribution to civilization, a belief that confusion and ignorance in fields of law are allies of despotism, a belief that it is the duty of the Government to aid oppressed groups in the understanding and appreciation of their legal rights, a belief that understanding of the law, in Indian fields as elsewhere, requires more than textual exegesis, requires appreciation of history and understanding of economic, political, social, and moral problems. These beliefs represent, I think, the American mind in our generation as it impinges upon one tiny segment of the many problems which modern democracy faces. It is fundamentally to these beliefs and to this mind that an author's acknowledgments, gratitude, and loyalty are due.

(Signed) FELIX S. COHEN

JULY 1, 1940.

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HANDBOOK OF FEDERAL INDIAN LAW

CHAPTER 1

THE FIELD OF INDIAN LAW: INDIANS AND THE INDIAN COUNTRY

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SECTION 1. THE FIELD OF INDIAN LAW

Indians are human beings, and like other human beings, become involved in lawsuits. Nearly all of these lawsuits involve problems in the law of contracts, torts, and other recognized fields which have no particular relevance to Indian affairs. In many cases the only legal problems presented are of this character. Not every lawsuit, therefore, which involves Indians can be considered a part of our Indian law. Conversely, not every case that presents a problem of Indian law involves Indians as litigants. Most of the land in the United States, for example, was purchased from Indians, and therefore almost any title must depend for its ultimate validity upon issues of Indian law even though the land Indian owners and all their descendants be long forgotten.

Our subject, therefore, cannot be defined in terms of the parties litigant appearing in any case. It must be defined rather in terms of the legal questions which are involved in a case. Where such questions turn upon rights, privileges, powers, or immunities of an Indian or an Indian tribe or an administrative agency set up to deal with Indian affairs, or where governing rules of law are affected by the fact that a place is under Indian ownership or devoted to Indian use, the case that presents such questions belongs within the confines of this study.

Further, we shall use the term "federal Indian law" to cover not only decisions of courts, strictly so-called, but also decisions of administrative agencies and such materials, contained in statute, treaty, Executive order, or governmental regulation, custom and practice, as are recognized by courts and administrators, "the force of law."

This subject matter is treated, in the course of this volume, from several distinct perspectives.

In the present chapter the scope of federal Indian law is considered, particularly in terms of the class of persons and places with which this branch of law deals.

The following three chapters treat, from an historical perspective, the three basic strands of development which make up the federal Indian law—administration (Chapter 2), treaty-making (Chapter 3), and legislation (Chapter 4).

The following three chapters deal with the problems of federal Indian law in terms of the question, "From what governmental

source do legal relations flow?" These chapters deal, respectively, with the powers of federal (Chapter 5), state (Chapter 6), and tribal (Chapter 7) governments.

Chapters 8 to 17 treat the substantive law of the field from the standpoint of the generic question: "What are the rights, powers, privileges, and immunities of the parties?"

Of these chapters, the first four deal with the legal status of individual Indians, treating personal rights and liberties (Chapter 8), rights of participation in tribal property (Chapter 9), individual rights in personal property (Chapter 10), and individual rights in real property (Chapter 11).

The following two chapters deal with rights, vested both in tribes and in individuals, which are subsumed under the headings "Federal Services for Indians" (Chapter 12) and "Taxation" (Chapter 13).

The substantive rights, powers, privileges, and immunities of Indian tribes form the subject of Chapters 14 and 15, the former dealing generally with "The Status of Indian Tribes," the latter with "Tribal Property."

The final two chapters of this substantive law section of the Handbook deal with matters involving primarily the legal position of two classes of non-Indians who have a special relation to Indian affairs, to wit: traders (Chapter 16) and surveyors of land (Chapter 17).

Chapters 18 and 19 deal with problems of court jurisdiction, the former in the field of criminal law, the latter in the field of civil law.

The last four chapters of this Handbook treat of four groups of Indians occupying peculiar positions in the law. Chapter 20 deals with the Pueblos of New Mexico, Chapter 21 analyzes the peculiar problems of the Natives of Alaska, Chapter 22 comments briefly on the New York Indians, and Chapter 23 offers a sketch of "Special Laws Relating to Oklahoma."

With these comments on the substance and structure of the volume, we turn to a more explicit delimitation of the persons and places that are the primary subjects of our federal Indian law.

In this delimitation of domains we may properly begin by considering the various definitions that have been offered of the terms "Indian" and "Indian country."

SECTION 2. DEFINITIONS OF "INDIAN"

The term "Indian" may be used in an ethnological or in a legal sense. Ethnologically, the Indian race may be distinguished from the Caucasian, Negro, Mongolian, and other races. If a person is three-fourths Caucasian and one-fourth Indian, it is absurd, from the ethnological standpoint, to assign him to the Indian race. Yet legally such a person may be an Indian. From a legal standpoint, then, the biological question of race is generally pertinent, but not conclusive. Legal status depends not only upon biological, but also upon social factors, such as the relation of the individual concerned to a white or Indian community. This relation, in turn, has two ends—an individual and a community. The individual may withdraw from a tribe or be expelled from a tribe, or he may be adopted by a tribe. He may or may not reside on an Indian reservation. He may or may not be subject to the control of the Federal Government with respect to various transactions. All these social or political factors may affect the classification of an individual as an "Indian" or a "non-Indian" for legal purposes, or for certain legal purposes. Indeed, in accordance with a statute reserving jurisdiction over offenses between tribal members to a tribal court, a white man adopted into an Indian tribe has been held to be an Indian,¹ and the decided cases do not foreclose the argument that a person of entirely Indian ancestry who has never had any relations with any Indian tribe or reservation may be considered a non-Indian for most legal purposes.

What must be remembered is that legislators, when they use the term "Indian" to establish special rules of law applicable to "Indians," are generally trying to deal with a group distinguished from "non-Indian" groups by public opinion,² and this public opinion varies so widely that on certain reservations it is common to refer to a person as an Indian although 15 of his 16 ancestors, 4 generations back, were white persons, while in other parts of the country, as in the Southwest, a person may be considered a Spanish-American rather than an Indian although his blood is predominantly Indian.

The lack of unanimity which exists among those who would attempt a definition of Indians is reflected in the difference in instructions to the enumerators of the 1880 and 1940 censuses.

¹ *Nguyen v. United States*, 184 U. S. 887 (1907).

² A graphic example of the borrowing by courts of uncritical impressions of what constitutes an Indian is found in a series of cases on the question whether the natives of the Pueblos are "Indians." In 1860, the Supreme Court of the Territory decided that they could not be considered Indians because they were "honest, industrious, and law abiding citizens" and "a people living for three centuries in fenced dioceses and cultivating the soil for the maintenance of themselves and families, and giving an example of virtue, honesty, and industry to their more civilized neighbors." *United States v. Lugo*, 1 N. M. 425, 436, 442 (1860). In 1870, the Supreme Court, likewise, held that these people could not be considered Indians because they were "a peaceable, industrious, intelligent, honest, and virtuous people." * * * Indians only in feature, complexion, and a few of their habits. * * *. *United States v. Joseph*, 94 U. S. 614, 616 (1876). So long as these impressions continued to prevail, efforts of the Indian Bureau to assert full powers of "guardianship" over the Pueblos were unnecessary. See Chapter 20, sec. 8, *infra*. In 1913 however, the Indian Bureau compiled enough reports of immorality among the Pueblos to convince the Supreme Court that its earlier observations on Pueblo character had been based upon erroneous information and that these people were really Indians needing Indian Bureau supervision. *The Com'l. per Van Devanter*, J., quoted at length from agents' reports of drunkenness, debauchery, dancing, and communal life in support of the conclusion that they were Indians, being a "lax, untamed and inferior people." *United States v. Sandoval*, 251 U. S. 28, 38-47 (1919). It may be doubted whether the conception of what makes a man an Indian, implicit in all these opinions, would be accepted today.

The test of "common understanding" is advanced by Cardozo, J., in *Morrison v. California*, 291 U. S. 59, 68 (1934), in support of the view that "not improbably" a person with Indian blood of less than one-fourth degree is to be regarded as an Indian.

In the 1880 census enumerators were instructed to return as Indians not only those of full Indian blood, but also those of mixed white and Indian blood, "except where the percentage of Indian blood is very small" or where the individual was "regarded as a white person in the community where he lives." The instructions further specified that "a person of mixed Indian and Negro blood shall be returned as a Negro unless the Indian blood predominates and the status as an Indian is generally accepted in the community." *

In the 1940 census on the other hand, enumerators were directed that "a person of mixed white and Indian blood should be returned as Indian, if enrolled on an Indian agency or reservation roll, or if not so enrolled, if the proportion of Indian blood is one-fourth or more, or if the person is regarded as an Indian in the community where he lives." The provision concerning persons of mixed Indian and Negro blood was changed to provide for the return of such an individual as Negro, unless the Indian blood was a *definite* predominance and he is *universally* accepted in the community as an Indian.³

Recognizing the possible diversity of definitions of "Indianhood," we may nevertheless find some practical value in a definition of "Indian" as a person meeting two qualifications: (a) That some of his ancestors lived in America before its discovery by the white race, and (b) that the individual is considered an "Indian" by the community in which he lives.

The function of a definition of "Indian" is to establish a test whereby it may be determined whether a given individual is to be excluded from the scope of legislation dealing with Indians.

A typical statute dealing with Indians in the United States and Insular Act of 1834,⁴ which in section 25 provides

* * * That so much of the laws of the United States as provide for the punishment of crimes committed within any place within the sole and exclusive jurisdiction of the

³ The Indian population of the United States and Alaska, 1930, U. S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Washington, 1931, C 1 for a discussion of statutes distinguishing between Indians and freedmen see Chapter 8, sec. 11.

⁴ The results of the 1940 census are not available at the time of publication of this book so that it is not possible to compare the possible differences in results occasioned by the difference of instructions to enumerators. In the census of 1910, though the question of who should be returned as Indian was left to the discretion of the enumerator, he was obliged, once he had decided an individual was an Indian, to obtain information concerning tribe and blood. According to the census of 1930 there were 332,609 Indians in continental United States and 20,083 in Alaska, while in 1910 there were 255,043 Indians in continental United States and 26,331 in Alaska. In commenting on the results of these two censuses, Dr. George B. L. Arnet, in *The Indian Population of the United States and Alaska, 1930-1910*, U. S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, stated:

In the case of the Indian population, rates of increase in the decade are of little significance, as the size of the Indian population depends entirely upon the attrition paid to the acquisition of mixed blood, and the interpretation of the term "Indian" in the instructions to enumerators. It is not without significance that at the two censuses in which specific questions were asked as to tribe and blood, the number of Indians should have been much larger than at censuses in which these questions were not asked. If the definition of the Indian population were limited to Indians maintaining tribal relations, the enumeration of the Bureau of Indian Affairs is probably more nearly accurate than that of the census. This enumeration in 1932 showed a total of 258,381. On the other hand, if all persons having even a trace of Indian blood were returned as Indians, the number would be increased over the total returned at the census of 1930. (P. 2.)

As of January 1, 1930, the Bureau of Indian Affairs estimated that there were under its jurisdiction 301,978 Indians in continental United States and 20,083 in Alaska, on a total of 321,861. This number includes individuals of as little as 1/16 Indian blood entitled to certain rights or benefits as Indians, as well as white persons adopted into an Indian tribe. *Statistical Supplement to the Annual Report of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, 1930.*

⁵ Act of June 30, 1834, sec. 25, 4 Stat. 726, R. S. § 2146, 26 U. S. C. 217.

United States, shall be in force in the Indian country. *Provided*, The same shall not extend to crimes committed by one Indian against the person or property of another Indian. (P. 743)

Lacking other criteria than the words of the statute, the courts have, reasonably enough, taken the position that the term "Indian" is one descriptive of an individual who has Indian blood in his veins, and who is regarded as an Indian by the society of Indians among whom he lives. Thus, in holding that a white man who is adopted into an Indian tribe does not thereby become an Indian within the meaning of the foregoing statute,¹ the Court, in *United States v. Rogers*,² said:

"And we think it very clear that a white man who at mature age is adopted in an Indian tribe does not thereby become an Indian, and was not intended to be embraced in the exception above mentioned. He may by such adoption become entitled to certain privileges in the tribe, and make himself amenable to their laws and usages. Yet he is not an Indian, and the exception is confined to those who by the usages and customs of the Indians are regarded as belonging to their race. It does not speak of members of a tribe, but of the race generally,—of the family of Indians, and if intended to leave them both, as regards their own tribe and other tribes, to be governed by Indian usages and customs." (P. 372-373)

Though a white man claimed by association become an Indian, within the application of the foregoing statute, an Indian may, nevertheless, under some circumstances, lose his identity as an Indian. It has been held that the General Allotment Act³ operates to make Indians who are descendants of aboriginal tribes, but who have taken up residence apart from any tribe and adopted habits of civilization, non-Indians, within the meaning of an Alaska statute defining Indians for the purpose of liquor regulation as "aboriginal races inhabiting Alaska, when annexed to the United States, and their descendants of the whole or half blood who have not become citizens of the United States."⁴

In upholding the constitutionality of the federal statute making murder of an Indian by another Indian on an Indian reservation a federal crime, the Supreme Court declared:

"the true measure is that the offending Indian shall belong to that or some other tribe."⁵

On the other hand, an Indian does not lose his identity as such within the meaning of federal criminal jurisdictional acts, even though he has received an allotment of land, is not under the control or immediate supervision of an Indian agent, and has become a citizen of the United States and of the state in which he resides.⁶

¹ Act of June 30, 1834, 4 Stat. 729.

² 14 How. 597 (1850). Accord *United States v. Ragdale*, 27 Fed. Cas. No. 10118 (C. C. Ark., 1847), *Ex Parte Monson*, 20 Fed. 298 (D. C. W. D. Ark., 1888), *Westerman v. United States*, 156 U. S. 545 (1895), *Alberty v. United States*, 102 U. S. 499 (1879) (holding that a Negro does not by adoption into a tribe become an Indian).

³ The same rule would seem to apply to a white man married to an Indian woman and residing on a reservation. At least, it has been held that a white man married to an Indian woman, residing on a reservation, and made a member of the tribe or nation, is not an Indian entitled to share in tribal funds or in the allotment of Indian lands. *Red Bird v. United States*, 203 U. S. 870 (1906).

⁴ Act of February 8, 1887, 24 Stat. 398, 25 U. S. 381, *et seq.*

⁵ *Ragde v. United States*, 101 Fed. 141 (C. C. A. 9, 1914).

⁶ *United States v. Esquima*, 118 U. S. 476, 383 (1886). And see Chapter 14, *infra*.

⁷ *United States v. Flynn*, 25 Fed. Cas. No. 15124 (C. C. Mann 1870), *Hallwood v. United States*, 221 U. S. 317 (1911), *United States v. Kaye*, 128 Fed. 879 (D. C. N. D. 1903), *United States v. Oseltine*, 215 U. S. 373 (1909), *United States v. Sullivan*, 215 U. S. 201 (1909). Also see Chapter 8, *supra*, sec. 2C.

Within the meaning of those various statutes which though applicable to Indians, do not define them, the courts, in defining the status of Indians of mixed Indian and other blood,⁷ have largely followed the test laid down in *United States v. Rogers*,⁸ to the effect that an individual to be considered an Indian must not only have some degree of Indian blood but must in addition be recognized as an Indian. In determining such recognition the courts have heeded both recognition by the tribe or society of Indians and recognition in the Federal Government as expressed in treaty and statute.⁹

Thus in *United States v. Higgins*¹⁰ it was said:

"In determining as to what class half-breeds belong, we may refer, then, to the treatment and recognition the executive and political departments of the government have accorded them." (P. 359.)

Considering the treaties and statutes in regard to half-breeds, I may say that they never have been treated as white people entitled to rights of American citizenship. Special provision has been made for them,—special reservations of land, special appropriations of money. No such provision has been made for any other class. It is well known to those who have lived upon the frontier in America that, as a rule, half-breeds in mixed-blood Indians have located with the tribes, to which their mothers belonged, that they have, as a rule, never found a welcome home with their white relatives, but with their Indian kinsfolk. It is but just, then, that they should be classed as Indians, and have all of the rights of the Indian. In 7 Op. Att. Gen. 716, "Half-blood Indians are to be treated as Indians, in all respects, so long as they retain their tribal relations." (P. 832.)

"The term 'mixed blood Indian' has been held to include not only those of half white or more than half white blood, but every Indian having an identifiable admixture of white blood, however small. *United States v. Deane*, 1st Nat. Bank 241 U. S. 245 (1914), *State v. Nozick*, 61 Wash. 112, 112 Pac. 209 (1919). For a discussion of distinctions based on degrees of Indian blood, see Chapter 8, *supra*, sec. 8B(1)(a).

⁸ Rogers in 7.

⁹ Numerous treaties, as well as statutes, have recognized individuals of mixed blood as Indians. Treaty at September 29, 1817, with the Wyandot and other tribes, 7 Stat. 164, Treaty of October 8, 1818, with the Miami Indians, 7 Stat. 191, Treaty of August 4, 1824, with the Sac and Fox Indians, 7 Stat. 229, Treaty of November 15, 1824, with the Quapaw Indians, 7 Stat. 218, Treaty of June 2, 1825, with the Osage Indians, 7 Stat. 210, Treaty of June 9, 1825, with the Kansas Indians, 7 Stat. 245, Treaty of August 7, 1825, with the Chippewas, 7 Stat. 291, Treaty of October 16, 1825, with the Potawatomi Indians, 7 Stat. 294, Treaty of October 28, 1826, with the Miami Indians, 7 Stat. 302, Treaty of August 1, 1826, with the Winnebago Indians, 7 Stat. 324; Treaty of July 15, 1830, with the Sioux Indians, 7 Stat. 870, Treaty of August 30, 1831, with the Ottawa Indians, 7 Stat. 929, Treaty of September 15, 1832, with the Winnebago Indians, 7 Stat. 972, Treaty of September 21, 1832, with the Sac and Fox Indians, 7 Stat. 874, Treaty of October 27, 1832, with the Potawatomi Indians, 7 Stat. 400, Treaty of March 28, 1836, with the Ottawa and other Indians, 7 Stat. 498, Treaty of July 29, 1837, with the Chippewa Indians, 7 Stat. 537, Treaty of September 20, 1837, with the Sioux Indians, 7 Stat. 530, Treaty of November 1, 1837, with the Winnebago Indians, 7 Stat. 545, Treaty of October 4, 1842, with the Chippewa Indians, 7 Stat. 692, Treaty of October 18, 1848, with the Menominee Indians, 9 Stat. 92, Treaty of March 13, 1854, with the Ojibwa and Mesquim Indians, 10 Stat. 1048, Treaty of February 22, 1855, with the Chippewa Indians, 10 Stat. 1109, Treaty of February 27, 1855, with the Winnebago Indians, 10 Stat. 1174, Treaty of September 24, 1857, with the Ioway Indians, 11 Stat. 741, Treaty of March 12, 1858, with the Ponca Indians, 12 Stat. 900, Treaty of September 29, 1858, with the Osage Indians, 14 Stat. 689, Treaty of October 14, 1858, with the Cheyenne Indians, 14 Stat. 705, Treaty of March 21, 1860, with the Seminole Indians, 14 Stat. 768, Act of April 27, 1859, 6 Stat. 371, Act of June 30, 1854, 4 Stat. 740, Act of May 2, 1857, 6 Stat. 680, Act of June 5, 1872, 17 Stat. 226, 25 U. S. 476, 25 U. S. C. 104, Act of May 27, 1908, 35 Stat. 312, 25 U. S. 484, 25 U. S. C. 41(2a).

In at least one treaty children are described as quarter-blood Indians. Treaty of September 29, 1817, with the Wyandot and other tribes, 7 Stat. 169.

¹⁰ 108 Fed. 848 (C. C. Mont. 1900).

Presumptively, a person of mixed blood residing upon a reservation, and enrolled in a tribe, is an Indian for purposes of legislation or federal criminal jurisdiction.¹⁰ It has been held¹¹ that an individual of less than one-half Indian blood enrolled in a tribe and recognized as an Indian by the tribe is an Indian within the Act of March 4, 1900,¹² extending federal jurisdiction to rape committed by one Indian against another within the limits of an Indian reservation. Likewise, it has been held¹³ that mixed bloods who are recognized by the tribe as members thereof may properly receive allotments of lands as Indians in *Sully v. United States*,¹⁴ where one-eighth bloods were involved, the court stated that the persons were "of sufficient Indian blood to substantially handicap them in the struggle for existence," and held that they were Indians and were entitled to be enrolled as such.

Citizenship has been denied a person of half white and half Indian blood on the ground that such an individual is not a "white person" within the meaning of that phrase as used in the statute.¹⁵

On the question of the status of offspring of white and Indian or Negro and Indian parents, there are conflicting lines of authority. One holds to the common law doctrine that the offspring of free parents assumes the status of the father, the other to the general tribal custom that the offspring assumes the status of the mother.¹⁶

In the first category are decisions to the effect that the offspring of the union between a white man¹⁷ and an Indian woman or between a Negro¹⁸ and an Indian woman assume the status of the father and are therefore not Indians within the meaning of statutes extending or denying federal jurisdiction over crimes committed by an Indian against another Indian. And there are holdings that where a child is born of the reservation of a white father and an Indian mother, he will not, by returning to the reservation, and receiving an allotment of land as an Indian, be classed as an Indian so as either to exempt his property from state taxation¹⁹ or to bring himself within the criminal jurisdictional statutes relating to Indians.²⁰

In the second category we find many cases which follow the usual tribal custom wherein it is held that the offspring of an Indian mother and a white or Negro father assumes the status of the mother.²¹ Here again the ultimate question of the status of

the individual will depend on his or his mother's recognition as an Indian by the tribe. In this connection the language of the court in *Walden v. United States*²² may be noted.

"In this proceeding the court has been informed as to the usages and customs of the different tribes of the Sioux Nation, and has found as a fact that the common law does not obtain among said tribes, as to determining the race to which the children of a white man, married to an Indian woman, belong, but that, according to the usages and customs of said tribes, the children of a white man married to an Indian woman take the race or nationality of the mother."

"The United States have never, so far as legislation is concerned, recognized the technical rule of the common law in reference to the children born of a white father and an Indian mother. In 1897, Congress in the Indian appropriation act of that year (Act June 7, 1897, c. 3, 30 Stat. 90), declared

"That all children, born of a marriage heretofore solemnized between a white man and an Indian woman by blood and not by adoption, where said Indian woman is at this time, or was at the time of her death, recognized by the tribe, shall have the same rights and privileges to the property of the tribe to which the mother belongs or belonged at the time of her death by blood as any other member of the tribe, and no prior act of Congress shall be construed as to deny such child of such rights."

In *Dalmon v. Gibson*, 50 Fed. 445, 5 C. C. A. 545, the Circuit Court of Appeals in this circuit said:

"It is common knowledge, at which the court should take judicial knowledge, that the domestic relations of the Indians of this country have never been regulated by the common law of England, and that that law is not adapted to the habits, customs, and manners of the Indians."

The court has considered the cases cited by counsel for defendants wherein, upon certain facts, persons were held not to be Indians, but these cases either seek to invoke what they say was the common law, or are in criminal proceedings. These cases, so far as they seek to invoke the common law to the Indians, are not followed, for reasons herein stated, and, so far as they seek to construe criminal statutes, are applicable so there is a wide distinction to be made between the construction of a criminal statute and a contract between a tribe of Indians and the United States. (Pp. 419-420.)

That, however, even with reference to statutes on federal criminal jurisdiction, the child of an Indian mother may assume her status is borne out by the decision of the court in *United States v. Sanders*.²³

Likewise, it has been held²⁴ that the child of a white father and an Indian mother, abandoned by the father and residing in tribal relationship with the mother, is an Indian within the meaning of a statute defining the offense of selling liquor to Indians.

In the foregoing discussion notice has been taken with but a single exception only of those statutes wherein no definition of the word "Indian" was attempted.

Although Congress has classified Indians for various particular purposes, it has never laid down a classification and either specified or implied that individuals not falling within the classification were not Indians. In various enactments classification has

¹⁰ *Pennock Smith v. United States*, 151 U. S. 50 (1894).

¹¹ *United States v. Gardner*, 180 Fed. 690 (D. C. E. D. Wyo. 1911).

¹² *Accord: State v. Campbell*, 58 Minn. 354, 35 N. W. 555 (1893).

¹³ 38 Star 1088, 1151.

¹⁴ *Sloan v. United States*, 118 Fed. 283 (C. C. Neb. 1902).

¹⁵ 100 Fed. 112 (C. C. R. D. 1912).

¹⁶ *In re Gaudin*, 6 Fed. 256 (C. C. Ore. 1890) (Constructing R. S. § 671).

¹⁷ On tribal power over determination of membership see Chapter 7, sec. 4.

¹⁸ *Ex Parte Reynolds*, 20 Fed. Cas. No. 13719 (D. C. W. D. Ark., 1878).

¹⁹ *United States v. Ward*, 42 Fed. 320 (C. C. S. D. Cal. 1900).

²⁰ *United States v. Hight*, 110 Fed. 609 (C. C. Mont. 1901). See Chapter 18, sec. 4.

²¹ *United States v. Hatley*, 99 Fed. 437 (C. C. Wash. 1900). See Chapter 18.

²² In *United States v. Simpson*, 103 Fed. 348, 352 (1st C. Mont. 1900), it was held that one born of a white father and an Indian mother, and who was a recognized member of the tribe of Indians in which his mother belonged, was not subject to taxation under the laws of the state in which he resided. In *Yerna v. United States*, 246 Fed. 431 (C. C. A. 8, 1917) the court held that a half-to three-fourth blood Chippewa woman and a white man was held to be by blood a member of the Fond du Lac Band of Chippewas of Lake Superior, the court thereby overruling the action of the Department of Indian Affairs in refusing enrollment and allotment to the daughter. And in *Alberry v. United States*, 322 U. S. 400 (1896), the court held that an illegitimate child, born of an Indian man and a colored woman, takes the status of its mother and is therefore not an Indian.

²³ 143 Fed. 418 (C. C. S. D. 1905); see also *Sioux Mixed Blood*, 20 Op.

A. G. 711 (1894).

²⁴ 27 Fed. Cas. No. 18220 (C. C. Ark. 1847). Cf. *Ex Parte Pico*, 90 Fed. 28 (C. C. A. 7, 1938) (holding that the child of an Indian mother and a half-blood father who lives on the reservation and is recognized as an Indian within federal criminal jurisdictional statutes).

²⁵ *Parrell v. United States*, 110 Fed. 942 (C. C. A. 8, 1901). *Accord: Halbert v. United States*, 283 U. S. 753 (1931).

been based primarily upon the presence of some quantum of Indian blood. Thus, the Indian Appropriation Act of May 25, 1918,⁴⁰ provides:

No appropriation, except appropriations made pursuant to treaties, shall be used to educate children of less than one-fourth Indian blood.

For the purpose of controlling the traffic in liquor with the Indians Congress has classified Indians under the "charge of any Indian superintendent or agent."⁴¹ By a later act⁴² the classification was changed to include "any Indian to whom allotment of land has been made while the title to the same shall be held in trust by the Government" or "any Indian a ward of the Government under charge of any Indian superintendent or agent" or "any Indian including mixed bloods, over whom the Government, through its departments, exercises guardianship." This classification is perhaps as broad as any that may be found in congressional enactment, extending as it does to all mixed bloods providing only that they be considered as wards of the government.⁴³

Various special acts relating to certain tribes have provided for the removal of restrictions on alienation from lands of the members of the tribe of less than one-half Indian blood.⁴⁴ Other acts have used the term "mixed blood."⁴⁵

In the Act of March 4, 1901,⁴⁶ relating to the Eastern Band of Cherokee of North Carolina, Congress states:

That thereafter no person of less than one-sixteenth degree of said Eastern Cherokee Indian blood shall be recognized as entitled to any rights with the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians except by inheritance from a deceased member or members.⁴⁷ (P. 1618)

Congress had previously recognized Indians of less than this degree of blood in the Act of June 4, 1921,⁴⁸ it provided:

That any member of said band whose degree of Indian blood is less than one-sixteenth may, in the discretion of the Secretary of Interior, be paid a cash equivalent in lieu of an allotment of land. (P. 379)

⁴⁰ 40 Stat. 564, 25 U. S. C. § 97.

⁴¹ Act of July 24, 1892, 27 Stat. 280, 281.

⁴² Act of January 40, 1897, 29 Stat. 506. See Chapter 17.

⁴³ For a discussion of wardship see Chapter 8, sec. 9.

⁴⁴ Act of May 27, 1908, 35 Stat. 812 (Five Civilized Tribes), Act of March 4, 1921, 41 Stat. 1230 (Osage).

⁴⁵ Act of June 21, 1906, 34 Stat. 353, Act of March 1, 1907, 34 Stat. 1051.

⁴⁶ 40 Stat. 1018.

⁴⁷ 18 Stat. 396.

SECTION 3. INDIAN COUNTRY

Although the term "Indian country" has been used in many cases, it may perhaps be most usefully defined as country within which Indian laws and customs and federal laws relating to Indians are generally applicable. The phrase "generally applicable" is used because for certain purposes tribal law and custom and federal law relating to Indians have a validity regardless of locality. Thus, for example, Congress has made it a crime to sell liquor to Indians anywhere in the United States,⁴⁹ and the status which an Indian acquires by tribal-custom marriage will generally be recognized in all parts of the United States.⁵⁰

The greater part, however, of the body of federal Indian law and tribal law applies only to certain areas which have a peculiar

A recent statutory definition of an Indian is that contained in the Indian Reorganization Act,⁵¹ which in section 19 provides:

The term "Indian" as used in this Act shall include all persons of Indian descent who are members of any recognized Indian tribe now under Federal jurisdiction, and all persons who are descendants of such members who were, on June 1, 1934, residing within the present boundaries of any Indian reservation, and shall further include all other persons of one-half or more Indian blood. For the purposes of this Act, Eskimos and other aboriginal peoples of Alaska shall be considered Indians.⁵² (P. 1083)

In this act as in the foregoing acts, the definition of "Indian" is limited in its connotation to the purposes of the legislation.

Apart from statute, the administrative agencies of the Federal Government dealing with Indian affairs commonly consider a person who is of Indian blood and a member of a tribe, regardless of degree of blood, an Indian.⁵³

Thus the Indian Law and Order Regulations approved by the Secretary of the Interior on November 27, 1935,⁵⁴ contain the provision:

For the purpose of the enforcement of the regulations in this part, an Indian shall be deemed to be any person of Indian descent who is a member of any recognized Indian tribe now under Federal jurisdiction.

This definition exemplifies the idea that in dealing with Indians the Federal Government is dealing primarily not with a particular race as such but with members of certain social-political groups towards which the Federal Government has assumed special responsibilities.

⁵¹ Act of June 18, 1934, 48 Stat. 981, 25 U. S. C. 161, et seq.

⁵² For further definition of Alaska natives as Indians see Chapter 27, sec. 1.

⁵³ Here, too, however, one finds administrative regulations which classify Indians according to blood quantum for particular purposes. Thus by Executive order of January 31, 1919, Indians of one-fourth or more Indian blood were exempted from positions in the Bureau of Indian Affairs where they were concerned, from Civil Service examination. See Chapter 5, sec. 19(2). On the other hand regulations concerning the admission of Indians into Indian hospitals and sanatoria provide that:

§ 5.2 Persons who are in need of hospitalization and who are enrolled Indians, recognized members of a tribe, and who are unable to provide such hospitalization from their own funds, may be admitted to such institutions.

§ 5.1 Preference should be given to those of a higher degree of Indian blood.

(25 C. F. R. 15.2 and 15.4)

⁵⁴ 25 C. F. R. 161.2

relation to the Indians and which in their totality comprise the Indian country.

The Indian country at any particular time must be viewed with reference to the existing body of federal and tribal law. Until 1847 it is country within which the criminal laws of the United States are not generally applicable, so that crimes in Indian country by whites against whites, or by Indians, are not cognizable in state or federal courts,⁵⁵ any more than crimes committed on the soil of Canada or Mexico. Treaties defined the boundaries between the United States, at the separate states,

⁴⁹ Act of July 23, 1892, 27 Stat. 280, as amended by Act of June 15, 1948, 62 Stat. 698, 25 U. S. C. 241. And see Chapter 17, sec. 3.

⁵⁰ 44 U. S. C. 39 (1942), and see R. A. Brown, *The Indian Problem and the Law* (1936) 30 Yale L. J. 807, 815. See also Chapter 7, sec. 5.

⁵⁵ Under the Act of July 25, 1793, 1 Stat. 197, federal jurisdiction was extended over any crime committed by a citizen or inhabitant of the United States against the person or property of any friendly Indian in any town, settlement, or territory belonging to any nation or tribe of Indians. Since the act specified that it was to be in force only for 2 years, it was superseded by the Act of March 1, 1795, 1 Stat. 350, which extended federal jurisdiction as before. On criminal jurisdiction see Chapter 18.

and the territories of the various Indian tribes or nations." Within these territories the Indian tribes or nations had not only full jurisdiction over their own citizens, but the same jurisdiction over citizens of the United States that any other power might lawfully exercise over emigrants from the United States.¹ Treaties between the United States and various tribes commonly stipulated that citizens of the United States within the territory of the Indian nations were to be subject to the laws of those nations.²

It is against this legal background that the first legislative definitions must be understood. As early as July 22, 1790,³ Congress used the expression "Indian country" in the first trade and intercourse act, apparently with the meaning of country belonging to the Indians, occupied by them, and to which the Government recognized them as having some kind of right and title. In the Act of March 3, 1793,⁴ Indian country and Indian territory were used synonymously.

The Act of May 19, 1796⁵ contained the first statutory definition of Indian country, fixing, according to the then existing treaties, the boundary line between Indian country and the United States. In this act, as in those which followed it, the term "Indian country" is used as descriptive of the country within the boundary lines of the Indian tribes. In 1799,⁶ and again in 1802,⁷ the boundary of Indian country was redrafted by Congress to conform with new treaties. In each instance it was provided that a citizen or inhabitant of the United States committing a crime against a friendly Indian, or Indians within Indian country should be subject to the jurisdiction of the federal courts. In both of these acts the words "Indian country" and "Indian territory" are used synonymously.⁸

¹ Treaty of January 21, 1785, with the Wiamoi, Delaware, Chippawa, and Ottawa Nations, 7 Stat. 16; Treaty of November 28, 1785, with the Choctaw, 7 Stat. 18; Treaty of January 8, 1786, with the Choctaw Nation, 7 Stat. 21; Treaty of January 30, 1786, with the Chickasaw Nation, 7 Stat. 24; Treaty of January 9, 1786, with the Wiamoi, Delaware, Ottawa, Chippawa, Pottawattamie, and Sac Nations, 7 Stat. 28; Treaty of August 7, 1790, with the Creek Nation, 7 Stat. 56; Treaty of July 2, 1791, with the Cherokee Nation, 7 Stat. 38; Treaty of August 3, 1795, with the Wyandot, Delaware, Shawanoe, Ottawa, Chippawa, Pottawattamie, Miami, Del River, Wea's, Kickapoo, Piankashaw, and Kaskaskia, 7 Stat. 40; Treaty of October 2, 1796, with the Cherokee Nation, 7 Stat. 62; Treaty of December 37, 1801, with the Choctaw Nation, 7 Stat. 68; Treaty of October 17, 1802, with the Choctaw Nation, 7 Stat. 78; Treaty of November 8, 1804, with the Sac and Fox, 7 Stat. 84; Treaty of July 4, 1806, with the Choctaw, Ottawa, Chippawa, Miami, and Delaware, Shawanoe, and Pottawattamie Nations, 7 Stat. 87. See also Chapter 2, note 8A(2), 8A(3).

² It is interesting to note in this connection that some of the early Trade and Intercourse Acts contained a provision requiring a citizen or inhabitant of the United States to acquire a passport before going into the country occupied by Indians in the Indiana Act of May 28, 1796, 1 Stat. 400; Act of March 3, 1799, 1 Stat. 748; Act of March 30, 1802, 2 Stat. 189. This provision was modified in the Act of June 30, 1834, 4 Stat. 729 so as not to apply to citizens of the United States. See Chapter 2, note 8A(5); Chapter 4, note 6.

³ Treaty of January 21, 1785, with the Wiamoi, Delaware, Chippawa, and Ottawa Nations, 7 Stat. 16; Treaty of November 28, 1785, with the Choctaw, 7 Stat. 18; Treaty of January 8, 1786, with the Choctaw Nation, 7 Stat. 21; Treaty of January 30, 1786, with the Chickasaw Nation, 7 Stat. 24; Treaty of January 31, 1786, with the Shawanoe Nation, 7 Stat. 26; Treaty of January 9, 1786, with the Wiamoi, Delaware, Ottawa, Chippawa, Pottawattamie, and Sac Nations, 7 Stat. 28; Treaty of August 7, 1790, with the Creek Nation, 7 Stat. 56; Treaty of July 2, 1791, with the Cherokee Nation, 7 Stat. 38; Treaty of August 3, 1795, with the Wyandot, Delaware, Shawanoe, Ottawa, Chippawa, Pottawattamie, Miami, Del River, Wea's, Kickapoo, Piankashaw, and Kaskaskia, 7 Stat. 40.

⁴ 1 Stat. 187.

⁵ 1 Stat. 820, similarly in the Act of March 3, 1799, 1 Stat. 748, and in Act of March 30, 1802, 2 Stat. 189.

⁶ 1 Stat. 409.

⁷ Act of March 8, 1799, 1 Stat. 748.

⁸ Act of March 30, 1802, 2 Stat. 189.

⁹ For a later meaning of the term "Indian territory" see Chapter 28,

"The encroachment of a territory in which white desperadoes could escape the force of state and federal law made itself felt. In the Act of March 3, 1817," which extended federal law to cover crimes committed by an Indian or white person within any town, district, or territory belonging to any nation or tribe of Indians, subject, however, to the limitation that the act should not be construed to extend to an offense by one Indian against another Indian within any Indian boundary.

Indian country in all these statutes is, therefore, wherever situated, within which tribal law is generally applicable, federal law is applicable only in special cases designated by statute, and state law is not applicable at all. This conception of the Indian country reflects a situation which finds its counterpart in international law in the case of newly acquired territories, where the laws of those territories continue in force until repealed or modified by the new sovereign. We find that Congress, when called upon to define Indian country in the Act of June 30, 1834,¹⁰ said:

"That all that part of the United States west of the Mississippi, and not within the states of Missouri and Louisiana, or the territory of Arkansas, and, also, that part of the United States east of the Mississippi river, and not within any state to which the Indian title has not been extinguished, for the purposes of this act, be taken and deemed to be the Indian country."

Whether Indian reservations within the exterior boundaries of a state but exempted by treaty or statute from state jurisdiction were included within the foregoing distinction is a question not free from doubt.¹¹ Such doubts, however, were resolved by a series of judicial decisions and by the failure to include section 1 of the Act of 1834¹² in the Revised Statutes, thereby repealing it.¹³

No subsequent statutory definition of Indian country appears, though for purposes of defining federal criminal jurisdiction reference is made in numerous acts¹⁴ to "Indian country."

¹⁰ 5 Stat. 583.

¹¹ 4 Stat. 729. In the report of the Committee on Indian Affairs to the House of Representatives concerning among others, this act we find the following interesting commentary suggesting a basis for the definition of Indian country as then contained:

"The Indian country . . . will include all the territory of the United States west of the Mississippi, Louisiana, Missouri, and Arkansas, and those portions east of that river, and not within the limits of any state, to which the Indian title has not been extinguished. The Southern Indians are not embraced within it. Most of them have agreed to emigrate. To all their lands, with the exception of those of a part of a single tribe, the Indian title has been extinguished, and the States in which the Indians of that exempted tribe remain, have extended their laws over them."

This act is intended to apply to the whole Indian country, as defined in the first section. On the west side of the Mississippi its limits can only be changed by a legislative act, or, on the east side of that river, it will continue to embrace only those sections of Indian lands not within any State to which the Indian title shall not be extinguished. The effect of the extinguishment of the Indian title to any portion of it, will be the exclusion of such portion from the Indian country. The limits of the Indian country will thus be controlled at all times obvious and certain. By the intercourse act of 1802, the boundary of the Indian country was a line of miles and bounds, variable from time to time by treaties. Act from the great difficulty of those treaties it is now somewhat difficult to ascertain what, at any given period, was the boundary or extent of the Indian country. (P. 10)

49 H. Rep. No. 474, 23d Cong., 1st sess., vol. 4, May 26, 1834.

¹² It was then held that lands in territorial states to which Indian title had not been extinguished and which were exempted by treaty or statute from state jurisdiction remain Indian country within the meaning of the 1834 Act, notwithstanding the admission of the state into the Union. *United States v. Bruleman*, 7 Fed. 864 (1 Cir. 1881).

¹³ 4 Stat. 729.

¹⁴ R. S. § 5050; *Donnelly v. United States*, 228 U. S. 248, 268 (1913). Act of March 27, 1854, 10 Stat. 209, 270; Act of February 18, 1875, 18 Stat. 516, 518; R. S. § 2546, 26 U. S. C. 218. For statutes making it a criminal offense to introduce liquor into "Indian country" see Chapter

17, note 8.

Notwithstanding the repeal of section 1 of the Act of 1834,⁴ the Supreme Court, when called upon to determine whether certain land was Indian country, applied in a number of instances the definition contained therein.⁵

The first case⁶ to reach the Supreme Court after the repeal of section 1 of the 1834 act involved the legality of the seizure of liquor by a military officer under the authority contained in the Act of 1834, as amended by the Act of 1864.⁷ The legality of the seizure depended on whether or not it was made in Indian country, the locus being at a point within the territory of Dakota. In an unusual opinion the Court, per Mr. Justice Miller, made the following observations:

Notwithstanding the immense changes which have since taken place in the vast region covered by the act of 1834 by the extinguishment of Indian titles, the creation of States and the formation of territorial governments, Congress has not thought it necessary to make any new definition of Indian country. Yet during all this time a large body of laws has been in evidence, whose operation was confined to the Indian country, whatever that may be. And men have been punished by death, by fine, and by imprisonment, of which the courts who so punished them had no jurisdiction, the offences were not committed in the Indian country as established by law. These facts afford the strongest presumption that the Congress of the United States, and the judges who administered those laws, must have acted in the definition of Indian country, in the act of 1834, with an adaptability to the altered circumstances of what was then Indian country as to enable them to ascertain what it was at any time since then (P 207).

After analyzing the definition as contained in section 1 of the 1834 Act the Court further said:

... if the section be read as describing lands west of the Mississippi, outside of the States of Louisiana and Missouri, and of the Territory of Arkansas, and lands east of the Mississippi not included in any State, but lands alone to which the Indian title has not been extinguished, we have a description of the Indian country which was good then, and which is good now, and which is capable of easy application at any time.

It follows from this that all the country described by the act of 1834 as Indian country remains Indian country so long as the Indians retain their original title to the soil, and ceases to be Indian country whenever they lose that title, in the absence of any different provision by treaty or by act of Congress (1 Pp 208-209).

In following the Bates decision, the courts have held that reservation lands to which Indian title has not been extinguished come within the definition of Indian country as contained in the 1834 Act, whether situated within a territory⁸ or state.⁹

Ordinarily, Indian title is extinguished by cession under treaty or act of Congress, and the land ceases to be Indian country when the cession becomes effective.¹⁰ Where the land, however, is held by the United States in trust, to be sold for the

benefit of the Indian tribe, the courts have held that it remains "Indian Land" until actually sold.¹¹

The first important extension of the rule laid down in the Bates case occurred in 1914 in the case of *Donnelly v. United States*,¹² which involved the question of whether the jurisdiction of the United States extended to the crime of murder committed on an executive-order Indian reservation. In holding that federal criminal law was applicable, the Court said:

"It is contended for plaintiff in error that the term 'Indian country' is confined to lands to which the Indians retain their original right of possession, and is not applicable to those set apart as an Indian reservation out of the public domain, and not previously occupied by the Indians.

"In the Indian Land case we said in June 30, 1854, 4 Stat. 729, c. 161, the first section defined the 'Indian country' for the purposes of that act. But this section was not reenacted in the Revised Statutes, and it was therefore repealed by a 1870, Rev. Stat. *See post* Crow Dog, 109 U. S. 656, *See*, *United States v. Le Bon*, 121 U. S. 278, 280, *Chamont v. United States*, 225 U. S. 551, 557. Under these decisions the definition as contained in the act of 1834 may still be referred to in connection with the provisions of its original context that remain in force, and may be considered in connection with the changes which have taken place in our situation, with a view of determining from time to time what must be regarded as Indian country where it is spoken of in the statutes." With reference to country that was formerly subject to the Indian occupancy, the cases cited furnish a criterion for determining what is "Indian country." But "the changes which have taken place in our situation" are so numerous and so material, that the term cannot now be confined to land formerly held by the Indians, and to which their title remains unextinguished. And, in our judgment, nothing can more appropriately be deemed "Indian country," within the meaning of those provisions of the Revised Statutes that relate to the regulation of the Indians and the government of the Indian country, than a tract of land that, being a part of the public domain, is lawfully set apart as an Indian reservation (P 208-209).

In the same year, the Supreme Court in the case of *United States v. Sandoval*¹³ held that the lands of the Pueblo Indians come within the definition of Indian country for the purpose of federal liquor regulation. The Pueblo lands were not, strictly speaking, a reservation, but were lands held by communal ownership in fee simple. It would seem that the term Indian country as applied to the Pueblos, means any lands occupied by "distinctly Indian communities" reacquired and treated by the Government as "dependent communities" entitled to its protection.¹⁴

The foregoing decisions are concerned with lands, in tribal tenure. While the Supreme Court in the *Donnelly* case eliminated the necessity for original tribal title as a condition to the application of federal criminal law, it failed to consider the applicability of the category of Indian country to the individual Indian holdings.

Under the practice of allotting lands in severalty to individual Indians, title to the allotted land was held in trust by the Government for the benefit of the allottee, or vested in the

⁴ 4 Stat. 729, 733.

⁵ *Bates v. Clark*, 95 U. S. 201 (1877), *See post* Crow Dog, 109 U. S. 656 (1883), *United States v. Le Bon*, 121 U. S. 278 (1887), *Chamont v. United States*, 225 U. S. 551 (1912).

⁶ *Bates v. Clark*, 95 U. S. 204 (1877).

⁷ *See post* Crow Dog, 109 U. S. 656 (1883).

⁸ *United States v. Le Bon*, 121 U. S. 278 (1887). *See also* *United States v. Fair-Three*, 108 U. S. 401 (1883).

⁹ *United States v. Le Bon*, 121 U. S. 278 (1887). *See also* *United States v. Fair-Three*, 108 U. S. 401 (1883). *See also* *United States v. Le Bon*, 121 U. S. 278 (1887). *See also* *United States v. Fair-Three*, 108 U. S. 401 (1883). *See also* *United States v. Le Bon*, 121 U. S. 278 (1887). *See also* *United States v. Fair-Three*, 108 U. S. 401 (1883).

¹⁰ *United States v. Le Bon*, 121 U. S. 278 (1887). *See also* *United States v. Fair-Three*, 108 U. S. 401 (1883).

¹¹ *United States v. Le Bon*, 121 U. S. 278 (1887). *See also* *United States v. Fair-Three*, 108 U. S. 401 (1883). *See also* *United States v. Le Bon*, 121 U. S. 278 (1887). *See also* *United States v. Fair-Three*, 108 U. S. 401 (1883).

¹² *See* *Shoop v. United States*, 252 U. S. 150 (1920), *aff'd* 250 Fed. 581 (C. C. A. 9, 1918), and 204 Fed. 50 (C. C. A. 9, 1918). *See also* Chapter 15, sec. 21.

¹³ 225 U. S. 248 (1911). *See also* *Prentiss v. United States*, 232 U. S. 487 (1914). ("An Indian reservation is Indian country.")

¹⁴ 231 U. S. 28 (1913).

¹⁵ For a fuller discussion of this case see Chapter 20, sec. 4. In holding that jurisdiction to punish the offense of larceny committed within a Pueblo resided in the Federal Government, the Court defined Indian country as "any unceded lands owned or occupied by an Indian nation or tribe of Indians." *United States v. Charles*, 260 U. S. 357 (1933).

allottee subject to a restraint against alienation. Obviously, in either case tribal title is not involved.

By virtue of a series of opinions committed on allotted lands, the Supreme Court was called upon to decide whether such lands were Indian country for the purpose of federal criminal jurisdiction. In the case of *United States v. Pelican*,¹ a case involving the murder of an Indian upon a trust allotment, the court held that trust allotments retain, during the trust period, a distinctive Indian character, being devoted to "Indian occupancy under the limitations imposed by Federal legislation," and that they were embraced within the term "Indian country."

Thereafter in *United States v. Ransney*,² Indian country was held to include a restricted allotment as well, the court saying:

The sole question for our determination, therefore, is whether the place of the crime is Indian country within the meaning of § 2146. The place is a tract of land constituting an Indian allotment, carved out of the Osage Indian reservation and conveyed in fee to the allottee named in the instrument, subject to a restriction against alienation for a period of 25 years. That period has not elapsed, nor has the allottee ever received a certificate of competency authorizing her to sell. (P. 470.)

... it would be quite unreasonable to attribute to Congress an intention to extend the protection of the criminal law to an Indian upon a lands allotment and withhold it from one upon a restricted allotment, and we find nothing in the nature of the subject matter or in the words of the statute which would justify us in applying the term Indian country to one and not to the other. (Pp. 471-472.)

Thus, the application of Federal criminal law is extended to cover lands to which the tribal title has been extinguished and title has been vested in an individual.

The last important step in the application of Federal criminal law to lands in tribal tenure has been to extend it to lands, wherever situated, which have been purchased by the Federal Government and set apart for Indian occupancy.

In this connection it is well to note the illuminating opinion of Mr. Justice Black in the case of *United States v. McGowan*,³ holding that Indian country comprises lands wherever situated, which have been validly set apart for the use and occupancy of Indians. The Court declared:

The Reno Indian Colony is composed of several hundred Indians residing on a tract of 2888 acres of land owned by the United States and purchased out of funds appropriated by Congress in 1847 and in 1859. The purpose of Congress in creating this colony was to provide lands for needy Indians scattered over the State of Nevada, and to equip and supervise these Indians in establishing a permanent settlement.

The words "Indian country" have appeared in the statutes relating to Indians for more than a century. We must consider "the changes which have taken place in our situation, with a view of determining from time to time what must be regarded as Indian country where it is spoken of in the statutes." Also, due regard must be given to the fact that from an early period of our history, the Government has prescribed severe penalties to enforce laws regulating the sale of liquor on lands occupied by Indians under government supervision. Indians of the Reno Colony have been established in homes under the supervision and guardianship of the United States. The policy of Congress, uniformly enforced through the decisions of this Court, has been to regulate the liquor traffic with Indians occupying such a settlement. This protection is extended by the United States "over all dependent Indian communities within its borders, whether within its original territory or territory subsequently acquired, and whether within or without the limits of a State."

The fundamental consideration of both Congress and the Department of the Interior in establishing this colony has

been the protection of a dependent people. Indians in this colony have been afforded the same protection by the government as that given Indians in other settlements known as "reservations." Congress alone has the right to determine the manner in which this country's guardianship over the Indians shall be carried out, and it is immaterial whether Congress designates a settlement as a "reservation" or "colony."

The Reno Colony has been validly set apart for the use of the Indians. It is under the supervision of the Department. The Government retains title to the lands which it permits the Indians to occupy.

When we view the facts of this case in the light of the relationship which has long existed between the Government and the Indians—and which continues to exist—it is not reasonably possible to draw any distinction between this Indian "colony" and "Indian country." We conclude that § 247 of Title 25, *supra*, does apply to the Reno Colony (Pp. 587-589.)

The foregoing decisions leave upon the question of whether an allotment within the exterior boundaries of an Indian reservation which is held by the allottee in fee simple may be subject to the application of federal criminal law and tribal law, or whether such land is subject to the exclusive jurisdiction of the state.

Whether land acquired by the United States and used for Indian purposes which do not involve Indian occupancy right, e. g., school, hospital, or agency matter, with a reservation, are "Indian country" is a question which has not been definitely settled by any court decision. Administrative practices and rulings, however, indicate that such lands are not considered "Indian country."⁴

It has been indicated that in the light of the *McGowan* case lands purchased under the Indian Reorganization Act (Act of June 18, 1934, 48 Stat. 1861) but yet proclaimed a reservation or added to an existing reservation, are purchased in the purpose of establishing a reservation, and that therefore the Federal Government has law and order jurisdiction over the Indians on such purchased lands pending the formal declaration of their reservation status. Memo Sol I D, February 17, 1939.

See Chapter 18.
The Solicitor in the Interior Department, after analyzing the *McGowan* case, commented:

A legal situation similar to that presented by the Reno Indian colony has occurred in the case of some of the abandoned Indian reservations which were turned over to the Department for Indian school purposes under the act of July 31, 1882 (22 Stat. 181, 20 U. S. C. sec. 270), and which have been accepted as Indian reservations. In these instances title to the land was vested with the United States, and the Indians were removed from the land and occupied by Indians whose occupancy rights could be recognized by Congress. The act of July 31, 1882, 22 Stat. 181, 20 U. S. C. sec. 270, provides that the lands so acquired are the Fort Bidwell and Fort Mohave reservations. In dealing with this Congress expressly referred to the rights of the Indians in the reservations. In the case of land and lands acquired by the Department of the Interior which was recognized in the act of April 27, 1904 (33 Stat. 819) as part of the Devils Lake Indian Reservation and belonging to the Indians residing on the reservation. In the case of *Idaho*, 46 N. D. 840, 177 N. W. 673, the Court reversed the holding of this military reservation devoted to Indian school purposes and acknowledged the fact that it might be considered an "Indian reservation."

These examples demonstrate that lands held by the United States without a declaration of trust and used for school or other institutional purposes may be considered Indian reservations where Indian communities have occupancy rights in the land. This point is further illustrated by the fact that the lands held exclusively by the United States for institutional purposes, where there are no Indian reservation occupancy rights. The latter class of lands is best illustrated by the non-Indian schools and hospitals which the Department has itself not placed in Indian reservations. 27 Handbook of October 16, 1929. "General line in connection Indian Reservations."

Another way of demonstrating the constant use of reference to the general proposition that Indian country is country where not only Federal laws but also Indian laws and customs apply is to point out that Indian laws apply only in areas occupied by Indian groups and communities and not to lands held for Federal institutions in Forest, School or other non-Indian areas.

In brief, my conclusion is that lands held by the United States and purchased for the purpose of establishing Federal institutions for Indian welfare are not Indian country nor Indian reservations unless an Indian tribe or group has occupancy rights in the land. Such lands may be "reservations of the United States" as for example in that title is vested in the United States. See, e. g., Solicitor I D, July 1, 1938, but they would not be "Indian reservations."

Memo Sol I D, July 9, 1940

¹ 282 U. S. 442 (1914). *Off. United States v. Sutton*, 218 U. S. 261 (1909); *McGowan v. United States*, 221 U. S. 817 (1911); *Ne Paris Van Hove*, 221 Fed. 954 (C. S. D. 1915).

² 271 U. S. 467 (1918).

³ 302 U. S. 686 (1938).

CHAPTER 2

THE OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

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SECTION I. THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE INDIAN SERVICE

A. ESTABLISHMENT

The relations of the United States with the Indians generally have been through designated administrative agencies, and it is therefore important to examine the structure, guiding policy, and manner of functioning of these agencies at various periods.

As a general rule, the Crown and the colonies regulated intercourse between their own subjects and the Indians, but made no attempt to govern the internal relations of Indian tribes.¹

After the French and Indian War, and prior to the adoption of the Constitution, two superintendencies of Indian affairs were created—one for the northern and one for the southern colonies. The superintendents were in effect ambassadors, a role which to a limited extent superintendents fill today. Their duties consisted of observing events, negotiating treaties, and generally keeping peace between Indians and the border settlers.²

On July 12, 1775,³ the Continental Congress, as one of its first acts, and exercising definite governmental power for all the colonies, declared its jurisdiction over Indian tribes by creating three departments of Indian affairs—northern, southern, and middle, at the head of each were placed commissioners, five for the southern, three (later four)⁴ for the northern, and three for the middle department. Their duties were " * * * to treat with the Indians * * * in order to preserve peace and friendship with the said Indians and to prevent their taking any part in the present confusions."⁵ The duties of the commissioners did not differ from those of the colonial superintendents but their status as official representatives of a new government, not the Crown, did.

The importance of these offices is indicated by the fact that the commissioners of the middle department unanimously elected on July 12, 1775, were Benjamin Franklin, Patrick Henry, and James Wilson.⁶

¹ Schmeckebier, *The Office of Indian Affairs, Its History, Activities, and Organization* (1927), p. 12.

² *Ibid.*

³ *Joint Com. Cong. (Library of Congress ed.)*, vol. II, p. 178.

⁴ *Ibid.*, p. 188.

⁵ *Ibid.*, p. 175.

⁶ *Ibid.*, p. 188.

By a general ordinance for the regulation of Indian affairs of August 7, 1780,⁷ the Congress of the Confederation followed the colonial precedent and established two departments—the northern, north of the Ohio River, and west of the Hudson River, and the southern, south of the Ohio River. At the head of each was placed a superintendent under the control of and reporting to the Secretary of War. Each had power to grant licenses to trade and live with the Indians.

This ordinance remained partially in force after the adoption of the Constitution of the United States.⁸

On August 7, 1780,⁹ early in the first Congress, the War Department was established, upon whose Secretary devolved all matters relative to Indian affairs as were " * * * entrusted to him by the President of the United States, agreeably to the Constitution * * *"

The first Congress and the first President recognized the need for remedying a problem of conflict of Indian and white interests, serious even then.¹⁰

On August 21, 1789,¹¹ 5 months after the first Congress convened, it appropriated \$30,000 for "negotiating and treating with the Indian tribes," the first of a long series of appropriations for that purpose.

On September 11, 1789,¹² in an early act establishing the salaries of executive officers of the Government, Congress began the policy of making the governor of a territory superintendent of Indian affairs in that jurisdiction by appropriating \$2,000 to "the Governor of the western territory, for his salary as such, and for

⁷ *Joint Com. Cong. (Library of Congress ed.)*, vol. XXXI, p. 401.

⁸ The Act of September 11, 1789, 1 Stat. 67, 68, refers to " * * * superintendent of Indian affairs in the northern department. * * * " The Intercourse Act of July 22, 1790, 1 Stat. 137, mentions " * * * the superintendent of the department * * * "

⁹ Act of August 7, 1780, 1 Stat. 49, 50.

¹⁰ See Schmeckebier, *op. cit.*, pp. 18-19 for Washington's statement to the Senate on broken treaties. " * * * the treaty with the Cherokees has been entirely violated by the dishonest white people on the frontiers of North Carolina." (Annals of Congress, 1st Cong., 1st sess., p. 95)

¹¹ Act of August 20, 1789, 1 Stat. 54.

¹² Act of September 11, 1789, 1 Stat. 67, 68.

of Indian Affairs passed from military to civil control. This act provided "That the Secretary of the Interior shall exercise the supervisory and appellate powers now exercised by the Secretary of the War Department, in relation to all the acts of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs."

"The administration of Indian Affairs was not markedly affected by this transfer, because as early as 1834 the office was essentially a civilian bureau. Army officers continued to be employed occasionally as agents."

After 1840 Congress debated for years the expediency of transferring the Indian Bureau back to the War Department.¹⁰ Constant fluctuations of responsibility between the two departments ensued.¹¹

¹⁰ Administration of the Indian Office (Bureau of Municipal Research Publication No. 63) (1915), p. 13.

¹¹ Schuchman, *op. cit.*, p. 43. By Act of July 16, 1870, 16 Stat. 435, 410, Congress prohibited the appointment of the military officers to civil posts unless commissions were issued.

However, the executive order made effective Indian agents' appointments to be a survival of the period of military control. By Act of July 16, 1870, c. 204, sec. 1, 17 Stat. 430, Act of July 3, 1894, c. 546, sec. 1, 40 Stat. 371, 374, it is 1892, 23 U. S. C. 27.

The President may detail officers of the United States Army to act as Indian agents, but in the opinion of the President may require the presence of any Army officer, and while acting as Indian agents such officers shall be under the orders and direction of the Secretary of the Interior.

(From 25 U. S. C. 27)

¹² Administration of the Indian Office (Bureau of Municipal Research Publication No. 63) (1915), p. 13, Schuchman, *op. cit.*, pp. 50, 51.

In 1857, a commission appointed by Congress (Feb. 18 of March 8, 1855, 13 Stat. 672) to inquire into civil and military authority over Indians reported,

"... The question whether the Indian bureau should be placed under the War Department or retained in the Department of the Interior is one of comparative importance, and both sides have very warm advocates." (P. 6)

(Sen. Rept. No. 156, 36th Cong., 2d sess., pp. 8-9)

Commissioners of Indian Affairs. Higher in his report of 1858 gave 11 reasons for his vigorous opposition to the transfer. He held, among other things, that the proposed Indian policy was false, but it was tantamount to perpetrating war.

"... I cannot for the life of me preserve the property or the efficacy of employing the military instead of the civil departments, unless it is intended to adopt the Mohammedan rule and give claim to these people 'Death or the Koran'." (P. 10)

On January 7, 1868, the Indian Commissioner (appointed by Act of July 20, 1867, 15 Stat. 177) requested that "the Indian Affairs be committed to an independent bureau or department." (Rep. Cong. Ind. Aff., 1868, p. 48.) However, at the end of the same year (October 9, 1868) in a supplementary report to the President it stated,

"... in the opinion of this commission the Bureau of Indian Affairs should be transferred from the Department of the Interior to the Department of War."

(Rep. Comm. Ind. Aff., 1868, p. 872)

¹⁴ Administration of the Indian Office (Bureau of Municipal Research Publication No. 63) (1915), p. 13.

Excerpts from official reports reveal this conflict. *Id.*, Commissioner's Message in his report for 1864 states,

"Occasions frequently arise in our intercourse with the Indians requiring the employment of force. The Indian Bureau would be relieved from embarrassment, and rendered more efficient, if, in such cases, the department had the direct control of the means necessary to execute its own orders." (P. 17)

In Secretary of Interior Hialeah's introduction to the Report of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs for 1865, he stated that

"On taking charge of this department on the 15th day of May last, the relations of officers respectively engaged in the military and civil departments in the Indian country were in an unsatisfactory condition. A supposed conflict of jurisdiction and a want of success in action led to continuing and increasing trouble. The success of military operations against hostile tribes and the execution of the policy of this department were seriously impeded. Upon conferring with the War Department, it was informally agreed that the agents and officers under the control of the Secretary of the Interior should have no interference except through the military authorities, with tribes of Indians against whom hostile measures were in progress, and that the military authorities

In 1866,¹² to collect mismanagement in the purchase and handling of Indian supplies, the Board of Indian Commissioners was created, to be appointed by, and report to, the President. It was composed of not more than 10 men eminent for intelligence and philanthropy, to serve without pecuniary compensation,¹³ and exercise joint control with the Secretary of the Interior over the appropriations in that act. By Act of July 16, 1870,¹⁴ the Board was empowered "to supervise all expenditures of money appropriated for the benefit of Indians," and to inspect all goods purchased for and Indians.¹⁵ Although the Board was entirely independent of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, it studied and advised on important questions of Indian policy.¹⁶

This Board was abolished by Executive Order (445, May 23, 1833,¹⁷ which provided that the Board's affairs be wound up by the Secretary of the Interior, and that its records, property, and personnel be transferred to, or remain under, his supervision.

By title 6, section 485, of the United States Code,¹⁸ the Secretary of the Interior now has supervision over "all public business relating to 'the Indians,' and by title 25, section 2, of the United States Code,¹⁹ the Commissioner of Indian Affairs over "the management of all Indian Affairs and of all matters arising out of Indian relations," under the direction of the Secretary of the Interior and according to regulations prescribed by the President.

C LIST OF COMMISSIONERS

Prior to 1832, the Secretary of War was chief officer in charge of Indian matters. From 1805 to 1822 he had the advice of the Superintendent of Indian Trade, and from 1824 to 1832 of the three successive heads of the new Bureau of Indian Affairs—Thomas L. McKenney (1821-30), Samuel S. Hamilton (1830-31), Elihu Horing (1831-32). Horing became first Commissioner of Indian Affairs in 1832.²⁰

In the 108 years following the establishment of the office of Commissioner of Indian Affairs, that post has been held by some 82 individuals representing a wide range of variation in their outlook upon the responsibilities and opportunities of that office. These individuals have set forth in the Commissioners' Annual Reports²¹ and in unofficial writings²² their views on the Indian question, and these expressions are in many ways the most useful guides to the variations of Government Indian policy.

In tracing prevailing policies for a particular period, the following list²³ of Commissioners of Indian Affairs, with the Secretaries and Presidents under whom they served, may prove useful.

²⁴ Should return from interference with such agents and officers in their relations with all other tribes, except to afford the necessary aid for the enforcement of the regulations of this Department." (P. 17)

¹³ R. S. 1, 2039, 21 U. S. C. 21, derived from Act of April 10, 1809, 16 Stat. 13, 40, and Act of July 15, 1870, sec. 3, 10 Stat. 335, 360. See *Reyn v. United States*, 8 C. Cls. 205 (1872).

¹⁴ 10 Stat. 335, 360.

¹⁵ Schuchman, *op. cit.*, p. 57.

¹⁶ Sen. 25 U. S. C. 21.

¹⁷ R. S. 441, derived from Act of March 3, 1840, c. 108, 9 Stat. 305.

¹⁸ R. S. 463, derived from Act of July 9, 1835, c. 174, sec. 1, 4 Stat. 664 and Act of July 27, 1898, c. 230, sec. 1, 16 Stat. 228.

¹⁹ Schuchman, *op. cit.*, pp. 20-27, Klammer, *op. cit.*, p. 102.

²⁰ The heads of the Bureau of Indian Affairs also reported annually to the Secretary of War from 1824 to 1832.

²¹ Walker, *The Indian Question* (1874), Manyeyney, *Our Indian Wars* (1880), Leupp, *The Indian and the Problem* (1910).

²² Rep. Comm. Ind. Aff., 1838, pp. 1-2.

Commissioners of Indian Affairs

Commissioner	Date	Secretary	President
Harris, Elbert.....	July 10, 1823	Carey.....	Jackson.....
Harris, Carey A.....	July 1, 1836	Carey and Powell.....	Do.....
Crawley, T. Harley.....	Oct. 22, 1838	Powell to Macy.....	Van Buren.....
Kedzie, William.....	Oct. 28, 1839	Macy and Ewing.....	Polk.....
Brown, Orlando.....	May 31, 1843	Ewing.....	Taylor.....
Low, John.....	July 1, 1849	Ewing to Stuart.....	Taylor and Fillmore.....
McKenney, George W.....	Mar. 20, 1853	McClelland and Thompson.....	Pierce.....
Thayer, James, W.....	Apr. 17, 1857	Thompson.....	Buchanan.....
Min, Charles E.....	June 14, 1858	Do.....	Do.....
Dever, Henry W.....	Nov. 8, 1858	Do.....	Do.....
Greenwood, Alfred B.....	Nov. 18, 1861	Do.....	Do.....
Doh, William F.....	Nov. 18, 1861	Smith to Eliason.....	Lincoln.....
Cooler, Dennis N.....	July 10, 1863	Eliason and Brown.....	Johnson.....
Boyd, Lewis V.....	Nov. 1, 1866	Browning.....	Do.....
Taylor, Nathaniel G.....	May 20, 1867	Browning and Cox.....	Do.....
Parker, Ely S.....	Apr. 21, 1869	Cox and Jackson.....	Grant.....

¹ Secretaries of War.
² Existing and all following, Secretaries of the Interior.

Commissioners of Indian Affairs—Continued

Commissioner	Date	Secretary	President
Walker, Finney A.....	Nov. 21, 1871	Delano.....	Do.....
Smith, Edward F.....	Mar. 21, 1873	Delano and Chandler.....	Do.....
Smith, John Q.....	Dec. 11, 1875	Chandler and Schuch.....	Do.....
Havi, John A.....	Sept. 27, 1877	Schuch.....	Havens.....
Thompson, H. E.....	May 16, 1880	Do.....	Do.....
Pay, Hiram.....	May 1, 1881	Do.....	Garfield.....
Alkins, John D. C.....	May 21, 1885	Luskwood and Will.....	Cleveland.....
Owley, John H.....	Oct. 10, 1888	Vilas.....	Do.....
Morgan, Thomas J.....	June 10, 1889	Nease.....	Hutton.....
Brown, Daniel M.....	Apr. 17, 1893	Smith and Francis.....	Cleveland.....
James, William A.....	May 3, 1897	Bliss and Hildwick.....	McKido.....
Leupp, Frances E.....	Dec. 7, 1901	Hildwick, Garfield and Ballinger.....	Roosevelt.....
Valentine, Kolt (C.).....	June 16, 1902	Ballinger.....	Do.....
Sels, Chas.....	June 3, 1913	Leah and Payne.....	Wilson.....
Baker, Charles H.....	Apr. 1, 1921	Pell, Wank, W.C., and Williams.....	Harrison, Coolidge.....
Rhodes, Charles F.....	July 1, 1922	Williams.....	Hower.....
Cobb, John.....	Apr. 21, 1933	Jones.....	Roosevelt.....

SECTION 2. THE DEVELOPMENT OF INDIAN SERVICE POLICIES

The history of Indian Service policies is the story of the rise and decline of a system of paternalism for which it is difficult to find a parallel in American history. The Indian Service began as a diplomatic service handling negotiations between the United States and the Indian nations and tribes, characterized by Chief Justice Marshall as "domestic dependent nations."¹ By a process of jurisdictional aggrandizement, on the one hand, and voluntary surrenders of tribal powers, on the other, the Indian Service reached the point where nearly every aspect of Indian life was subject to the almost unlimited discretion of Indian Service officials.² In recent years there has been a marked reversal of these tendencies.

The reports of various Commissioners of Indian Affairs gave the most graphic chronological insight into changing administrative policies.

A. THE PERIOD FROM 1825 TO 1850

In 1825 Thomas L. McKenney, as head of the new Bureau of Indian Affairs³ in his first brief report⁴ to the Secretary of War, wrote, regarding those Indians whose ties to land had been extinguished and who had elected to remove, that it was " . . . the policy of the Government to guarantee to them lasting and undisturbed possession⁵ of their new land beyond the boundaries of Missouri and Arkansas.

The extent to which this policy was carried into effect is elsewhere discussed.⁶

In his lengthier report for 1828,⁷ McKenney, in urging increased appropriations for the support of Indian schools,⁸ was firmly convinced of—

. . . the vast benefits which the Indian children are deriving from these establishments; and which go further, in my opinion, towards securing our borders from bloodshed, and keeping the peace among the Indians themselves, and attaching them to us, than would the physical force of our Army, if employed exclusively towards the accomplishment of those objects.⁹

¹ See Chapter 14, sec. 6.

² A discussion of the subjects of Indian administrative power will be found in Chapters 5, 8, 11, 12, 15, 16, 17.

³ The head of the Bureau of Indian Affairs was not designated Commissioner until 1839.

⁴ Annual Report for 1825, Office of Indian Affairs, p. 61.

⁵ See Chapter 3, sec. 43, and Chapter 15, sec. 8, 21.

⁶ Annual Report for 1826, Office of Indian Affairs, p. 508.

⁷ In the years immediately following, reports devote a section to the increase in school attendance as an indication of civilization.

⁸ Annual Report for 1828, Office of Indian Affairs, p. 508. Compare this early attitude regarding the use of the military, with that expressed by Commissioner Walker in 1872, *infra*.

McKenney early foresaw the problem of the returned student, and recommended that—

. . . as those youths are qualified to enter upon a course of civilized life, sections of land be given to them, and a suitable present to commence with, of agricultural or other implements suited to the occupations in which they may be disposed, respectively, to engage. They will thus have become an "intermediate link between our own citizens, and our wandering neighbors, softening the shades of each, and enjoying the confidence of both."¹⁰

Samuel S. Hamilton, in his only report¹¹ as head of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, recommended in 1830 that with " . . . the increase of our population, and the consequent extension of our settlements, . . . the act to regulate trade and intercourse with the Indian tribes, passed in 1802, be revised, and the law setting the Indian boundary by that act be redefined. This recommendation, repeated in 1831, was finally acted upon in the Intercourse Act of 1834.¹²

Elbert Herring, who headed the Bureau of Indian Affairs for 1 year, and subsequently became its first Commissioner, commended the Government's recent policy of removal as the only means of checking the complete demoralization of the Indian tribes.

. . . tribes numerous and powerful have disappeared from among us in a ratio of decrease, ominous to the existence of those that still remain, unless counteracted by the substitution of some principle sufficiently potent to check the tendencies to decay and dissolution. This salutary principle exists in the system of removal; in change of residence, of settlement in territories remote of their own, and under the protection of the United States, connected with the benign influences of education and instruction in agriculture and the several mechanic arts, whereby social is distinguished from savage life.¹³

In his report for 1832 as Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Herring again commends the policy of removal in excited terms:

. . . In the consummation of this grand and sacred object rests the sole chance of averting Indian annihilation. Founded in pure and disinterested motives, aim it meet the approval of Heaven, by the complete attainment of its beneficent ends!¹⁴

¹⁰ *Ibid.*, p. 508.

¹¹ Annual Report for 1830, Superintendent of Indian Affairs, p. 108.

¹² Act of June 8, 1834, 4 Stat. 729. See sec. 14, and nos. 14 and 15, *supra*, and see Chapter 1, sec. 8, Chapter 4, sec. 6.

¹³ Annual Report for 1831, Indian Bureau, p. 172.

¹⁴ Annual Report for 1832, Office of Indian Affairs, p. 100.

In this report appears the first mention of vaccination as a health measure for the benefit of the Indians, and the employment of physicians by the Bureau.¹²

In 1833 appears the first mention in Commissioners' reports of the need among Indian tribes for

something, however simple, in the shape of a code of laws, suited to their wants. . . . derived and submitted for their adoption, to obviate the inconvenience, and secure the benefits incident thereto, in the relations that are springing up under the fostering care of the Government

Jacksonian policy¹³ was reflected in the increasing emphasis in commissioners' reports on the use of the military to effect what began as voluntary removal. In his report for 1834, apropos of the failure of the Cherokee to date to sign a treaty of removal, Commissioner Hixson wrote

Should occasion call for it, the military will be ordered out for the protection of those who decide on emigration, and of the emigrating officers of Government engaged in this hazardous and responsible service.¹⁴

In 1835 he wrote

There has been no intention on our part to induce the removal of the Cherokees to the west of the Mississippi, in conformity with the policy adopted by the Government

In 1836 the new Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Carey A. Harris, wrote

The removal of the Creek Indians, like that of the Seminoles, was made a military operation on the commission by them of hostile acts. . . .

T. Hittley Crawford, in his first report as Commissioner of Indian Affairs for 1838,¹⁵ apropos of removal, states that for the most part it has been peaceful, including that of the Cherokees. However, the "indisposition" of the Potawatamies "to comply with their engagements" caused the agent

on the application of the white settlers, to call upon the Government of Indiana for a military force to require my outbreak that might occur. The Government authorized General John Tipton to accept the services of one hundred volunteers, who raised them, and used their services in the collection and removal of the Potawatamies.¹⁶

Commissioner Crawford noted that some evidence of title to lands granted to them in the West by given Indians on removal.¹⁷

¹² *Ibid.*, p. 102. For a discussion of federal health services, see Chapter 12, sec. 2.

¹³ Rep Comm Ind Aff, 1833, p. 186. Some of the tribes, notably the Five Civilized Tribes, early adopted their own code of laws. In 1828, Commissioner Price tells of the proposition and submission by the Potawatamies of their own code of laws to the department for approval (Rep Comm Ind Aff, 1822, p. VIII).

¹⁴ See Chapter 3, sec. 412. Commenting on the situation that arose with the election of President Jackson, Schneekobee writes

The election of Jackson to the Presidency in 1828 resulted in a definite change in the Indian policy in regard to removal. Both Meno and Red Jacket had adopted the policy of voluntary emigration, but Jackson was determined to use force if necessary. A more readying of the advance of the treaties would indicate an definite change, but when the method of obtaining the treaties is taken into consideration it is easy to see that the government was determined to use any previous necessity to accomplish its ends.

(Schneekobee, *op cit*, p. 83)

¹⁵ Rep Comm Ind Aff, 1838, p. 248

¹⁶ Rep Comm Ind Aff, 1835, p. 262

¹⁷ Rep Comm Ind Aff, 1838, p. 368

¹⁸ Rep Comm Ind Aff, 1838

¹⁹ *Ibid.*, p. 413

²⁰ *Ibid.*, p. 414

In the field of education he reports

The principal level by which Indians are to be lifted out of the mire of folly and vice in which they are sunk, is education To teach a savage man to read, while he continues a savage in all else, is to throw seed on a rock Manual-labor schools are what the Indian condition calls for.²¹

The educational policy of civilizing the Indians through manual training in agriculture and the "mechanic arts" became the accepted policy of the Indian office.²²

The problem of the Indian held agent who becomes too closely identified with a particular tribe attracted concern. "Is there not some hazard of his becoming attached to their particular interests By transferring them from one position to another," Commissioner Crawford wrote, "as frequently as may be required proper, they will be cut off from the strong enmeshment of their feelings"

Vaccination for smallpox during an epidemic and medical services supplied by the Bureau of Indian Affairs are again mentioned.²³

Commissioner Crawford, like Commissioner Hixson,²⁴ recommended a code of laws for the government of the Western tribes, but added " . . . this, as it seems to me, indispensable step to their advancement in civilization cannot be taken without their own consent."²⁵

Like many commissioners before and after him, Commissioner Crawford felt that the policy of allotment was the only proper policy for the Government to pursue. "Common property and civilization cannot coexist."²⁶

Of a proposed plan, for a confederation of Indian tribes west of the Mississippi, he held that " . . . prudent considerations would seem to require that they should be kept distinct from each other."²⁷

For the next few years, commissioners report "progress" in removal, treaty-making and education in the manual arts. They begin to include "accompanying documents" prepared by field personnel.

Commissioner Medill in his report for 1847 told of the need for a "statistical account of the various tribes, including a digest of their individual means, peculiar habits, resources, and employments of every kind which would . . . materially aid the Department in suggesting the most suitable measures for their improvement."²⁸ This need was reiterated and various attempts were made to fill it.²⁹

²¹ *Ibid.*, pp. 420-421. Many later treaties contained a specific provision for the establishment of manual labor schools.

²² See Chapter 12, sec. 2.

²³ Rep Comm Ind Aff, 1838, p. 422

²⁴ *Ibid.*

²⁵ *Ibid.*, p. 424. Commissioner Crawford states that in the northwest alone, at least 17,500 deaths occurred. Three thousand persons were vaccinated in the Columbia River section.

²⁶ See *supra*, and Rep Comm Ind Aff, 1833, p. 186

²⁷ Rep Comm Ind Aff, 1838, p. 424

²⁸ *Ibid.*, p. 425. See Chapter 11, sec. 1

²⁹ *Ibid.*, p. 420

³⁰ Rep Comm Ind Aff, 1847, pp. 747-748

³¹ *U. S. Act of June 27, 1840, 9 Stat. 20, 84*, provided for a survey, but failed to provide the necessary means to execute it. *Act of March 8, 1847, sec. 5, 9 Stat. 203, 204*, likewise provided for a census to illustrate " . . . the history, the present condition, and future prospects of the Indian tribes of the United States." At the time of Commissioner Medill's report, results were being returned by agents and subagents " . . . of most interesting and satisfactory character" (Rep Comm Ind Aff, 1847, p. 748). Nine 12 years later, in 1859, Secretary of the Interior Thompson wrote

The statistical information in the possession of the Indian office is too meager and vague to enable us to determine with

The role that was played by missionary groups through their teachers and schools was clearly stated by Commissioner Midtill:

In every system which has been adopted for promoting the cause of education among the Indians, the Department has found its most efficient and faithful auxiliaries and laborers in the societies of the several Christian denominations.

Commissioner Orlando Brown, in addition to various reports on the status of removal, including a full report on the proposed removal of the Seminoles to be "conducted by the military alone," made recommendations for various changes in policy. That (1) "in all treaties heretofore to be made with the Indians, the policy of giving goods, farming utensils, provisions, etc., in lieu of money, be insisted on as far as practicable," that (2) Congress take steps for the ultimate participation in the national legislation of those Indians qualified or soon to be so; that (3) there be made various changes in personnel: the number of superintendents be increased from 5 to 7, the duties of agent and superintendent, and superintendent and governor of a Territory be separated, the position of subagent (salary \$750 per annum, with duties often equal to those of agent) be abolished, and that of minor agent, with a salary lower than that of agent (\$1,600 per annum) where the responsibilities and Indians are fewer, be established.

B. THE PERIOD FROM 1851 TO 1867

The question of the status of the Indian, and the technique by which he might be civilized, had not been answered satisfactorily in 1851 when Commissioner Luke Lea wrote:

On the general subject of the civilization of the Indians, many and diversified opinions have been put forth; but, unfortunately, like the race to which they relate, they are too wild to be of much utility. The great question, How shall the Indians be civilized? yet remains without a satisfactory answer. The magnitude of the subject, and the manifold difficulties inseparably connected with it, seem to have bewildered the minds of those who have attempted to give it the most thorough investigation. I therefore leave the subject for the present, remarking, only, that any plan for the civilization of our Indians will, in my judgment, be fatally defective, if it do not provide, in the most efficient manner, first, for their concentration; secondly, for their domestication; and, thirdly, for their ultimate incorporation into the great body of our citizen population.

Commissioner Lea's recommendation that the Indians be concentrated was effectuated through the gradual diminution of the size of most Indian reservations. The plea for domestication had appeared in earlier reports, and was, in fact, the accepted practice of the Bureau of Indian Affairs at that time. The recommendation that Indians be ultimately incorporated into the citizenry of the country may mark a new departure from the theory and practice of removal and segregation. It apparently bore fruit in the Allotment Act, with its provisions for citizenship and fee simple tenure of land.

precision the ratio of increase or decrease among the aboriginal population.

(Excerpt, Report of Secretary of the Interior, 1859, p. 4, in Rep. Comm. Ind. Aff., 1859.)

¹ Rep. Comm. Ind. Aff., 1847, p. 749.

² Rep. Comm. Ind. Aff., 1840, pp. 939-941.

³ *Ibid.*, p. 958.

⁴ *Ibid.*, p. 958.

⁵ *Ibid.*, pp. 953, 955.

⁶ *Ibid.*, pp. 954, 955.

This would circumvent the limitation to 11, of full agents authorized by law (Rep. Comm. Ind. Aff., 1849, pp. 954, 955).

⁷ Rep. Comm. Ind. Aff., 1851, pp. 12-13.

⁸ Act of February 8, 1857, 24 Stat. 858. See Chapter 11.

In 1853, Commissioner Manypenny objected to the practice of permitting Indian tribes, enclined in the stream of western migration, to retain portions of their tribal domains as reservations.

With but few exceptions, the Indians were opposed to selling any part of their lands, as announced in their replies to the speeches of the commissioners. Finally, however, many tribes expressed their willingness to sell, but on the condition that they could retain tribal reservations on their present tracts of land. The idea of retaining reservations, which seemed to be generally entertained, is not deemed to be consistent with their true interests, and every good influence ought to be exercised to enlighten them on the subject. If they dispose of their lands, no reservations should, if it can be avoided, be granted or allowed. There are some Indians in various tribes who are occupying farms, comfortably situated, and who are in such an advanced state of civilization, that if they desired to remain, the privilege might well, and might perhaps to be granted, and their farms in each case reserved for them; homes. Such Indians would be qualified to enjoy the privileges of citizenship. But to make reservations for an entire tribe on the tract which it now owns, would, it is believed, be injurious to the future peace, prosperity, and advancement of those people. The commissioner, as far as he is judged it prudent, endeavored to enlighten them on this point, and labored to convince them that it was not consistent with the true interest of themselves and their posterity that they should have tribal reservations within their present limits.

Commissioner Manypenny further urged the revision of the Intercourse Act of 1834 and the regulations promulgated thereunder, to meet changing conditions in Indian relations.

A new code of regulations is greatly needed for this branch of the public service. That now in force was adopted many years since, and, in many particulars, has become obsolete or unpracticable, especially in our new and distant territories. The regulations now existing are based upon laws in force respecting Indian affairs, and the President has authority, under the act of June 30, 1834, providing for the organization of the department of Indian Affairs, to prescribe such rules as he may think fit for carrying into effect its provisions.

That plea is repeated by succeeding commissioners.

In his second annual report, Commissioner Manypenny foresaw a crisis in the whole removal policy, and urged its abandonment in favor of fixed and permanent settlements ("hereafter not to be disturbed").

By alternate persuasion and force, some of these tribes (in Kansas territory) have been removed, step by step, from mountain to valley, and from river to plain, until they have been pushed half-way across the continent. They can go no farther; on the ground they now occupy the crisis must be met, and their future determined.

The wonderful growth of our distant possessions, and the rapid expansion of our population in every direction, will render it necessary, at no distant day, to restrict the limits of all the Indian tribes upon our frontiers, and cause them to be settled in fixed and permanent localities, thereafter not to be disturbed. The policy of removing Indian tribes from time to time, as the settlements approach their habitations and hunting-grounds, must be abandoned. The emigrants and settlers were formerly content to remain in the rear, and thrust the Indians before them into the wilderness, but now the white population overruns the reservations and homes of the Indians, and is beginning

¹ Rep. Comm. Ind. Aff., 1853, p. 240.

² *Ibid.*, p. 250. See Commissioner Denver's report (1857), *infra*, of Indians being permitted to retain such tribal land.

³ Act of June 30, 1834, 4 Stat. 720.

⁴ Act of June 30, 1834, 4 Stat. 735.

⁵ Rep. Comm. Ind. Aff., 1853, pp. 261-262.

⁶ Rep. Comm. Ind. Aff., 1854.

⁷ *Ibid.*, p. 19.

to inhabit the valleys and the mountains beyond, hence removal must cease, and the policy abandoned.

To protect Indian lands from fraud, Commissioner Manypenny recommended that—

All executive officers of every kind and description, made by Indian tribes or lands with claim agents, attorneys, traders, or other persons, should be declared by law null and void, and no agent, interpreter, or other person, employed in or in any way connected with the Indian service, guilty of participation in transactions of the kind referred to, should be instantly dismissed and expelled from the Indian country, and all such attempts to injure and defraud the Indians, by whomsoever made or participated in, should be penal offences, punishable by fine and imprisonment. We have now penal laws to protect the Indians in the secure and unimpaired possession of their lands, and also from denudation by the introduction of liquor into their country, and the obligation is equally strong to protect them in a similar manner from the wrongs and injuries of such attempts to obtain possession of their lands.¹¹¹

Secretary of the Interior McClelland in 1874, apropos of twenty obligations, reiterated

The duty of the government is clear, and justice to the Indians requires that it should be faithfully discharged. Experience shows that much is gained by severely disciplining our plighted faith with these poor creatures, and our principles of justice and humanity prompt us to a strict performance of our obligations.¹¹²

Commissioner Denver, in 1877,¹¹³ tells of the successful extinguishing of title to all lands owned by Indians west of Missouri and Iowa "except such portions as were reserved for their future homes."

Of Indians who have removed to

large reservations of fertile and desirable land, entirely disproportionate to their wants for occupancy and support, their reservations should be restricted so as to contain only sufficient land to afford them a comfortable support by actual cultivation, and should be properly divided and assigned to them, with the obligation to remain upon and cultivate the same.¹¹⁴

Commissioner Denver urged discontinuance of the practice of distributing funds due to tribes in per capita payments to individual members. This practice, he thought, tended to break down the authority of the chiefs, and thus

disorganizes and leaves them without a domestic government. Distribution of the money should be left to the chiefs, so far at least as to enable them to punish the lawless and unify by withholding it from them.¹¹⁵

Commissioner Denver tells of the attempt by the Government to suppress the practice in California of kidnapping Indian children and selling them for servants.¹¹⁶

He concludes his report with a plan for a recodification of Indian law

I urgently repeat the recommendation of my immediate predecessor, that there be an early and complete revision and codification of all the laws relating to Indian affairs, which, from lapse of time and material changes in the location, condition, and circumstances of the most of the tribes, have become so inefficient and unsuitable as to occasion the greatest embarrassment and difficulty in conducting the business of this branch of the public service.¹¹⁷

In 1838, Commissioner Mix estimated the number of Indians to be about 350,000,¹¹⁸ approximately the same number as it is estimated exists today.¹¹⁹ He further estimated that about 303 treaties had been signed since the adoption of the Constitution, and that approximately 581,163,188 acres had been acquired through cession at a cost of \$49,816,344.¹²⁰

The principle upon which treaty-making with the Indians for land cessions rested was thus stated

that the Indian tribes possessed the occupant or distinct right to the lands they occupied, and that they were entitled to the peaceful enjoyment of that right until they were truly and justly divested of it.¹²¹

However, that principle was apparently not adhered to in the Territories of Oregon and Washington

strong inducements were held out to our people to emigrate and settle there, without the usual arrangements being made, in advance, for the extinguishment of the title of the Indians who occupied and claimed the lands.¹²²

According to Commissioner Mix, past Government policy had been in error in at least three respects: (1) Removal from place to place prevented the acquiring of "settled habits and a knowledge of and taste for civilized pursuits"; (2) assignment of too large a country to be held in common resulted in improper use and failure to acquire "a knowledge of separate and individual property"; (3) animities resulted in intolerance among Indians and injurious practices by whites.¹²³

The policy of concentrating the Indians on small reservations of land, and of sustaining them there for a limited period, until they can be induced to make the necessary exertions to support themselves, was commenced in 1853, with those in California. If so, in fact, the only course compatible with the obligations of justice and humanity.¹²⁴

The military appears to have been used in the vicinity of reservations "to prevent the intrusion of improper persons upon them [the Indians], to afford protection to the agents, and to aid in controlling the Indians and keeping them within the limits assigned to them."¹²⁵

In 1850, Secretary of the Interior Thompson reports progress in the shift of Government policy from that of removal to that of fixed reservations.¹²⁶

¹¹¹ *Ibid.*, p. 17

¹¹² *Ibid.*, pp. 21-22. See also extract from Report of Secretary of Interior, 1862, p. 18, in Rep. Comm. Ind. Aff., 1862.

All contracts with them should be prohibited, and all promises or obligations made by them should be declared void. Legislation along the lines urged was enacted in 1871. See Chapter 14, sec. 6.

¹¹³ Extract from Annual Report of the Secretary of Interior, 1854, p. 41, in Rep. Comm. of Ind. Aff., 1854.

¹¹⁴ Rep. Comm. of Ind. Aff., 1857.

¹¹⁵ *Ibid.*, p. 8. See Commissioner Manypenny's Report for 1858, *supra*, pp. 240, 260 for opposition to such a policy.

¹¹⁶ *Ibid.*, p. 4.

¹¹⁷ *Ibid.*, p. 7.

¹¹⁸ *Ibid.*, p. 10.

¹¹⁹ *Ibid.*, p. 12.

¹²⁰ Rep. of Comm. of Ind. Aff., 1858, p. 1.

¹²¹ See Chapter 1, sec. 2, *fn.* 4.

¹²² Rep. Comm. of Ind. Aff., 1858, p. 1.

¹²³ *Ibid.*, p. 6.

¹²⁴ *Ibid.*, p. 7.

¹²⁵ *Ibid.*, p. 7. It is noted the difference in development between the northern tribes and those of the South who were permitted to remain for long periods in their original locations (pp. 6-7).

¹²⁶ *Ibid.*, p. 6.

¹²⁷ *Ibid.*, p. 6.

¹²⁸ *Ibid.*, p. 9.

¹²⁹ *Ibid.*, p. 10.

¹³⁰ See Commissioner Manypenny's recommendation for such a shift in 1854, *supra*.

The policy heretofore adopted of removing the Indians from time to time, as the necessities of our civilization upon them demanded a cessation of their territory, the usual consideration for which was a large money annuity to be divided among them *per capita* had a deleterious effect upon their morals, and confirmed them in their roving, idle habits. This policy, we are now compelled by the necessity of the case to change. At present, the policy of the government is to gather the Indians upon small tribal reservations, within the well-defined exterior boundaries of which small tracts of land are assigned, in severalty, to the individual members of the tribe, with all the rights incident to an estate in fee-simple, except the power of alienation. This system, whenever it has been tried, has worked well, and the reports of the superintendents and agents give a most gratifying account of the great improvement which it has effected in the character and habits of those tribes which have been brought under its operation.¹²²

Aldred B. Greenow, Commissioner of Indian Affairs, under Secretary Thompson,¹²³ recommended that the reservation policy, as it had been pursued in California, be abandoned.

"... neither the Government nor California requires any right in the Indians of that State to one foot of land within her borders. An unnecessary number of reservations and separate farms have been established; the locations of many of them have proved to be unsuitable, and have not been sufficiently isolated;

Under these circumstances, and being desirous to institute a policy for California which will secure our own citizens from annoyance, and, at the same time, save the Indians from the speedy extinction with which they are threatened, I feel constrained to recommend the repeal of all laws authorizing the appointment of superintendent agents, and sub-agents for California, and the abandonment of the present, and the substitution of a somewhat different plan of operations. "The State should be divided into two districts, and an agent appointed for each. "The agents should give the Indians in their respective districts to understand that they are not to be fed and clothed at government expense; but that they must supply all their wants by means of their own labor."

Should Congress authorize a change in the present system and new reservations be established, great care should be taken so as to isolate the Indians from contact with the whites. Fertile lands should be selected which will repay the efforts to cultivate them.

During the Civil War period, when defections from the Federal Government occurred and tribes were concluding treaties with the Confederate Government,¹²⁴ the movement to terminate the practice of dealing with Indian tribes by treaty and to deal with them instead as objects of national charity, lacking legal rights, gained momentum.

Secretary of the Interior Caleb B. Smith clearly stated the new policy.

It may well be questioned whether the government has not adopted a mistaken policy in regarding the Indian tribes as quasi-independent nations, and making treaties with them for the purchase of the lands they claim to own. They have none of the elements of nationality; they are within the limits of the recognized authority of the United States and must be subject to its control. The rapid progress of civilization upon this continent will not permit the lands which are required for cultivation to be surrendered to savage tribes for hunting grounds. In-

deed, whatever may be the theory, the government has always demanded the removal of the Indians when their lands were required for agricultural purposes by advancing settlements. Although the consent of the Indians has been obtained in the form of treaties, it is well known that they have yielded to a necessity which they could not resist.¹²⁵

"... A radical change in the mode of treatment of the Indians should, in my judgment, be adopted. Instead of being treated as independent nations they should be regarded as wards of the government, entitled to its fostering care and protection. Suitable districts of country should be assigned to them for their homes, and the government should supply them, through its own agents, with such articles as they use, until they can be induced to earn their subsistence by their labor."

Under the Lincoln administration, Commissioners Dole concerned himself with the local disadvantage under which Indians labor, in the conflict between state and federal jurisdiction.¹²⁶

"... they find themselves amenable to a system of local and federal laws, as well as their treaty stipulations, all of which are to the vast majority of them wholly unintelligible. If a white man does them an injury, redress is often beyond their reach; or, if obtained, is only had after delays and expenses which are themselves a cruel injustice. If one of their number commits a crime, punishment is sure and swift, and oftentimes is visited upon the whole tribe."

Better cooperation between the Federal Government and the states was recommended, with state legislation leading to ultimate citizenship the goal to be pursued.

Very much of the evil attendant upon the location of Indians within the limits of States might be avoided, if some plan could be devised whereby a more hearty cooperation with government on the part of the States might be secured. It being a demonstrated fact that Indians are capable of attaining a high degree of civilization, it follows that the time will arrive, as in the case of some of the tribes it has doubtless now arrived, when the peculiar relations existing between them and the federal government may cease, without detriment to their interests, or those of the community or State in which they are located, in other words, that the time will come when, in justice to them and to ourselves, their relations to the general government should be identical with those of the citizens of the various States. In this view, a more generous legislation on the part of most of the States within whose limits Indians are located, looking to the gradual removal of the disabilities under which they labor, and their ultimate admission to all the rights of citizenship, as from time to time the improvement and advancement made by a given tribe may warrant, is earnestly to be desired, and would, I think not, prove a powerful incentive to exertion on the part of the Indians themselves.¹²⁷

At the end of the Civil War, Secretary of the Interior Harlan reported the terms of a negotiated peace with those Indians who had joined forces with Confederate soldiers.¹²⁸

"... Such preliminary arrangements were made as, it is believed, will result in the abolition of slavery among them, the cession within the Indian territory of lands for the settlement of the civilized Indians now residing on reservations elsewhere, and the ultimate establishment of civil government, subject to the supervision of the United States."

¹²² Extract from Report of the Secretary of the Interior, 1869, pp. 4-5 in Rep Comm Ind Aff, 1869.

¹²³ Rep Comm Ind Aff, 1869.

¹²⁴ *Ibid.*, p. 22.

¹²⁵ *Ibid.*, p. 23.

¹²⁶ *Ibid.*, p. 24.

¹²⁷ See Chapter 8, sec 4H and Chapter 8, sec 11.

¹²⁸ Extract from Report of the Secretary of the Interior, 1865, p. 7, in Rep Comm Ind Aff, 1862.

¹²⁹ *Ibid.*, p. 9.

¹³⁰ See Chapter 8, sec 10.

¹³¹ Rep Comm Ind Aff, 1862, p. 12.

¹³² *Ibid.*, p. 12.

¹³³ See Chapter 8, sec 4I and Chapter 8, sec 11.

¹³⁴ Extract from Report of the Secretary of the Interior, 1865, p. III, in Rep Comm Ind Aff, 1865.

Apparently, even at this late date the policy of complete extermination of the Indian was advocated by "gentlemen of high position, intelligence, and personal character."¹⁷

Financial considerations forbade the imagination of such a policy.¹⁸ It is estimated that the maintenance of each regiment of troops engaged against the Indians of the plains costs the government two million dollars per annum.¹⁹ Such a policy is manifestly as impracticable as it is in violation of every dictate of humanity and Christian duty.²⁰

Secretary Tilton, in urging Congressional action for the necessary reforms in the administration of justice on Indian reservations, stated:

It is earnestly recommended that the superintendents, and also agents of a suitable grade, be empowered to act as civil magistrates within the limits of reservations where the tribal relations are maintained, and also on the plains remote from the jurisdiction of civil authorities. The want of an acceptable and efficient provision for the administration of justice has been severely felt in cases arising between members of the tribes or between Indians and the white men who have been permitted to reside among them.²¹

Commissioner Cady²² recommended various radical reforms in Indian Service personnel, particularly with regard to traders and agents. To eliminate collusion between them, he urged Congress to make it a penal offense for

any agent or other officer in the Indian service to be in any manner, directly or indirectly, interested in the profits of the business of any trader, or in any contract for the purchase of goods, or in any trade with the Indians, at their own or any other agency, the same penalties to apply to the becoming of any relative to trade or to purchasing goods or provisions for the use of the Indians of any tribe in which they or any relative may be partners or in any way interested.²³

In signing, as commissioners had done before, increase to agents' salary above the \$1,500 they had received since 1834,²⁴ as a means of securing more thoroughly qualified persons, Commissioner Cady held

The fact that innumerable applicants stand ready to take any place which is vacated is not, in my judgment, an argument against an increase of pay. It is simply a proof of the commonly received idea of the outside profit of the business.²⁵

He noted progress in the civilization of the Indian

Another evidence of progress in the right direction is the request made by several agents, on behalf of the Indians, that the kind of goods brought to them may be changed from the blankets, bright-colored cloths, and various gewgaws, which have from time immemorial gone to make up the excess of Indian goods, to substantial garments, improved agricultural implements, etc.²⁶

¹⁷ *Ibid.*, p. III.

¹⁸ *Ibid.*, pp. III, IV.

¹⁹ *Ibid.*, p. IV. See Chapter 7, see 0.

²⁰ *Rep. Comm. Ind. Aff.*, 1896.

²¹ *Ibid.*, p. 2. Legislation along the lines proposed was enacted in 1874. Act of June 22, 1874, sec. 10, 18 Stat. 140, 177, 25 U. S. C. 87. This, in effect, strengthened the restrictions contained in section 14 of the Act of June 30, 1834, 1 Stat. 735, 738, 18 U. S. C. 2078, 25 U. S. C. 88. The Act of June 30, 1830, 5 Stat. 840, 25 U. S. C. 87a, modified these two prohibitory statutes to permit purchases for personal use by federal employees.

²² By Act of April 20, 1818, 8 Stat. 401, agents' salaries varied from \$1,200 to \$1,800, and subagents' were fixed at \$500. By Act of June 30, 1834, 4 Stat. 736, agents' salaries were fixed at \$1,500, and subagents' at \$750.

²³ *Rep. Comm. Ind. Aff.*, 1865, pp. 2-3.

²⁴ *Ibid.*, p. 4.

In 1867, Acting Commissioner Mix summarized the obstacles to Indian civilization as he saw them, and the means to overcome them:

mainly . . . his almost constant contact with the vicious, unscrupulous whites, who not only teach him their base ways, but defend and rob him, and, often without cause, with as little compunction as they would experience in killing a dog, take even his life.²⁷

Further:

the Indian has no certainty as to the permanent possession of the land he occupies and which he is urged to improve, for he knows not how long he may be permitted to enjoy it²⁸ Evidently the remedy for these evils lies in securing to the Indians a permanent home in a country exclusively set apart for them, upon which no whites or citizens, except government agents and employees, shall be permitted to reside or intrude, in the grant of them allotments of land as individual property, to cultivate and improve, in the appointment of moral, honest, and efficient agents, with a fair compensation for services, and in the prompt fulfillment by the government of its treaty and other obligations, furnishing the necessary and required for food, and placing them in the way of becoming self-sustaining and eventually independent of the government.²⁹

He recommended to the Secretary the repeal of section 4 of the Act of July 26, 1846,³⁰ "allowing any citizen 'of proper character' to trade with Indians, since the Department had no authority to restrict the number, nor discretion to determine the fitness or ability of a trader."³¹

C. THE PERIOD FROM 1868 TO 1876

For the next few years, with Indians largely in the process of being settled or resettled on western reservations, commissioners concerned themselves primarily with problems of permanent policy and administration. Should treaty-making be abandoned? What was the proper role of the military? Should the Bureau of Indian Affairs be transferred back to the War Department?³² How should the Indian Service be reorganized so as to overcome charges of dishonesty and inefficiency? What was the best technique for individualizing and controlling the Indian? What were the present rights and future prospects of the Indian?

Although Commissioner Parker in 1860 urged that treaties then in force be "promptly and faithfully executed," nevertheless he recommended, as Secretary Smith had in 1862,³³ that the whole policy of treaty-making be abandoned.

A treaty involves the idea of a compact between two or more sovereign powers, each possessing sufficient authority and force to compel a compliance with the obligations incurred. The Indian tribes of the United States are not sovereign nations, capable of making treaties, as none of them have an organized government of such inherent strength as would secure a faithful obedience of its people in the observance of compacts of this character. They are held to be the wards of the government, and the only title the law concedes to them to the lands they occupy or claim is a mere possessory one. But, because treaties have been made with them, generally for the extinguishment of their supposed absolute title to land uninhabited by them, or over which they roam, they have

²⁷ *Rep. Comm. Ind. Aff.*, 1867, p. 1.

²⁸ *Ibid.*, p. 1.

²⁹ *Ibid.*, p. 2.

³⁰ 14 Stat. 255, 280 18 U. S. C. 2128.

³¹ *Rep. Comm. Ind. Aff.*, 1867, pp. 6-8.

³² See sec. 13, *supra*, for a discussion of that problem, and the recommendations of various commissioners and the Indian Peace Commission of 1867.

³³ See *Rep. Comm. Ind. Aff.*, 1862, p. 7, and *supra*.

become falsely impressed with the notion of national independence, it was true that this idea should be dispelled, and the government cease the cruel force of thus dealing with its helpless and ignorant wards. Many good men, looking at this matter only from a Christian point of view, will perhaps say that the poor Indian has been greatly wronged and ill treated, that this whole country was once his, of which he has been despoiled, and that he has been driven from place to place until he has hardly left to him a spot where to lay his head. This indeed may be philanthropic and humane, but the stern letter of the law admits of no such conclusion, and great injury has been done by the government in deluding this people into the belief of their being independent sovereigns, while they were at the same time recognized only as its dependents and wards. As civilization advances and their possessions of land are required for settlement, such legislation should be granted to them as a wise, liberal, and just government ought to extend to subjects holding their dependent relation.

By the Act of March 3, 1871,¹²⁰ treaty-making was abandoned. However, agreements, approved by both Senate and House of Representatives, continued to be made. In 1873 Commissioner Edward P. Smith urged that even agreements cease.

" * * * We have in theory over sixty-five independent nations within our borders, with whom we have entered into treaty relations as being sovereign peoples, and at the same time the white agent is sent to control and supervise these foreign powers, and care for them as wards of the Government. This double condition of sovereignty and wardship involves increasing difficulties and absurdities, as the traditional objection, long held upon his tribe, comes to be distinguished for anything except for the lion's share of goods and moneys which the Government endeavors to send, through him, to his nominal subjects, and as natives of the Indians, pressed on every side by civilization, require more help and greater discrimination in the manner of distributing the tribal funds. So far, and as rapidly as possible, all recognition of Indians in their relation to this strictly as subjects of the Government should cease. To provide for this, rational legislation will be required."¹²¹

On the use of the military, official opinion varied. Commissioner Taylor (1838)¹²² was strongly opposed; Commissioner Parker (1840),¹²³ himself a general, believed in its use, particularly for those Indians who failed to remove. In his 1870 report¹²⁴ he lamented the passage by Congress of an act¹²⁵ which " * * * prohibited the employment of army officers in any civil capacity * * *." Commissioner Francis A. Walker (also a general) in 1872¹²⁶ urged the use of the military to effect the "peace policy."

" * * * Such a use of the military constitutes no abandonment of the 'peace policy,' and involves no disparagement of it. It was not to be expected—it was not in the nature of things—that the entire body of wild Indians should submit to be retrained in their Indianish propensities without a struggle on the part of the more undisciplined to maintain their traditional freedom."

¹²⁰ Rep. Comm. Ind. Aff., 1860, p. 6.

¹²¹ 16 Stat. 544, 566, R. S. § 2073, 25 U. S. C. 71. See Chapter 8.

¹²² Rep. Comm. Ind. Aff., 1878, p. 5.

¹²³ Rep. Comm. Ind. Aff., 1868, pp. 8-10.

¹²⁴ Rep. Comm. Ind. Aff., 1860, p. 5.

¹²⁵ Rep. Comm. Ind. Aff., 1870, pp. 8-10.

¹²⁶ Act of July 15, 1870, 16 Stat. 515, 519. See fn. 41, *supra*. By Act of July 18, 1892, c. 164, sec. 1, 27 Stat. 120; and Act of July 1, 1893, c. 545, sec. 1, 30 Stat. 671, 678, the President was given the power to detail Army officers for duty to Indian agencies. 25 U. S. C. 27.

¹²⁷ Rep. Comm. Ind. Aff., 1872, p. 5.

¹²⁸ In 1867 (Act of July 20, 1867, 15 Stat. 17) the Indian Peace Commission was authorized by Congress to study the cause and cure for Indian wars. Their recommendations in 1868 (Report of January 7, 1868 to the President, in Rep. Comm. Ind. Aff., 1868, pp. 26-30) were the basis for the new "peace policy" of the Government. See discussion sec. 7, *supra*.

¹²⁹ Rep. Comm. of Ind. Aff., 1872, p. 5.

Commissioner Walker complained that his policy had been widely misunderstood and criticized by the press.

" * * * This misunderstanding in regard to the occasional use of force in making effective and universal the policy of peace, has led to small portions of the press of the country to treat the more vigorous application of the scourge to refractory Indians which has characterized the operations of the last three months as an abandonment of the peace policy itself, whereas it is, in fact, a legitimate and essential part of the original scheme which the Government has been endeavoring to carry out, with prospects of success never more bright and hopeful than to-day."

In 1873, Commissioner Edward P. Smith urged that a military force be set up among the Sioux, notwithstanding treaty assurances to the contrary.

Hitherto the military have refused from going on this reservation because of the express terms of the treaty with the Sioux, in which it is agreed that no military force shall be brought over the line. I respectfully recommend that provision be made at once for placing at each of the River reservations a military force sufficient to enable the agents to enforce respect for their authority, and to conduct agency affairs in an orderly manner."

After many years of charges against Indian Service field personnel of dishonesty and inefficiency,¹³⁰ a new system of choosing agents was inaugurated in 1860 under President Grant.¹³¹ Their nomination was for the most part delegated to various religious bodies active in missionary work, particularly the Society of Friends. The remaining agencies were filled by Army officers detailed for such duty,¹³² until the Appropriation Act of July 15, 1870,¹³³ caused them to relinquish civil posts.

Commissioner Parker in 1860 and in 1870 reported the plan working well.¹³⁴ However, it was gradually abandoned and completely discontinued by the early eighties.¹³⁵

On the question of the techniques for individualizing and controlling the Indians, commissioners differed somewhat, although all agreed basically on allotment of land in severally as one of the major methods.

" * * * The policy of giving to every Indian a home that he can call his own is a wise one, as it induces a strong incentive to him to labor and make every effort in his power to better his condition. By the adoption, generally, of this plan on the part of the Government, the Indians would be more rapidly advanced in civilization than they would if the policy of allowing them to hold their land in common were continued."

" * * * A fundamental difference between barbarians and a civilized people is the difference between a herd and an individual. * * * The starting-point of indi-

¹²⁹ *Ibid.*, p. 6.

¹³⁰ Rep. Comm. Ind. Aff., 1873, p. 6.

¹³¹ Rep. Comm. Ind. Aff., 1860, p. 8.

¹³² 1st Annual Message to Congress, December 6, 1860.

¹³³ I have attempted a new policy towards three wards of the nation. * * * The Society of Friends is well known as having succeeded in living in peace with the Indians in the early settlement of Pennsylvania, while their white neighbors of other sects in other sections were constantly engaged in wars. They are also known for their opposition to all strife, violence, and war, and are generally noted for their strict integrity and fair dealings. These considerations induced me to give the management of a few reservations of Indians to them and to throw the burden of the selection of agents upon the society itself. * * * Five superintendents and agents not on the reservations, officers of the Army were selected. (Richman, *Mem. and Papers of the Presidents*, 1897, Vol. IX, pp. 899-900.)

According to Schmeckebier this policy was inaugurated by Grant to insure against opposition to his appointments by the Senate. (Schmeckebier, *op. cit.*, p. 54.)

¹³⁴ Rep. Comm. Ind. Aff., 1860, p. 5.

¹³⁵ 16 Stat. 515, 519. See fn. 137, *supra*.

¹³⁶ Rep. Comm. Ind. Aff., 1860, p. 5; Rep. Comm. Ind. Aff., 1870, pp. 9-10.

¹³⁷ Schmeckebier, *op. cit.*, p. 55, fn. 62.

¹³⁸ Rep. Comm. Ind. Aff., 1870, p. 9. See Chapter 11, sec. 1.

vindictism for an Indian is the personal possession of his position at the reservation.²²

In 1870, Commissioner Parker reported, as an indication of Indian progress, that many were asking to have their land surveyed and allotted.²³

In 1872, Commissioner Walker defended the "feeding" policy which had been in effect for 3 years:

The Indian policy, as called, of the Government, is a policy, and it is not a policy, or rather it consists of two policies, entirely distinct, seeming, indeed, to be mutually inconsistent and to reflect each upon the other. The one regulating the treatment of the tribes, which are potentially hostile, that is, whose hostility is only repressed just so long as, and so far as, they are supported in idleness by the Government, the other regulating the treatment of those tribes which, from traditional friendship, from numerical weakness, or by the force of their location, are either predisposed toward, or incapable of, resistance to the demands of the Government. . . . If it is, of course, hopelessly ignorant that the expenditure of the Government should be proportioned not to the good but to the ill desert of the several tribes, that large bodies of Indians should be supported in entire idleness by the bounty of the Government simply because they are undisciplined and unskilled, while well-disposed Indians are only assisted to self-maintenance, since it is known they will not fight. . . . And yet, for all this, the Government is right and its critics wrong, and the "Indian policy" is sound, sensible, and beneficent, because it reduces to the minimum the loss of life and property upon our frontier, and allows the freest development of our settlements and railways possible under the circumstances.²⁴

There is no question of untolded dignity, he remembered, involved in the treatment of savages by a civilized power. With wild men, as with wild beasts, the question whether in a given situation one shall fight, coax, or run, is a question merely of what is easiest and safest.²⁵

Commissioner Walker discussed the function of the reservation as he saw it:

. . . The Indians should be made as comfortable as, and as uncomplaining as, their reservations as it was in the power of the Government to make them, that such of them as were not right should be protected and fed, and such as were wrong should be harassed and scourged without intermission. . . . Such a use of the strong arm of the Government is not war, but discipline.²⁶

* * * The reservation system affords the place for thus dealing with tribes and bands, without the access of influences inimical to peace and virtue. It is only necessary that Federal laws, judiciously framed to meet all the facts of the case, and enacted in season, before the Indians begin to settle, shall place all the members of this race under a strict reformulary control by the agents of the Government. Especially is it essential that the right of the Government to keep Indians upon the reservations assigned to them, and to arrest and return them whenever they wander away, should be placed beyond dispute.²⁷

The problem of the consolidation and sale of surplus land on reservations had already appeared in 1872:

The reservations granted heretofore have generally been proportioned, and rightly so, to the needs of the Indians in a roving state, with hunting and fishing as their chief means of subsistence, which condition implies the occupation of a territory far exceeding what could possibly be

cultivated. As they change to agriculture, however, rude and primitive at first, they tend to contract the limits of actual occupation. With proper administrative management the portions thus rendered available for occupation or sale can be so thrown together as in no way to impair the integrity of the reservation. Where this change has taken place, there can be no question of the expenditure of such sale or exchange. The Indian Office has always favored this course, and notwithstanding the somewhat questionable character of some of the resulting transactions, arising especially out of violent or fraudulent combinations to prevent a fair sale, it can be confidently affirmed that the substance of the Indians has generally been preserved thereby.²⁸

The present rights and the future prospects of the Indian appear to have concerned many commissioners.

Commissioner Taylor, in 1868, asked the question:

Shall our Indians be civilized, and how?

. . . Assuming that the government has a right, and that it is its duty to solve the Indian question definitively and decisively, it becomes necessary that it determine at once the best and speediest method of its solution, and then, armed with light, to act in the interest of both races.

It might make light, we are the strong and they the weak, and we would do no wrong to succeed by the cheapest and nearest route to the desired end, and could, therefore, justify ourselves in ignoring the natural as well as the conventional rights of the Indians, if they stand in the way, and, as their lawful masters, assign them their status and their tasks, or put them out of their own way and out of existence with the sword, starvation, or by any other method.

If, however, they have rights as well as we, then clearly it is our duty as well as sound policy to solve the question of their future relations to us and each other, as to secure their rights and promote their highest interest, in the simplest, easiest, and most economical way possible.

But to assume that we have no rights is to deny the fundamental principles of Christianity, as well as to contradict the whole theory upon which the government has uniformly acted towards them, we are therefore bound to respect their rights, and, if possible, make our interests harmonious with them.²⁹

Commissioner Walker, in 1872, answered the question in one way:

It takes not a surgeon, but a sober view of the situation, that three years will see the alternative of war eliminated from the Indian question, and the most powerful and hostile bands of to-day thrown in entire helplessness on the mercy of the Government.³⁰

* * * No one certainly will rejoice more heartily than the present Commissioner when the Indians of this country cease to be in a position to defeat, in any form or degree, to the Government, when, in fact, the last hostile tribe becomes reduced to the condition of suppliants for charity.³¹

Commissioner John Q. Smith in 1876 answered the question in another way:

* * * No new hunting-grounds remain, and the civilization or the utter destruction of the Indians is inevitable. The next twenty-five years are to determine the fate of a race. If they cannot be taught, and taught very soon, to accept the necessities of their situation and begin in earnest to provide for their own wants by labor in civilized pursuits, they are destined to speedy extinction.³²

* * * We have despoiled the Indians of their rich hunting-grounds, thereby depriving them of their ancient means of support. Ought we not and shall we not give them at

²² Rep Comm Ind Aff, 1878, p 4

²³ Rep Comm Ind Aff, 1870, p 9

²⁴ Rep Comm Ind Aff, 1872, p 8

²⁵ *Ibid.*, p 4

²⁶ *Ibid.*, p 5

²⁷ *Ibid.*, p 6

²⁸ *Ibid.*, pp 11-12

²⁹ *Ibid.*, p 13

³⁰ Rep Comm Ind Aff, 1868, p 76

³¹ Rep Comm Ind Aff, 1872, p 9

³² Rep Comm Ind Aff, 1876, p VI

least a secure home, and the cheap but priceless benefit of just and equitable laws.¹⁹²

Along with the broad problems of administration and policy, were the problems of specific reform in legislation as inadequacies became apparent in laws governing intercourse and trade with the Indians, and in the extension of United States law and the jurisdiction of the courts over Indians. These specific reforms had been recommended for many years, the revision of the Intercourse Act of 1834¹⁹³ since 1863,¹⁹⁴ and new and order reform since at least 1862.¹⁹⁵

In 1871 Acting Commissioner Clinm wrote that the laws regulating trade

"... are so defective as to fail to secure the Indians against the encroachments of the whites. A revision of these laws is very much to be desired to meet the changed circumstances now surrounding the Indians, arising out of the building of railroads through their lands, the rapid advance of white settlements, and the claims and rights of squatters, miners, and prospecting parties."¹⁹⁶

The request for reform in the administration of justice over the Indians was made in the report of the Board of Indian Commissioners for 1871,¹⁹⁷ it was reiterated in 1873¹⁹⁸ by Commissioner Edward P. Smith, who urged that agents and superintendents be given managerial powers, and again in 1875, when he urged that authority be given

"... to the Secretary of the Interior to procure for all tribes prepared, in his judgment, to adopt the same, an elective government, through which shall be administered all necessary police regulations of the reservation."¹⁹⁹

Commissioner John Q. Smith recommended the

"... Extension over them [the Indians] of United States law and the jurisdiction of United States courts."²⁰⁰

D. THE PERIOD FROM 1877 TO 1904

In 1877 Commissioner Hart made seven specific recommendations for policy, that of a system of compulsory common schools being particularly noteworthy: (1) A code of laws for restrictions and means for dispensing justice; (2) Indian police under which shall be vested in individuals and punishable for twenty of land; (3) Into farms of convenient size, the title to which shall be vested in individuals and punishable for twenty years; (4) The establishment of a compulsory common school system, including industrial schools; (5) Free access to Indians of missionaries; (6) Assistance on labor in return for food and clothing; and (7) A steady concentration of the smaller bands on larger reservations.²⁰¹

In 1880, Acting Commissioner Marble included statistical tables of population and amount and types of work accomplished during the year.²⁰² He reported extensively on educational advances,

particularly the opening of new boarding schools.²⁰³ "The importance of having at least one good boarding-school at each agency need not be argued."²⁰⁴

The system of Indian police, in operation less than 3 years, was reported to be working admirably with a force of 162 officers and 653 privates.²⁰⁵

The plan for a "uniform and perfect title to their lands, as a measure conducive in the highest degree to their present and future welfare" was again urged for the Indians.²⁰⁶

Commissioner Price, as a business man, was concerned with Indian administration and personnel,

"... Within the last year seven entire months were consumed in making such a change at one of the agencies, where any correct business man transacting his own business would have made the change in less than seven days. This is the fault of the law, and ought to be changed."²⁰⁷

I give it as my honest conviction as a business man, after one year and a half of close observation, in a position where the chances for a correct knowledge of this question are better than in any other, that the true policy of the government is to pay Indian agents such compensation and place them under such regulations of law as will insure the service of first-class men. It is not enough that a man is honest, he must, in addition to this, be capable. He must be up to standard physically as well as morally and mentally. Men of this class are comparatively scarce, and as a rule cannot be had unless the compensation is equal to the service required. Now, paid-up men are not always the cheapest. A bad article is dear at any price. Paying a man as Indian agent \$1,200 or \$1,500, and expecting him to perform \$3,000 or \$4,000 worth of labor, is not economy, and in a large number of cases has proven to be the worst kind of extravagance.²⁰⁸

He urged increased appropriations for education, particularly for industrial schools,

"... If one million of dollars for educational purposes given now will save several millions in the future, it is wise economy to give that million at once, and not dole it out in small sums that do but little good."²⁰⁹

Commissioner Price departed from the accepted theory in Indian education of the superiority of boarding over day schools.²¹⁰

"... It is as common a belief that the boarding school supercede the day school as it is that training schools remote from the Indian country ought to be substituted for those located in the midst of the Indians. But I trust that the time is not far distant when a system of district schools will be established in Indian settlements, which will serve not only as centers of enlightenment for those neighborhoods, but will give suitable employment

¹⁹² *Ibid.*, pp. V-VI.

¹⁹³ *Ibid.*, p. VI.

¹⁹⁴ *Ibid.*, p. IX. Act of May 27, 1878, 20 Stat. 63, 80. Their review involved discovery and arrest of thieves, action as transit officers, protection of annuities and property, prevention of depredations to timber and of the introduction of liquor, action as messengers and census takers, etc. (X).

¹⁹⁵ *Ibid.*, p. XVI.

¹⁹⁶ *Rep. Comm. Ind. Aff.*, 1882, p. V.

¹⁹⁷ *Ibid.*, pp. V, VI. Commissioner E. P. Smith in his report for 1873 (pp. 9-10) had urged that salaries be increased to \$2,000 or \$2,500, depending on the remoteness of the reservation; Commissioner John Q. Smith in his report for 1876 (pp. 111, 117) to \$2,000; Commissioner B. A. Hayt in his report for 1877 (pp. 6-7) that salaries be valued according to the number of Indians under an agent's jurisdiction. Recommendations for increasing agents' salaries appear constantly in Commissioner's reports.

¹⁹⁸ *Ibid.*, p. VII.

¹⁹⁹ *See* Chapter 12, sec. 2.

¹⁹² *Ibid.*, p. XI. Commissioner Smith commends, as "... permanent and far-reaching" "... the dedication of the Indian Territory as the final home for the race." (P. XI). See Chapter 28, sec. 5, on the throwing open of Indian Territory lands for settlement.

¹⁹³ Act of June 80, 1884, 4 Stat. 720. See Chapter 10.

¹⁹⁴ See *Rep. Comm. Ind. Aff.*, 1863, pp. 201-202, and *supra*.

¹⁹⁵ See *Rep. Comm. Ind. Aff.*, 1865, p. 12, and *supra*.

¹⁹⁶ *Rep. Comm. Ind. Aff.*, 1871, p. 4.

¹⁹⁷ Third Annual Report of the Board of Indian Commissioners, in *Rep. Comm. Ind. Aff.*, 1871, p. 18.

¹⁹⁸ *Rep. Comm. Ind. Aff.*, 1873, pp. 4-5.

¹⁹⁹ *Rep. Comm. Ind. Aff.*, 1875, p. 16.

²⁰⁰ *Rep. Comm. Ind. Aff.*, 1876, p. VII. See Chapter 7, sec. 9; Chapters 18 and 19.

²⁰¹ *Rep. Comm. Ind. Aff.*, 1877, pp. 1-2.

²⁰² *Rep. Comm. Ind. Aff.*, 1880, pp. III-IV.

to returned students, especially the young women, for whom it is specially difficult to provide.²⁰¹

The cost of maintaining an Indian pupil in a reservation boarding school may be set down as a little over \$150 per annum, in a day school at about \$30 per annum.²⁰²

In the matter of health, also, Commissioner Price had specific recommendations.

When the length of time (three or four years) which is required for the physician to familiarize himself with the language, habits, and mental peculiarities of Indians is taken into consideration, and also the diplomacy which is required to obtain and maintain their confidence, it is obvious that it is specially desirable to procure efficient and, if possible, permanent medical officers of an educated moral and temperate habits, of a good will power, capable of making good and enduring impressions on the Indians. It is detrimental to the service to be continually changing medical officers.

In connection with permanent medical officers, a system should be inaugurated of curing for the blind, insane, and destitute aged Indians.²⁰³

The problem of freedom in Indian Territory, pressing since the close of the Civil War, had not been solved by 1882.

"The rights guaranteed to the freedmen in the Indian Territory by treaty stipulations have been ignored, and so far as their misdeeds are involved the freedom themselves have been virtually set aside, both by the Indians and by the government."²⁰⁴

In this report of January 20, 1882, Agent Tutts states that—

It is impossible in the Cherokee Nation to advocate a measure that provides for placing the colored man on an equality with the Cherokees, and the public mind are civilized enough to do nothing that might lessen their chances for political success, hence until the sentiment shall undergo a revolution there will be no favorable action.

From the hesitancy heretofore shown by the nation to carry out in good faith toward the colored people simply what has been granted them by the treaty, I am convinced that the nation will not fix and settle the status of the colored people until a more compelling demand is made on the nation to execute the conditions of their treaty respecting them.

Many of the colored people speak the Cherokee language, and having been brought up among Cherokees and accustomed to their ways, it would be a hardship to remove them from that country, and returning to the nation, they should be accorded all their rights. Agent Tutts recommended the appointment of a commission to visit the agency with authority to hear evidence and determine the question whether the claimants were freedmen inherited by voluntary act of owner, or by law, or whether they were free colored persons and in the country at the commencement of the rebellion, and whether they were residents of the nation at the time of the treaty, or returned within six months thereafter—the findings of the commission to be submitted to the department for approval.²⁰⁵

With the discovery of valuable coal deposits in an Indian reservation in Arizona Territory, arose the problem of its extraction and removal. Commissioner Price felt that the Indians could not be prevailed upon to remove again, that the Government could not undertake to work the mines, that the Indians themselves were not capable technically of doing so, and even were they, they could not dispose of the coal mine.

Under existing law there is no authority for permitting the severance and removal from an Indian reservation, for purposes of sale or speculation, of any material situated to or forming a part of the treaty, such as timber, coal, or other minerals.²⁰⁶

Commissioner Price therefore recommended a system of leasing.

After carefully considering the questions involved, this office became convinced that the most practicable solution of the matter would be the adoption of a system of leasing upon a royalty plan, and accordingly a draft of a joint resolution was prepared in this office and submitted to the department in April last with a view to securing the needed legislation therefore. It was believed that by this means a very large part of the annual expenditure for the support and care of the Indians of Arizona and New Mexico might be remitted to the government from the profit of the mines without hardship to consumers, and that the Indians themselves would be greatly benefited, not only by the example of industry set, but through the opportunity that would be afforded them to earn wages by their own labor.²⁰⁷

According to Commissioner Aikin's report for 1880,²⁰⁸ the system of leasing grazing land had been tried on the Cheyenne and Arapaho Reservations unsuccessfully. By Presidential proclamation²⁰⁹ the leases were declared null and void, and the cattle and horses removed, much to the satisfaction of the Indians who

no longer contemplate the monopoly of hundreds of their reservation by outsiders, but in place thereof they view with satisfaction their own fields of corn and farms inclosed with fences, put up by their own labor.²¹⁰

The system of leasing Indian lands was further complicated by a decision of the Attorney General to the effect that—

the system of leasing Indian lands, which has hitherto prevailed is illegal without the consent of Congress.²¹¹

Commissioner Aikin recommended that the leasing system either be legalized, as his predecessor had recommended before him,²¹² or abolished.²¹³

If Congress would authorize Indians to dispose of their game, or would take any definite action as to the policy which this office can legally pursue in regard to Indian grazing lands, it would materially lessen the perplexities and confusion which now pertain to the subject. Moreover, if some way could be adopted by which, under proper restrictions, the surplus game on the several Indian reservations could be utilized with profit to the Indians, the annual appropriations needed to care for the Indians could be correspondingly and materially reduced.²¹⁴

Of the general allotment bill, which had passed the Senate and was favorably reported in the House, Commissioner Atkins reported

As there seems to be no substantial opposition to this bill, it is hoped that it will become a law during the coming winter. Its passage will relieve this office of much embarrassment and enable it to make greater progress in

²⁰¹ Rep. Comm. Ind. Aff., 1882, p. XXXV.

²⁰² *Ibid.*, p. XLI.

²⁰³ *Ibid.*, p. XLVII. See Chapter 12, sec. 9.

²⁰⁴ Rep. Comm. Ind. Aff., 1882, p. LV.

²⁰⁵ Rep. Comm. Ind. Aff., 1882, p. LVIII.

²⁰⁶ Rep. Comm. Ind. Aff., 1882, p. XLIX. See Chapter 15, sec. 19.

²⁰⁷ *Ibid.*, p. XLIX.

²⁰⁸ Rep. Comm. Ind. Aff., 1880.

²⁰⁹ See Sen. Ex. Doc. 17, 46th Cong., 2d sess., vol. I, pt. I, 1886.

²¹⁰ Rep. Comm. Ind. Aff., 1880, p. XLVII.

²¹¹ *Ibid.*, p. XLIX. 18 Op. A. G. 285 (1885).

²¹² See Rep. Comm. Ind. Aff. (Tutts) 1882, p. XLIX, and *supra*.

²¹³ Rep. Comm. Ind. Aff., 1884, p. XIX.

²¹⁴ *Ibid.*, p. XIX.

the important work of assisting the Indians to become individual owners of the soil by an indefeasible title.²²

Of courts of Indian offenses which had been instituted at various agencies to try minor offenses, Commissioner Atkins wrote

These courts are also unquestionably a great assistance to the Indians in learning habits of self-government and in preparing themselves for citizenship. I am of the opinion that they should be placed upon a legal basis by an act of Congress authorizing their establishment, under such rules and regulations as the Secretary of the Interior may prescribe. Their duties and jurisdiction could then be definitely determined and greater good accomplished.²³

Commissioner Atkins expressed a hope with regard to traders which has not yet been realized

But it is earnestly hoped that the necessity for white traders upon the reservations will soon be superseded. Under the law the full-blood Indian is guaranteed the right to trade with the Indians of his tribe, without the restrictions imposed upon half-bloods and white traders. It is the constant aim and effort of the Indian Office to make the Indian self-reliant and self-sustaining, and if this policy is persevered in, with the aid of the educational advantages available at almost every agency, I cannot but believe that the Indians will at an early day acquire sufficient ability to manage the trading posts themselves and supply their people with such goods as they may need.²⁴

In the report of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs for 1888 one notes the beginnings of a problem which grew into major proportions in later years—the problem of the annuity roll.

In this connection, I would suggest that action should be taken by Congress to confine the benefits arising under Indian treaties to those justly entitled thereto, by excluding from participation therein whites heretofore enrolled as Indians by adoption and also the descendants of whites and Indians beyond a certain degree.²⁵

Of the application of the Allotment Act,²⁶ which had been in force for more than a year, Commissioner Oberly reports slow progress,²⁷ and considerable opposition

Considerable opposition to the allotment policy has been developed from two sources. Those who believe in the wisdom of tribal ownership, and in the policy of containing the Indian in his aboriginal customs, habits, and independence, oppose it because it will eventually dissolve his tribal relations and cause his absorption into the body politic. On the other hand, those who expected that the severality act would immediately open to public settlement long-coveted Indian lands, oppose it because they have learned that these expectations will not be realized.

There is a third class of persons who are heartily in favor of allotting Indian lands, but who are apprehensive that, under the flexible terms of the allotment act, allot-

ments may be forced upon Indians before they are ready to receive, use, and hold them.

Commissioner Oberly presents a detailed analysis of the status of Indian health²⁸—the diseases prevalent among Indians, the scarcity of physicians²⁹ and nurses, and the need for a hospital at every agency.

In his report on the operation of the contract system of purchasing Indian supplies, whereby numerous contractors submit samples which the Government is forced to examine, he recommends that the Indian Office fix the standard sample on which bids are to be received, thus assuring uniformity of quality, saving time, and eliminating charges of favoritism.³⁰

Since Commissioner Oberly had been United States Civil Service Commissioner³¹ as well as Superintendent of Indian Schools,³² he was particularly interested in incorporating school employees under Civil Service, to correct the "junior sports system" method of appointment and dismissal.

for no matter how desirous the Commissioner of Indian Affairs and the Superintendent of Indian Schools may be to obtain good material for the service, and no matter how conscientiously both may endeavor to improve its condition, they will, so long as this system is continued, be obstructed in all such efforts by clamorous demands that the places on Indian reservations, and in the schools not on reservations, shall be disposed as rewards for postman activity. In short, the Commissioner and Superintendent, with 1,200 places (exclusive of Indians) at their disposal, can not give to the agency and the school competent employees until after they shall have secured protection from partisan prejudice and personal solicitation; and such protection can be afforded to them only by the provisions of the civil-service act of 1883. As United States Civil Service Commissioner I gave to this subject much consideration, and I have no doubt that the provisions of that act could be applied to the Indian service, and, that by their application thereto, under wise rules promulgated by the President, the cause of Indian civilization would be advanced many years.

Commissioner Thomas J. Morgan entered upon his duties on July 1, 1889, and made his first report in October of that year. He offers, until such time as he may acquaint himself

by personal observation with the practical workings of the Indian field-service, a few simple, well-defined, and strongly cherished convictions:

First.—The anomalous position heretofore occupied by the Indians in this country can not much longer be maintained. The reservation system belongs to a vanishing state of things, and must soon cease to exist.

Second.—The logic of events demands the absorption of the Indians into our national life, not as Indians, but as American citizens.

Third.—As soon as a wise conservatism will warrant it, the relations of the Indians to the Government must rest solely upon the full recognition of their individuality. Each Indian must be treated as a man, be allowed a man's rights and privileges, and be held to the performance of a man's obligations. Each Indian is entitled to his proper share of the inherited wealth of the tribe, and to the protection of the rights in his "life, liberty, and

²² *Ibid.*, p. XX. In an earlier report (1886) Commissioner Atkins had recommended that "When the Indians have taken their lands in severalty in sufficient quantities . . . the remainder should be purchased by the Government and thrown open for homesteading."

The money paid by the Government for their lands should be held in trust in 5 percent bonds, to be invested as Congress may provide for the education, civilization, and material development and advancement of the red race, reserving for each tribe its own money (*Rep. Comm. Ind. Aff.*, 1886, p. IV).

This became part of the General Allotment Act of February 8, 1887, 24 Stat. 888, 26 U. S. C. § 331 et seq. and was the basis of trust-fund reports of succeeding commissioners. For a discussion of the background of the allotment system, see Chapter II, sec. 1.

²³ *Ibid.*, p. XXXVII. The courts of Indian offenses were established in 1882 according to the Report of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs for 1880 (p. 28).

²⁴ *Ibid.*, p. XL. See Chapter 18.

²⁵ *Rep. Comm. Ind. Aff.* (John H. Oberly), 1888, p. XXXIII.

²⁶ Act of February 8, 1887, 24 Stat. 888, 26 U. S. C. § 331, et seq.

²⁷ *Rep. Comm. Ind. Aff.*, 1889, p. XXXVII. The necessity for surveying prior to allotment, and the late date at which the appropriation bill passed are the reasons given.

²⁸ *Ibid.*, pp. XXXVIII-XXXIX. Of report of the previous commissioner, Atkins, in 1886, *supra*, et. . . no substantial improvement in this bill . . . (P. XX.)

²⁹ *Rep. Comm. Ind. Aff.*, 1888, pp. XXXIV-XXXV.

³⁰ There were 81 physicians for more than 200,000 Indians—approximately 1 for every 2,500 Indians.

³¹ *Rep. Comm. Ind. Aff.*, 1888, pp. LXXXI, LXXXII.

³² *Rep. Comm. Ind. Aff.*, 1888, p. LXXXIV, October 10, 1888, according to the Civil Service Commission official files.

³³ *Ibid.*, p. LXXXIV. From 1880 to 1886, according to Indian Office Library files.

³⁴ *Ibid.*, p. LXXXV.

pursuit of happiness." He is not entitled to be supported in idleness.

Fourth—The Indians must conform to "the white man's ways," generally if they will, locally if they must. They must adjust themselves to their environment, and conform their mode of living substantially to our civilization. This civilization may not be the best possible, but it is the best the Indians can get. They can not escape it, and must either conform to it or be crushed by it.

Fifth—The paramount duty of the hour is to prepare the rising generation of Indians for the new order of things thus forced upon them. A comprehensive system of education modeled after the American public-school system, but adapted to the special exigencies of the Indian youth, embracing all persons of school age, compulsory in its demands and uniformly administered, should be developed as rapidly as possible.

Sixth—The tribal relations should be broken up, socialism destroyed, and the family and the autonomy of the individual substituted. The allotment of lands in severalty, the establishment of local courts and police, the development of a personal sense of independence, and the universal adoption of the English language are means to this end.

Seventh—In the administration of Indian affairs there is need and opportunity for the exercise of the same qualities demanded in any other great administration—integrity, justice, justice, and good sense. Dishonesty, injustice, favoritism, and incompetency have no place here any more than elsewhere in the Government.

Eighth—The chief thing to be considered in the administration of this office is the character of the men and women employed to carry out the designs of the Government. The best system may be perverted to bad ends by incompetent or dishonest persons employed to carry it into execution while a very bad system may yield good results if wisely and honestly administered.¹⁰⁰

In 1880, Commissioner Morgan made a very detailed report (144 pp.) of the duties, difficulties, hopes, and improvements of his administration.¹⁰¹ One of the chief difficulties was lack of personnel. A chief clerk, solicitor, and medical expert for the office were urged, in addition to other clerical help.¹⁰² Agents' salaries were still too low for adequate performance.¹⁰³

Another difficulty was the whole reservation policy.

The entire system of dealing with them [the Indians] is vicious, involving, as it does, the installing of agents, with semi-despotic power over ignorant, superstitious, and helpless subjects, the keeping of thousands of them on reservations practically as prisoners, isolated from civilized life and dominated by fear and force, the issue of rations and annuities, which inevitably tends to breed pauperism, the disbursement of millions of dollars worth of supplies by contract, which invites fraud, the maintenance of a system of licensed trade, which stimulates cupidity and extortion, etc.¹⁰⁴

Commissioner Morgan looked with hope on

* * * the settled policy of the Government to break up reservations, destroy tribal relations, settle Indians upon their own homesteads, incorporate them into the national life, and deal with them not as nations or tribes or bands, but as individual citizens. The American Indian is to become the Indian American.¹⁰⁵

The rapid process of individualizing the Indian, Commissioner Morgan felt, was best indicated by the reduction of reserves.

tions.¹⁰⁶ More than 17,400,000 acres, or about one-seventh of all Indian land had been acquired by the Government during the year.¹⁰⁷

Commissioner Morgan reported

" . . . the growing recognition on the part of Western people that the Indians of their respective States and Territories are to remain permanently and become absorbed into the population as citizens."

There is also a growing popular recognition of the fact that it is the duty of the Government, and of the several States where they are located, to make ample provision for the secular and industrial education of the rising generation.¹⁰⁸

Commissioner Morgan refused to grant further licenses for Indians to leave the reservation for the purpose of travel with "Wild West" shows on the grounds of the demoralizing influence.¹⁰⁹

" . . . I consider the payment of cash to Indians," Commissioner Morgan wrote, "except in return for service rendered or labor performed for themselves or their people, as of very little benefit in a majority of cases."

In the matter of treaties, the policy of the office was to permit at least two on every reservation.

Competition within the reservation, in addition to that growing up outside, is fostered by licensing on each reserve as many traders as practicable.¹¹⁰

Commissioner Browning, in 1895, reports progress, particularly in the education and the employment of the Indians.

" . . . a large increase has been made in the number of Indian employees, and in filling positions at agencies and schools. Indians have been given the preference for appointment when found competent to do the work required."¹¹¹

In education, opposition from the older Indians appears to have lessened.¹¹² Enrollment and school attendance increased.

" . . . without resort to coercion even to the extent allowed by law . . . I have refrained from using such means, preferring the better course of moral suasion and convincing arguments, and finding them ultimately effective. It gives me pleasure to note the success of such methods."

¹⁰⁰ *Ibid.*, p. VI.

¹⁰¹ *Ibid.*, p. XXXIX. On the reduction of Indian-owned lands Commissioner Morgan felt constrained to say

"This might seem like a somewhat rapid reduction of the landed estate of the Indians, but when it is considered that for the most part the land relinquished was not being used for any purpose whatever, that scarcely any of it was in cultivation that the Indians did not use it and would not be likely to need it at any future time, and that they were, as is believed, reasonably well paid for it, the matter assumes quite a different aspect. The sooner the tribal relations are broken up and the reservation system done away with the better it will be for all concerned. If there were no other reason for this change, the fact that individual ownership of property is the universal custom among the civilized people of this country would be a sufficient reason for making the handful of Indians to adopt it." (p. XXXIX.)

¹⁰² *Ibid.*, p. VI-VII.

¹⁰³ *Ibid.*, p. VIII, LVII. By letter of August 4, 1880, the Secretary of the Interior directed that no more licenses be granted (*Ibid.*, p. LVII). On the issuance of passes to Indians leaving a reservation, see Chapter 8, note 10A(3).

¹⁰⁴ *Ibid.*, p. LX. However, Commissioner Morgan felt the whole license system was archaic, " . . . a relic of the old system of considering an Indian as a ward, a reservation as a corral, and a leadership as a golden opportunity for plunder and profit." (*Ibid.*, p. LIX.)

¹⁰⁵ *Ibid.*, p. 8.

¹⁰⁶ *Ibid.*, p. 4.

¹⁰⁷ *Rep. Comm. Ind. Aff.*, 1880, pp. 3-4.

¹⁰⁸ *Rep. Comm. Ind. Aff.*, 1880.

¹⁰⁹ *Ibid.*, pp. IV-V. See sec. 8D *infra*.

¹¹⁰ *Ibid.*, p. CKVII-CKXIX. Salaries ranged from \$800 to \$2,200, and averaged \$1,688. See fn. 142, *supra*.

¹¹¹ *Ibid.*, p. V.

¹¹² *Rep. Comm. Ind. Aff.*, 1890, p. VI. For an index of prevailing policy on allotment versus tribal ownership, see the Act of March 3, 1883, 27 Stat. 557, 561 (Kinkadeo).

Commissioner Browning reports in detail on the leasing of Indian lands. The Act of February 28, 1891,²² authorized the leasing of unallotted or tribal lands, and allotted lands where age or disability of allottee warrants it. By Act of August 15, 1894,²³ and later acts these leasing statutes were broadened.

On this point, Commissioner Browning stated:

"... the indiscriminate leasing of allotments will not be permitted. ... the indiscriminate leasing of allotments would defeat the very purpose for which they were made."

Commissioner Jones,²⁴ like his predecessor, reports progress in all fields, follows a statistical pattern of summarizing, and offers accompanying papers in support. The activity of the Bureau of Indian Affairs centered mainly about education; allotment and the problems arising therefrom—leasing, homesteading, surveying, the sale of liquor; railroads; and disturbances on reservations.

E. THE PERIOD FROM 1905 TO 1928

Commissioner Francis E. Leupp, in his first report in 1905, presents his outlines of an Indian policy as "one of the fruits of my twenty years' study of the Indian face to face and in his home, as well as of his past and present environment."

The Indian, says Commissioner Leupp,

"... will never be judged aright till we learn to measure him by his own standards, as we whites would wish to be measured it came more powerful race were to usurp dominion over us."²⁵

Commissioner Leupp has various recommendations for a new Indian policy—in education, in individualizing Indian land and money, in weaning the Indian from the licensed trader, in making him a part of his community.²⁶

To carry out this policy,

"... our main hope lies with the youthful generation. ... The task we must set ourselves is to win over the Indian children by sympathetic interest and unobtrusive guidance. It is a great mistake to try, as many good persons of bad judgment have tried, to start the little ones in the path of civilization by snapping all the ties of affection between them and their parents, and teaching them to despise the aged and non-progressive members of their families."

²² Sec. 3, 26 Stat. 794, 795 partly embodied in 26 U. S. C. 807. See Chapter 15, sec. 19, Chapter 11, sec. 5.

²³ 28 Stat. 285, 803. See Chapter 15, sec. 19, Chapter 11, sec. 10 and 5.

²⁴ Rep. Comm. Ind. Aff., 1895, p. 84.

²⁵ Rep. Comm. Ind. Aff., 1897.

²⁶ Rep. Comm. Ind. Aff., 1900, p. 1. Many of Commissioner Leupp's views on Indian affairs are set forth in *The Indian and His Problem* (1910).

²⁷ *Ibid.*, p. 1. To illustrate his point, Commissioner Leupp goes on to say:

"Suppose, a few centuries ago, an absolutely alien people like the Chinese had invaded our shores and driven the white colonies before them to districts more and more isolated, destroyed the industries on which they had always subsisted, and crowded all by characterizing them and punishing them on various tracts of land where they could be fed and clothed and reared for at no cost to themselves, to what condition would the white Americans of today have been reduced? In spite of their vigorous ancestry they would surely have lapsed into barbarism and become pauperized. No race on earth could overcome, with forces evolved from within themselves, the effect of such treatment. That our red brethren have not been wholly ruined by it is the best proof we could ask of the sturdy traits of character inherent in them." (P. 2.)

²⁸ *Ibid.*, pp. 8-5.

²⁹ *Ibid.*, p. 2.

Mammal training is the basis of Commissioner Leupp's educational policy. He would limit the ordinary Indian boy scholastically to enough of the "3 R's" so that

"... he can read the simple English of the local newspaper, can write a short letter which is intelligible though maybe ill-spelled, and knows enough of figures to discover whether the storekeeper is cheating him."

Of the policy of individualizing the Indian through division of tribal lands and tribal funds, Commissioner Leupp says:

"... It is our duty to set him upon his feet and sever forever the ties which bind him either to his tribe, in the communal sense, or to the Government. This principle must become operative in respect to both land and money. ... Thanks to the late Senator Henry L. Dawes of Massachusetts, we have for eighteen years been individualizing the Indian as an owner of real estate by breaking up, one at a time, the reservations set apart for whole tribes and establishing each Indian as a separate landholder on his own account. Thanks to Representative John F. Lacey of Iowa, I hope that we shall soon be making the same sort of division of the tribal funds."²⁸

In order that the Indian might rapidly become a member of his community instead of a "necessary nuisance,"²⁹ Commissioner Leupp would encourage him to trade in local markets (towns), he would have Indian money deposited in local banks; he would teach him to shop competitively instead of with the absolute licensed trader.

In 1908, Commissioner Leupp reports the success of his plan:

"... In systematic cooperation between various departments and bureaus of the Government, as to the red of the "wheels within wheels" which are so grave a source of waste in administration."³⁰

The Reclamation Service, Geological Survey, and Forest Service in the Department of the Interior, and the Bureau of Plant Industry and Animal Industry in the Department of Agriculture cooperated with the Bureau of Indian Affairs on specific projects of common interest.³¹

In 1911, Commissioner Valentine reports individual Indian money as a source of both good and harm. It had been used for houses, farm repairs, etc., helping to quicken industrial development of the Indians.³² It had also caused traders to incite extravagant habits in the possessors of funds, and caused a great increase in indebtedness.³³ He recommends a continuance of the policy of "liberal supervision" over Indian funds by superintendents.³⁴

²⁸ *Ibid.*, p. 8. Commissioner Leupp would have a girl trained in the domestic arts necessary for frontier life—cooking, sewing, washing, and ironing (p. 8).

²⁹ *Ibid.*, p. 8.

³⁰ *Ibid.*, p. 4. Two years later Congress enacted legislation providing for the break-up of tribal funds. Act of March 2, 1907, 34 Stat. 1221, 26 U. S. C. 110. See Chapter 15, sec. 233; Chapter 10, sec. 4, Chapter 9, sec. 6.

³¹ *Ibid.*, p. 4.

³² Rep. Comm. Ind. Aff., 1908, p. 2. See sec. 3, *infra*, for a discussion of the extensive cooperation between bureaus and departments that has been effected.

³³ *Ibid.*, pp. 2-9. The joint projects were the result either of direct approach between departments, or specific legislation. *Id.*, p. 9. The Act of May 30, 1908, 35 Stat. 628 directed the Secretary of the Interior to cause an examination of the lands on the Fort Peck Reservation to be made by Reclamation Service and Geological Survey (p. 8). See sec. 3, *infra*, and Chapter 12, sec. 7.

³⁴ Rep. Comm. Ind. Aff., 1911, p. 21.

³⁵ *Ibid.*, p. 22.

³⁶ *Ibid.*, p. 21.

Various amendments²⁶ to the Allotment Act permitting alienation had been passed, some causing difficulty. The Act of June 25, 1910,²⁷ requiring that the Secretary determine the heirs of deceased allottees and issue patents in fee entitled:

"... a vast amount of work, many allotments are now of 20 years' standing, estates are contested, and the questions of law, and particularly of fact, become extremely difficult, largely through difficulty in obtaining Indian testimony of value. As allotments have been made on 35 reservations, and upon the Winnebago Reservation alone—one of the smallest reservations—there are 600 headship cases, the work to be done under this act will become one of the greatest tasks of the office."

The leasing system, in general operation since 1881,²⁸ raises some of the gravest questions of policy with which the Indian Office has to deal.²⁹ Commissioner Valentine analyzes the cases where leasing has been of real value to the Indian—where the Indian is already farming as much as his capital and help permit, where the Indian has chosen some other industrial pursuit than farming, where he is all at otherwise unproductive.³⁰ For the most part, however, "leasing, as it has been practiced is... a positive detriment to the Indians... a steady rental from his land is one of the strongest incentives not to begin to work."³¹

Commissioner Valentine reports the result of investigation into the status of "State" Indians—Indians who have long been more or less independent of the Federal Government³²:

"... It is known that in many cases these Indians have worked out for themselves, with some assistance from their States, problems which the service has still to meet in other parts of the field."

Although, in the Act of May 8, 1906,³³ the Secretary of the Interior was given the power, before the expiration of the 25-year (and) period, to issue a patent in fee "whenever he shall be satisfied that any Indian allottee is competent and capable of managing his or her affairs," a conservative policy was followed.³⁴ Each application had to be considered on its merits, and was accompanied by a report of the superintendent. However, even with this conservative policy, during the first 3 years of the law's operation, 80 percent of the patentees disposed of their land and its proceeds.³⁵

Commissioner Valentine, therefore, mangled a policy of requiring more rigid proof of competency, and superintendents were required to answer more specific questions.³⁶ In his report for 1911, he sums up his policy thus:

"... I am opposed to granting patents in fee unless circumstances clearly show that a title in fee will be of undoubted advantage to the applicant... In the

face of existing evidence of carelessness and incompetence on the liberal policy of giving patents in fee would be entirely at cross-purposes with the other efforts of the Government to encourage industry, thrift, and independence."

In 1917, under Commissioner Cato Sells,³⁷ a more drastic policy was inaugurated:

Broadly speaking, a policy of greater liberalism will henceforth prevail in Indian administration to the end that every Indian as soon as he has been determined to be competent to transact his own business as the average white man, shall be given full control of his property and have all his lands and moneys turned over to him, after which he will no longer be a ward of the Government. Pursuant to this policy, the following rules shall be observed:

1 *Patents in fee*—To all able-bodied adult Indians of less than one-half Indian blood, there will be given as far as may be under the law full and complete control of all their property. Patents in fee shall be issued to all adult Indians of one-half or more Indian blood who must, after careful investigation, be found competent, provided, that where deemed advisable patents in fee shall be withheld for not to exceed 40 miles as a home.

Indian students, when they are 21 years of age, or over, who complete the full course of instruction in the Government schools, receive diplomas and have demonstrated competency will be so declared.

2 *Sale of lands*—A liberal ruling will be adopted in the matter of passing upon applications for the sale of inherited Indian lands where the applicants retain other lands and the proceeds are to be used to improve the homesteads or for other equally good purposes. A more liberal ruling than has hitherto been given will be followed with regard to the applications of non-competent Indians for the sale of their lands where they are old and feeble and need the proceeds for their support.

3 *Certificates of competency*—The rules which are made to apply in the granting of patents in fee and the sale of lands will be made equally applicable in the matter of issuing certificates of competency.

4 *Individual Indian moneys*—Indians will be given unrestricted control of all their individual Indian moneys upon residence of patents in fee or certificates of competency. Strict limitations will not be placed upon the use of funds of the old, the indigent, and the invalid.

5 *Private affairs—Indian funds*—As speedily as possible their private shares in tribal funds or other funds shall be paid to all Indians who have been declared competent, unless the legal status of such funds prevents. Where practicable the private shares of incompetent Indians will be withdrawn from the Treasury and placed in banks to their individual credit.

This is a new and far-reaching declaration of policy. It means the dawn of a new era in Indian administration. It means that the competent Indian will no longer be treated as half-ward and half-warden. It means reduced appropriations by the Government and more self-respect and independence for the Indian. It means the ultimate absorption of the Indian race into the body politic of the Nation. It means, in short, the beginning of the end of the Indian problem.

Competency commissions were set up, and superintendents were requested to furnish:

"... a list of all Indians of one-half or less Indian blood, who are able-bodied and mentally competent,

²⁶ See Chapter 5, sec. 11B and 11C. And of Rep Comm Ind Aff., 1911, p. 20.

²⁷ 36 Stat. 895. See Chapter 6, sec. 11C.

²⁸ Rep Comm Ind Aff., 1911, p. 26.

²⁹ *Ibid.*, p. 26. See Chapter 11, sec. 5 and Chapter 15, sec. 19.

³⁰ Rep Comm Ind Aff., 1911, pp. 20-27.

³¹ *Ibid.*, p. 27.

³² 29 of the Catawba Indians of South Carolina, over whom the State of North Carolina had assumed sovereign rights without federal objection. It had treated with the Indians since 1793, had granted them a reservation and had attempted to extinguish their title in 1840. The Alabama Indians in Texas lived on land granted to them conditionally by the state about 1860. Rep Comm Ind Aff., 1911, pp. 46, 47.

³³ Rep Comm Ind Aff., 1911, p. 48.

³⁴ 34 Stat. 182, 183, generally known as the Burke Act. See Chapter 5, sec. 11B.

³⁵ Schmeckeborn, op cit., pp. 120-121.

³⁶ *Ibid.*, p. 151.

³⁷ According to Schmeckeborn (op cit., p. 151), between 1900 and 1912, 8,400 applications for patents were approved, and approximately 2,000 denied.

³⁸ Rep Comm Ind Aff., 1911, pp. 28-29.

³⁹ Cato Sells was Commissioner of Indian Affairs for 8 years under President Wilson (from 1913 to 1921), the first Commissioner to hold office for that length of time.

⁴⁰ Report of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, 1917, pp. 3-4, declaration of policy of April 17, 1917. (Schmeckeborn, op cit., pp. 158-159.) From 1917 to 1920, 10,570 fee simple patents were issued, as compared with 8,891 from 1900 to 1913. (Schmeckeborn, op cit., p. 154. Also Rep Comm Ind Aff., 1920, p. 8.)

Special hospital equipment such as X-ray, clinical laboratory, and special treatment facilities is generally lacking. (P 283)

No minimum in the Indian Service meets the minimum requirements of the American Sanatorium Association (P 287)

The hospitals, sanatoria, and sanatorium schools maintained by the Service, despite a few exceptions, must be generally characterized as lacking in personnel, equipment, management, and design. (P 9)

On the subject of education, the survey was scarcely less critical.

The work of the government directed toward the education and advancement of the Indian himself, as distinguished from the control and conservation of his property, is largely ineffective. (P 8)

The survey staff finds itself obliged to say frankly and unequivocally that the provisions for the care of Indian children in boarding schools are grossly inadequate. (P 11)

On the economic problems of the Indians, the survey had much to overthrow the popular impression, based largely on the publicity given to a few "oil" Indians, that the Indians generally occupied a favored economic position.

An overwhelming majority of the Indians are poor, even extremely poor, and they are not adjusted to the economic and social system of the dominant white civilization. (P 3)

The prevailing living conditions among the great majority of the Indians are conducive to the development and spread of disease. (P 9)

Even under the best conditions it is doubtful whether a well rounded program of economic advancement framed with due consideration of the natural resources of the reservation has anywhere been thoroughly tried out. The Indians often say that programs change with superintendents. Under the poorest administration there is little evidence of anything which could be termed an economic program. (P 14)

Of the general social objectives of Indian administration, the survey had this to say:

The Indian Service has not appreciated the fundamental importance of family life and community activities in the social and economic development of a people. The tendency has been rather toward weakening Indian family life and community activities than toward strengthening them. (P 15)

On the question of law and order, the survey reported:

Most notable is the confusion that exists as to legal jurisdiction over the restricted Indians in such important matters as crimes and misdemeanors and domestic relations. The act of Congress providing for the punishment of eight major crimes applies to the restricted Indians on tribal lands and restricted allotments, and cases of this character come under the unquestioned jurisdiction of the United States courts. Laws respecting the sale of liquor to Indians and some other special matters have been passed, and again jurisdiction is clear. For the great body of other crimes and misdemeanors the situation is highly unsatisfactory. (Pp 16-17)

The positive recommendations of the survey, which have greatly influenced the policy of the Indian Bureau since 1928,²⁰ stressed the need for a comprehensive educational program designed to meet the problems of reservation life, the need for sustained and coordinated economic planning and development, the need for a strengthened, more efficient and better paid personnel, the encouragement of Indian use of Indian lands, the strengthening of Indian community life, the clarification of con-

fusions in the Indian law and order situation, and the final settlement of outstanding legal claims.²¹

Commissioner Rhoads,²² like his predecessor, devotes a good part of his reports to education, particularly to federal-state relations.²³ In 1929 he reports:

" * * * The States, and the local public-school districts appear to be generous in sympathy with the plan of education by the States, conditioned, however, upon such financial assistance as they need and as the Federal Government can offer."

In 1931 Commissioner Rhoads reiterates:

" * * * Indian education is in no sense solely a Federal problem, but a State and local problem as well. When Congress in 1924 made all Indian citizens it served notice that Indians could no longer be overlooked in the citizenry of any State."²⁴

In 1932, Commissioner Rhoads states:

The most significant feature of the year in Indian education was the determined effort to make the change from boarding school attendance to local day or public school attendance for Indian children.²⁵

This was in keeping with the new educational policy of providing the Indian's education " * * * in his own community setting."²⁶

Throughout the reports²⁷ of recent commissioners appears the title "Additional lands for Indian use," one result of the Allotment Act. In some cases tribal lands are used on a reimbursable plan for such purchases.²⁸

Commissioner Phillips in his first report in 1933 discusses the four main lines along which his policy is to be directed: Indian lands, Indian education, Indians in Indian Service, and reorganization of the Indian Service.

(1) *Indian lands*—The allotment system has enormously cut down the Indian landholdings and has rendered many acres, still owned by Indians, practically unavailable for Indian use. The system must be revised both as a matter of law and of practical effect. Allotted lands must be consolidated into tribal or corporate ownership with individual tenure, and new lands must be acquired for the 50,000 Indians who are landless at the present time. A modern system of financial credit must be instituted to enable the Indians to use their own natural resources. And training in the modern techniques of land use must be supplied Indians. The wastage of Indian lands through erosion must be checked.

(2) *Indian education*—The redistribution of educational opportunity for Indians, out of the concentrated boarding schools, reaching the few, and into the day school, reaching the many, must be continued and accelerated. The boarding schools which remain must be specialized on lines of occupational need for children of the older groups, or of the need of some Indian children for institutional care. The day schools must be worked out on lines of community service, reaching the adult as well as the child, and influencing the health, the recreation, and the economic welfare of their local areas.

(3) *Indians in Indian Service*—The increasing use of Indians in their own official and unofficial service must

²⁰ It will be noted that most of those recommendations had been made from time to time in commissioners' reports.

²¹ Custer J. Rhoads, 1928-31.

²² See, for example, Rep Comm Indian Aff., for 1929, pp. 4-7, for 1930, pp. 7-13, for 1931, pp. 4-13, for 1932, pp. 4-9.

²³ Rep Comm Ind Aff., 1929, p. 6.

²⁴ *Ibid.* 1931, p. 7.

²⁵ *Ibid.*, 1932, p. 4.

²⁶ *Ibid.*, 1932, p. 5.

²⁷ See e.g., Rep Comm Ind Aff., 1928, p. 23, 1929, p. 10, etc.

²⁸ See e.g., Rep Comm Ind Aff., 1928, p. 23, 1931, pp. 30-31, etc. See Chapter 15, secs. 6, 8.

²⁹ For an account of the effect which this report had on Indian education, for instance, see Chapter 12, sec. 2.

be pressed without worrying. To this end, adjustments of Civil Service arrangements to Indian need must be sought, but in order that standards may not be lowered, opportunities for professional training must be made genuinely accessible to Indians. With respect to non-Indian Indian self-service, a steadily widening tribal and local participation by Indians in the management of their own properties and in the administration of their own services must be pursued.

(4) *Reorganization of the Indian Service*.—A decentralizing of administrative routine must be progressively attempted. The special functions of Indian Service must be integrated with one another and with Indian life, in terms of local areas and of local groups of Indians. An enlarged responsibility must be vested in the superintendents of reservations and beyond them, at convenient points, in the Indians themselves. This reorganization is in part dependent on the revision of the land allotment system, and in part it is dependent on the steady development of cooperative relations between the Indian Service as a Federal agency, on the one hand, and the States, counties, school districts, and other local units of government on the other hand.²²

Commissioner Collier's major policies found statutory expression in the Wheeler-Howard (Indian Reorganization) Act of June 18, 1934.²³ The extent to which they have been embodied in existing law and practice will be one of the principal inquiries of the substantive chapters that follow.

G. HISTORICAL RETROSPECT

Recent trends in our national Indian policy are set forth against the background of history in a statement prepared by the Office of Indian Affairs in 1938, at the request of the Department of State.²⁴

* * * The chief issue around which Indian policy revolved prior to 1933 was whether this transfer of ownership [of land and resources] could best be brought about through peaceful treaty, through force of arms, or through the usual legal forms of patent, deed and mortgage. Indian policy and Indian administration, even today when this motive has been reversed, is underlain with strata of the earlier policies, and can be understood only as these earlier policies are understood.

During the years when the rivalries of England, France and Spain on the continent gave the various Indian tribes positions of strategic power, negotiations with these tribes were carried on and colonies and later by the United States on the basis of international treaties. These treaties acknowledge the sovereignty of Indian tribes and implied the acknowledgment of a possessory right in the soil that the tribes occupied. After the cession of Louisiana by France in 1803, the termination of the war with Great Britain in 1814 and the cession of Florida by Spain in 1819, there developed an increasing tendency to deny the sovereignty of Indian tribes and to deal with them by force of arms.²⁵

The use of military force to control Indians was a dominant factor in United States policy from the 1820's, until the 1850's and did not wholly disappear with the last of the Indian wars in the 1890's. This warfare materially handicapped the settlement of the West and proved costly to the Federal Government. It was officially estimated with probable correctness about 1870 that Indians had

cost the Government in excess of \$1,000,000 for every dead Indian.²⁶

While treaties and wars had failed to break down the internal organization and culture of the Indian tribes, the allotment policy brought with it a growing roster of white superintendents, farm agents, teachers, inspectors and missionaries, who superseded Indian leaders and to a large extent succeeded in destroying Indian culture. There was developed a system of closed reservations ruled authoritatively by the Indian Bureau, which in 1810 had been transferred from the War Department to the Department of the Interior. This authoritative rule was carried out under an ever-increasing number of uncorrelated statutes, a never codified and vast body of administrative regulations, and the personal government of Indian agents who were politically appointed. Misery became endemic upon the reservations, graft became notorious and led to more Indian uprisings, and as a measure of relief, President Grant, in his first term, placed Christian mission bodies administratively in charge of Indian affairs in numerous parts of the country. This official identification of missionary bodies with Indians gradually was brought to an end in later years, but the political identification of the mission bodies with the Indian Bureau had not been dissolved until very recent times. It was not acknowledged that Indians were entitled to the constitutional guarantees of liberty of conscience.²⁷

The ancient concepts in what may be called the autocratic phase of the Federal policy toward Indians were the destruction of all Indian tribal bonds, the effacing of Indian languages and cultural heritages, the forcing of the Indian as an individual to become identified with and lost in the white life, and the breaking of tribal, communal and even family households into individual allotments of farm, timber and grazing lands.²⁸

In the autocratic phase of Indian policy, a uniform pattern of administration and of program was imposed throughout the Indian country.²⁹

Against the above background the present phase of government Indian policy can be better understood. The present policy continues the Federal animosity over Indians and frustration over Indian progress while seeking to establish individual and group liberty within the guardianship.³⁰ * * * In the new phase, the stress is against uniformity and in the direction of the maximum of local adaptation, both of method and of goal.³¹

In all of these phases of the present-day government policy toward Indians, an underlying factor is the realization that the Indian is no longer the "savage American," but is actually increasing in numbers. During the past eight years the growth in population as reported by Indian agencies in the United States has been at the rate of over 1 per cent per annum. As with various other peoples during periods of development, the birth rate has been decreasing, but the decline in the Indian death rate has been even greater.

To help Indians in making adjustments to the drastic changes in their way of life made necessary by the overwhelming invasion of the alien white race, and yet to foster the perpetuation of much of their cultural heritage, to train and stimulate them for complete economic self-sufficiency, looking toward a better standard of living for the vital race, are the ultimate goals of the present Administration.

Although only slightly over a third of a million in population in a nation of approximately 130 million people, the Indians of the United States will become an even greater factor in its cultural, social, and economic life.³²

²² Annual Report of The Secretary of the Interior, 1938, Roy Comm Ind Aff., pp. 68-69.

²³ 48 Stat. 884, 25 U. S. C. 461 et seq. See Chapter 4, sec. 10.

²⁴ "A Brief Statement on the Background of Present-day Indian Policy" (submitted November 21, 1938).

²⁵ This statement was for the use of the American delegation at the Eighth International Conference of American States, at Lima, Peru, December 9, 1933.

²⁶ *Ibid.*, pp. 1-2.

²⁷ *Ibid.*, p. 2.

²⁸ *Ibid.*, p. 3.

²⁹ *Ibid.*, pp. 2-4.

³⁰ *Ibid.*, p. 8.

³¹ *Ibid.*, p. 8.

³² *Ibid.*, p. 9.

SECTION 3. ADMINISTRATION OF THE INDIAN SERVICE TODAY

A ORGANIZATION AND ACTIVITIES

The organization and functions of the Office of Indian Affairs today are pictured in the accompanying chart.³⁴

The Commissioner of Indian Affairs is the titular and functioning head of the entire office, both in Washington and in the field. He has directly under him the Assistant Commissioner, who shares the duties of office and acts in his place. These duties are: General management of and promulgation of policies covering all matters relating to Indians and to the natives of Alaska, including economic development, organization of tribes, education, health activities, land acquisitions, leases, sales, interest and estate management, construction, maintenance and operation of irrigation facilities, construction and upkeep of roads and bridges on Indian reservations, conservation work, and relief activities, and the interpretation of the needs of the Indian Service in legislative and budgetary terms.

³⁴ Chart on Organization and Functions prepared by the Office of Indian Affairs as of May 1940. All the descriptions of duties contained in this section are based on information supplied by the Indian Office. The chart appears also in *Blanch Educational Service in Indian (President's Advisory Committee on Education, Staff Study No. 18, 1939)*, p. 28.

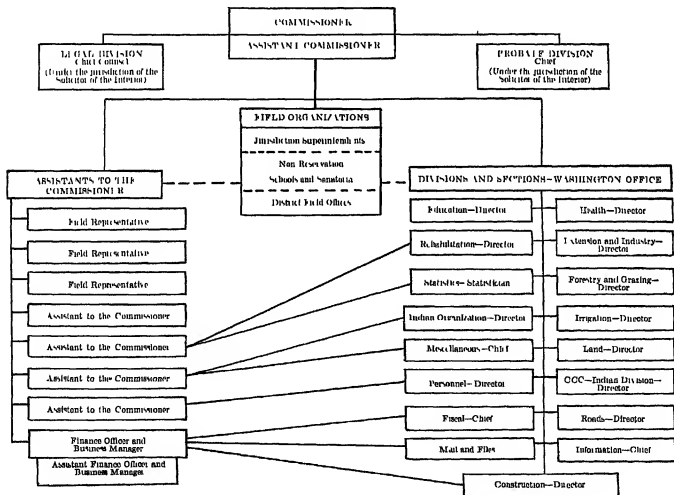
The Probate Division and the Legal Division are jointly under the Office of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs and under the Solicitor for the Department.

The Probate Division³⁵ determines heirs and probates wills of all deceased Indians outside the Five Tribes and Osage Nation, reviews the work of the Probate Attorneys of the Five Tribes, and the probate recommendations of the Osage Tribal Attorney and Superintendent, and handles income and inheritance tax matters of Five Tribes.

The Legal Division reviews matters covering legal and other questions affecting the Indians, including reviewed reports on Congressional bills affecting Indians, and passes on a host of other legal matters involving Indians in their property rights—adversary, condemnation, taxation, migration, determination of heirs, etc.

The Assistants to the Commissioner are the Commissioner's immediate staff officers. They are assigned from time to time numerous duties, which devolve upon the Commissioner's Office. In general the Assistants to the Commissioner serve to coordinate the diverse functions of the Service and to stimulate cooperative planning. There are at present three field representatives, four

³⁵ See Chapter 11, sec. 6.



ORGANIZATION CHART OF THE OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
1940

special assistants, and two finance officers. One field representative is in charge of contacts with Indian tribes; the second, in charge of conferences and the relating of educational, health, and other facilities to new projects and management problems; the third, in charge of cooperation with other agencies. Of the four special assistants, one is in charge of land use, consolidation, and leasing problems. A second coordinates projects involving land use and resettlement and works chiefly with the Statistics Section and the Rehabilitation Division. A third handles all matters relating to Indian tribal organization, Indian delegations, law and order, individual Indian moneys, held investigations, and works chiefly with the Indian Organization Division and the Miscellaneous Section. A fourth is in charge of personnel policies and works with the Personnel Division. The finance officer and his assistants are in charge of all fiscal matters for the Office of Indian Affairs—its budget, expenditure of funds under appropriation acts, and legislation.

In the Washington office, organizational functions are broken up into 17 divisions and sections directly under the Office of the Commissioner. At the head of each division is a director. The division directors are responsible to the Commissioner for the general development of policies and programs and the professional direction of activities within the spheres of their several interests. They work through the agency superintendents and in cooperation with each other and the assistants to the Commissioner. Each division director collaborating with the finance officer prepares estimates of needed funds, presents these to the Bureau of the Budget and the committee of Congress. They advise the finance officer in the allotment of funds to agencies. They collaborate with the personnel officer in the preparation of civil-service examinations and in the selection, placement, in-service training, transfer, and separation of personnel.

The Education Division has professional direction of the educational program of Indian schools in the United States and of schools for the natives of Alaska; handles all matters relating to the attendance of Indian children in public schools, administers educational loan funds, coordinates social welfare services.

The Civilian Conservation Corps, Indian Division, administers C O C funds allocated to the Indian Service and gives general direction to work projects, safety measures, and the enrollee program of welfare, instruction, and recreation.

The Irrigation Division has general direction of the construction, operation, and maintenance, including power service of irrigation projects, together with the development of subsistence gardens and domestic and stock water supplies on Indian reservations.

The Roads Division develops and directs policies and programs of road and bridge work on Indian reservations, including construction and maintenance, prepares specifications, and purchases all road machinery, equipment, and trucks.

The Health Division develops policies and programs of health conservation and gives professional supervision to all medical, dental, nursing, and sanitation activities.²²²

The Division of Forestry and Grazing encourages conservation practices, exercises professional direction of the general forestry and grazing program.

The Division of Extension and Industry stimulates and aids the development of agricultural and livestock enterprises and home improvement.

The Land Division is responsible for protection and proper handling of all Indian-owned land, and for acquisition of additional lands needed for tribal, individual, school, hospital, or other purposes; and reviews or initiates legislation pertaining to Indian lands, mineral rights, and tribal claims.

The Statistics Section collects, tabulates, and analyses data obtained from the field on population, health, Indian income, land, agricultural, and other activities of Indians needed in dealing with Indian problems and Indian development, and coordinates statistical needs, improves statistical records, and designs forms for use in the field and by divisions of the Washington office.

The Rehabilitation Division applies for allotments of emergency relief funds, and in consultation with other divisions and with field superintendents, allot to agencies these funds for approved rehabilitation projects.

The Indian Organization Division assists Indian tribes and bands to draft constitutions, bylaws, and charters of incorporation under authority of the Act of June 18, 1934,²²³ the Oklahoma Indian Welfare Act²²⁴ and the Alaska Reorganization Act;²²⁵ conducts educational work and supervises elections in connection therewith; assists tribes to make intelligent use of the powers acquired through organization and incorporation; reviews ordinances and resolutions adopted by tribes and presented for departmental review or approval, and determines the tribal status of individual Indians or groups of Indians.

The Miscellaneous Section initiates correspondence on the following: maintenance of law and order, individual Indian moneys, claims for withdrawal of pro-rata shares and Sums benefits, traders, dance and ceremonies, Indian monuments, delegations to Washington, and a variety of miscellaneous subjects. The Personnel Division develops personnel policies, stimulates and coordinates in-service training, discovers employment opportunities in private industry for Indians, and provides records and procedures for the orderly and efficient management of personnel.

The Fiscal Division directs and supervises bookkeeping and accounting matters, examination of accounts and claims, requisition of funds for advance to disbursing agents; investment and deposit of Indian funds; and property accounting.

The Service Section provides service such as a stenographic pool, mail room for handling of incoming and outgoing mail, and organized files of all pertinent correspondence for the orderly and efficient handling of the business of the office.

The Construction Division in cooperation with the superintendents and the several division directors, prepares plans and specifications, estimates costs, and supervises the construction of all Indian Service buildings; gathers engineering data and prepares engineering reports on buildings, utility services, and plant maintenance.

The Information Division advises on articles for publication and public speeches by employees of the Office of Indian Affairs; assembles and interprets to the public pertinent facts concerning Indians and the work of the Indian Office; and has editorial supervision over the office publication "Indians at Work."

Directly under the Office of Indian Affairs, and solely responsible to it are field organizations covering 64 superintendents and 27 independent units—6 sanatoria, 10 schools, and 9 district offices.

The superintendent is responsible directly to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs for the orderly and efficient administration of governmental affairs relating to the Indians of his jurisdiction, including moneys, property, and personnel. He coordinates the work of his staff and utilizes all available technical and professional aid from the Washington and district offices in developing and administering a program that serves the needs of the Indians of his jurisdiction.

²²² See Chapter 4, sec. 16.

²²³ See Chapter 23, sec. 18.

²²⁴ See Chapter 21, sec. 9.

²²⁵ See Chapter 12, sec. 8.

An examination of the regulations under which the Indian Service operates will illustrate its manifold activities. The codified regulations cover Alaska, antiquities, attorneys and agents, Civilian Conservation Corps, Indian Division, credit to Indians, education of Indians, enrollment and enrollment of Indians, forestry, grazing, health and welfare, hospital and medical care of Indians, irrigation projects, law and order, losses, permits, and sale of minerals on restricted Indian lands, money, tribal and individual Indians in fee, competency certificates, sales, and termination of proceeds, treaties (Oklahoma Indian tribes), rights of Indians, rights-of-way roads and highways, trading with Indians, widows and homeless areas, wildlife. In addition to the regulations contained in the Code of Federal Regulations there are many special regulations.¹⁰⁰

B PERSONNEL

The Act of July 9, 1882,¹⁰¹ which provided for the appointment of a Commissioner of Indian Affairs at a salary of \$3,000, made no provision for specific clerical assistance or contingent expenses of the office. The Appropriation Act of June 18, 1884,¹⁰² provided for the first time, in addition to \$3,000 for salary of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, \$5,000 for salary of clerks in the office of the Commissioner, \$700 for salary of the messenger, and \$800 for contingent expenses.¹⁰³

Provisions for various interests and new offices gradually appeared in the appropriation acts.¹⁰⁴

The Commissioner of Indian Affairs,¹⁰⁵ and the Assistant Commissioner,¹⁰⁶ are appointed by the President with the consent of the Senate. All other employees¹⁰⁷ are appointed by the Secretary of the Interior after certification by the Civil Service Commission,¹⁰⁸ with the exception of specified field personnel and certain

administrative officers in the Washington office.¹⁰⁹ The salaries are fixed basically in the Classification Act of March 4, 1923.¹¹⁰ The extent to which Indians themselves are employed is elsewhere discussed.¹¹¹

Up to 1894 officers in immediate control of Indians were known as "agents." They were appointed by the President with the consent of the Senate.¹¹² To remove this office from politics the Act of March 4, 1923,¹¹³ authorized the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, with the approval of the Secretary of the Interior, to devolve the duties of agent upon the superintendent of the school located at the agency.

With the closing of Government schools many "superintendents" were left without schools. "Agency" has again become the term for units of administration, but officers in charge are still called "superintendents."¹¹⁴

The superintendent of an agency is a bonded officer, responsible for all expenditures.¹¹⁵ The superintendent is authorized to acknowledge deeds, administer various oaths, take depositions.¹¹⁶ He instructs new employees in their duties and the Statutory limitations on publications.¹¹⁷ He may not serve as a suitor of an Indian under appointment by a local court.¹¹⁸

No employee of the United States Government may have any interest or concern in any trade with the Indians, except for and on account of the United States, and any person offending is liable to a penalty of \$5,000 and removal from office.¹¹⁹ The purchase of articles from Indians for home use by Government employees is not held to constitute trade.¹²⁰

According to Commissioner Collier,

*The major principle of field administration is that the Superintendent of a jurisdiction is the responsible officer in that jurisdiction. He is responsible directly to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs. There is no intervening administrative authority between him and the Commissioner. There are, however, an increasing administrative authority between him and the employees under his jurisdiction.*¹²¹

Commissioner Cato Sells expressed the same idea in 1916:

Inspecting officers should impress superintendents with the fact that they are held responsible for every activity

¹⁰⁰ This law is taken from title 25 of the Code of Federal Regulations (1940) pp. 1-3. The major subjects covered by these regulations are discussed in other chapters of this book.

¹⁰¹ 4 Stat. 364, 25 U. S. C. 1, R. S. 468, 25 U. S. C. 2, R. S. 463.

¹⁰² 1 Stat. 577.

¹⁰³ This is the budget for the Office of the Commissioner only, and does not include the field. There were separate appropriations for the "Indian Department."

¹⁰⁴ By the Act of June 15, 1880, 21 Stat. 210 the Commissioner's salary was raised to \$3,500 and the budget for the office raised to \$77,900. By the Act of August 5, 1892, 22 Stat. 210, the Commissioner's salary was raised to \$4,000. By the Act of July 11, 1886, 23 Stat. 172 the Office of Assistant Commissioner was created at a salary of \$4,000. The Assistant Commissioner also performed the duties of chief clerk. The Commissioner's salary was raised to \$5,000 by the Act of April 28, 1902, 32 Stat. 102, 108. Under the Appropriation Act of June 18, 1904, 70th Cong., 3d sess., Pub. No. 540, the Commissioner's salary is \$9,000 annually and the Assistant Commissioner's \$7,000. By the Act of February 28, 1907, 34 Stat. 910, 936, the Chief Clerk's Office was separated from that of Assistant Commissioner and by the Act of June 27, 1910, 36 Stat. 468, the Chief Clerk's title was changed to Second Assistant Commissioner. By the Act of May 10, 1910, 39 Stat. 60, 100, the Second Assistant Commissioner's Office was abolished and the title of Chief Clerk reinstated. This act also provided compensation for forester, financial clerk, chiefs of divisions, law clerk, examiner of irrigation accounts, draftsman, etc.

¹⁰⁵ Act of July 9, 1882, 4 Stat. 364, 25 U. S. C. 1, R. S. 462.

¹⁰⁶ On June 30, 1920, Schmeckebier reported 5,002 employees in the entire service, 300 in Washington office, with a total salary of \$4,088,513¹ (Schmeckebier, op. cit. p. 268). These were, according to the 1940 budget, 9,178 employees in the Bureau of Indian Affairs (including messenger and conservation employees), of which 388 were in Washington, with a total salary of \$14,731,297. (Figures from Office of Indian Affairs, May, 1940.)

¹⁰⁷ The Civil Service Commission has to some extent recognized the specialized positions that exist in the Indian Service, and has held examinations for the purpose of filling specific positions in the Indian Service, such as those for teachers and nurses. (Annual Report of the Secretary of the Interior (1937), p. 241, 49th (1939), p. 208.) Annual reports of the Secretary of the Interior comment on the extreme diversity in the types of personnel needed, on the need for persons with ability to handle human relation problems, in addition to their particular training

(Annual Report of the Secretary of the Interior (1937) pp. 240-242, Annual Report of the Secretary of the Interior (1938), p. 250.)

¹⁰⁸ The need for such personnel equipped employees was noted by Commissioners for more than 100 years. See sec. 3, supra. Also Schmeckebier, op. cit. pp. 200-201.

¹⁰⁹ See Schmeckebier, op. cit. pp. 267, 294 for a list of such exceptions. ¹¹⁰ 42 Stat. 1488. Amended by the Act of Mar. 26, 1928, 45 Stat. 776 (Welch Act), Act of July 1, 1930, 46 Stat. 1004 (Brookhart Act), and by Executive Order No. 6740, June 21, 1934.

¹¹¹ See Chapter 8, sec. 43.

¹¹² Schmeckebier, op. cit. p. 283.

¹¹³ 42 Stat. 612, 614, 25 U. S. C. 66. This provision was carried in later Indian appropriation acts up to March 1, 1907, 34 Stat. 1015, 1020.

¹¹⁴ Schmeckebier, op. cit. pp. 282-284.

¹¹⁵ Department of the Interior, U. S. Indian Field Service Regulations (1940), Section A—Administration, p. A-8. The superintendent is bonded in such amount as the President or Secretary of the Interior may require.

¹¹⁶ Ibid., pp. A-11, A-12.

¹¹⁷ Ibid., p. A-6.

¹¹⁸ Ibid., p. A-6. See Chapter 12, sec. 2.

¹¹⁹ Ibid., p. A-52. Based on R. S. § 2078 (derived from Act of June 30, 1864, 4 Stat. 785, 788), 25 U. S. C. 68, Act of June 22, 1974, 18 Stat. 146, 177, 25 U. S. C. 87. See letter of Attorney General dated February 15, 1940, holding that an employee of the Indian Service may not accept employment after hours as salaried manager of an Indian community store. And see Memo. Vol. I, D. November 7, 1939, holding Indian Service employee may not leave land from Indian for home use.

¹²⁰ Ibid., p. A-62. (Order of Secretary of the Interior, September 30, 1912.) See also Act of June 16, 1909, 35 Stat. 840, 25 U. S. C. (Supp.) 87a.

¹²¹ Office of Indian Affairs, Order No. 481, Field District Plan, June 21, 1937, p. 2.

relating to Indians within their jurisdiction, from "saving the whites" to taking care of old Indians. (Department of Interior, Office of Indian Affairs, "Methods and Suggestions for Inspecting Offices of the United States Indian Service," February 23, 1916, p. 7.)

C. COOPERATION WITH OTHER AGENCIES

Some decentralization of administrative control over Indian life³⁸ has been effected in recent years by the distribution of governmental powers among the federal, state, and tribal governments. In earlier decades, cooperation, where it has existed, has been primarily between the Indian Bureau and other federal agencies,³⁹ not between the Indians and the agencies. In recent years various federal agencies have been in direct contact with the Indians. They include the Soil Conservation Service, the Farm Security Administration, the Social Security Board, the Civilian Conservation Corps,⁴⁰ the National Youth Administration, the Public Works Administration, and the Works Progress Administration.

The General Land Office assists the Indian Office in the sale of land which the Indian tribes cede to the United States.⁴¹ It also adjudicates or administers Indian allotments and Indian homesteads,⁴² and issues allotments on cession by the Commissioner of Indian Affairs,⁴³ who must also consent to the granting of various licenses by the Federal Power Commission⁴⁴ and other agencies for irrigation, right-of-way, power development, and other land use.

In the field of conservation the Indian Service often unites its common action with one or more state or federal bureaus. The Interdepartmental Rio Grande Board, composed of representatives of the Indian Service, Grazing Service, and the Bureau of Reclamation of the Department of the Interior, and the Soil Conservation Service, the Forest Service, the Farm Security Administration and the Bureau of Agricultural Economics of the Department of Agriculture,⁴⁵ seeks to determine how a native rural population of Indians and Spanish Americans can subsist permanently through the utilization of the Rio Grande watershed in central and northern New Mexico.⁴⁶

A survey and planning unit was created by the Soil Conservation Service to study Indian reservations and prepare plans for proper land use and conservation for the Indian Service.⁴⁷ This unit, (TC-BIA) has employed a new type of integrated administrative procedure in which two services are functionally integrated, though preserving technical and organizational distinction.

³⁸ See Chapter 6. See also sec 2F, *supra*, for a statement of policy regarding decentralization by Commissioner Collier in 1938.

³⁹ *Id.* q. the Bureau of Plant and Animal Industry of Agriculture and the Reclamation Service, (Geological Survey and Forest Service of Interior had cooperated with the Indian Bureau under Commissioner Lewis in 1908. (See sec 2 *supra*. Also see Rep. Comm. Ind. Aff. 1908, pp. 2-3.)

⁴⁰ The Indian Office has a special division devoted to the C. C. C. See sec. 3A, *supra*.

⁴¹ *Conover, The General Land Office* (1928), p. 79.

⁴² *Id.*, p. 88.

⁴³ *Id.*, pp. 91-92.

⁴⁴ Since the primary responsibility for administering an Indian reservation is in the Commissioner of Indian Affairs and the Secretary of the Interior, it has been urged that the Federal Power Commission must decline to issue a permit if the Secretary believes that a proposed power development would be inconsistent with the purposes of the reservation. (Letter of Assistant Commissioner of Indian Affairs to Chairman, Federal Power Commission, February 19, 1935.)

⁴⁵ National Resources Planning Board, General Land Office, and Reconstruction Finance Corporation are consulting members. (Annual Report of the Secretary of the Interior (1939) p. 64.)

⁴⁶ Annual Report of the Secretary of the Interior (1938), p. 258.

⁴⁷ Annual Report of the Secretary of the Interior (1939), p. 148. This unit is commonly designated as TC-BIA, Technical Cooperation, Bureau of Indian Affairs.

tion.⁴⁸ The TC-BIA works with and through the Indian superintendents, then local staffs, and Indian governing bodies. They are consulted in its surveys, they comment on its findings, and they are expected to carry out its program.⁴⁹

Section 4 of the Act of March 10, 1934,⁵⁰ provides:

The Office of Indian Affairs, the Bureau of Fisheries, and the Bureau of Biological Survey are authorized, jointly, to prepare plans for the better protection of the wildlife resources, including fish, migratory waterfowl and upland game birds, game animals and fur-bearing animals, upon all the Indian reservations and unallotted Indian lands coming under the supervision of the Federal Government.

It also empowers the Secretary of the Interior to promulgate such plans and to make rules for their enforcement.

Because there is danger of depletion of fish and animals, particularly in the case of spawning salmon, where fox or wolf hunters may exploit small local runs, the Office cooperates with the Alaska Game Commission and the Division of Alaskan Fisheries, Bureau of Fisheries, in setting problems affecting the rights of Indians.

An interesting cooperative enterprise is the joint operation by the Indian Service and the Bureau of Animal Industry of a sheep genetics laboratory at Fort Wingate, New Mexico.⁵¹

The Indian Service has always cooperated with the Department of Justice in enforcing prohibition laws and suppressing liquor traffic with the Indians, and generally in litigation affecting Indians.

Other cooperating agencies⁵² include the Extension Service of the Department of Agriculture, the Bureaus of Mines, Standards, Animal Industry, and Plant Industry, the Public Health Service,⁵³ the Children's Bureau of the Department of Labor, state agricultural colleges, and education and welfare bureaus of various states.⁵⁴

Mr. Joseph C. McQuinn, one of Commissioner Collier's four assistants, has summed up the recent trend in Indian administration:

Thus we see the Indian Office diverting its authority into three directions, first among other agencies of the Federal Government which have specialized services to render; second among the local state and county governments which are much more closely associated with the problems in some of our Indian Washington can and have among the tribal governments which have organized governing bodies, and which expect eventually to take over and manage all of the affairs of Indians. Perhaps this, but not at once, it may be found possible to census special treatment, special protective and beneficial legislation for the Indians, and they shall become self-supporting, self-managing, and self-directing communities within our national citizenship. (P. 76.)⁵⁵

⁴⁸ Annual Report of the Secretary of the Interior (1939) p. 188.

⁴⁹ Indian Office Order 457, United States Indian Field Service, Rules and Regulations (1939), section A—Administration, pp. A-5, A-6.

⁵⁰ 48 Stat. 491, 492.

⁵¹ See Annual Report of the Secretary of the Interior (1938), p. 253.

⁵² See Annual Report of the Secretary of the Interior (1939), pp. 100-172, 180-182.

⁵³ The United States, Public Health Service, since 1928, has detailed personnel to the Indian Service, in health and medical work on reservations. *Id.*, p. 178.

⁵⁴ Under the Johnson-O'Malley Act of April 16, 1934, 48 Stat. 850, amended by Act of June 4, 1936, 49 Stat. 1488, state educational and health services were made available to certain Indian tribes by contract between the State and the Federal Government. As of 1938, California, Washington, and Minnesota have contracted for the education of Indian children, Wisconsin for child-welfare services, and Arizona for Indian educational services. (Annual Report of the Secretary of the Interior (1939), p. 64.) See Chapter 12, sec. 1.

⁵⁵ Joseph C. McQuinn, "The Creation of Monopolistic Control of Indians by the Indian Office, in *Indian of the United States*, April 1940, pp. 60-70. This paper was prepared for the First Inter-American Conference on Indian Life, held at Patzcuaro, Mexico, in April 1940.

CHAPTER 3

INDIAN TREATIES

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SECTION 1. THE LEGAL FORCE OF INDIAN TREATIES

One who attempts to survey the legal problems raised by Indian treaties must at the outset dispose of the objection that such treaties are somehow of inferior validity or are of purely antiquarian interest. These objections apparently spring from the belief that when the treaty method of dealing with the natives was abandoned in the Indian Appropriation Act of 1871¹ the force of treaties in existence at that time also disappeared.

Such an assumption is unfounded. Although treaty making itself is a thing of the past, treaty enforcement continues.² As a matter of fact, the act in question expressly provides that there shall be no lessening of obligations already incurred.

The reciprocal obligations assumed by the Federal Government and by the Indian tribes during a period of almost a hundred years constitute a chief source of present-day Indian law. As one legal commentator has pointed out:

* * * The chief foundation [of federal power over Indian affairs] appears to have been the treaty-making power of the President and Senate with its corollary of Congressional power to implement by legislation the treaties made

And by a broad reading of these treaties the national government obtained from the Indians themselves authority

to legislate for them to carry out the purpose of the treaties.³

That treaties with Indian tribes are of the same dignity as treaties with foreign nations is a view which has been repeat-

¹ See Rice, *The Position of the American Indian in the Law of the United States* (1934), 16 J Comp Leg 78, 80-81. See also Chapter 5, sec 1.

² Justice Baldwin, in the case of *Cherokee Nation v Georgia*, 5 Pet. 1 (1831), gives an interesting account of the negotiation of treaties by the Continental Congress with the Indians.

³ The proceedings of the old congress will be found in 1 Laws U S 597, commencing 1st June 1775, and ending 1st September 1788, of which some extracts will be given. 30th June 1775: "Resolved, that the committee for Indian affairs do prepare proper tales to the several tribes of Indians; as the Indians depend on the colonists for arms, ammunition and clothing which are become necessary for their subsistence." "That the commissioners have power to treat with the Indians—to take to their assistance gentlemen of influence among the Indians." "To preserve the confidence and friendship of the Indians, and prevent their suffering for want of the necessities of life, 40,0000 sterling of Indian goods be imported." "No person shall be permitted to trade with the Indians, without a license;" "traders shall sell their goods at reasonable prices, allow them to the Indians for their skins, and take no advantage of their distress and impotence;" "the trade to be only at ports designated by the commissioners." "Specimens of the kind of intercourse between the congress and depulations of the kind may be seen in pages 602 and 608. They need no incorporation into a judicial opinion. (P. 34)

¹ Act of March 3, 1871, 13 Stat. 544, 556, R. S. § 2079, 25 U S C 71.

² See, for example, Act of June 16, 1885, sec. 4, 49 Stat. 878.

only submitted by the federal courts and never successfully challenged.¹

As late as 1828 Attorney General William Wirt, in an opinion to the President on Georgia and the Treaty of Indian Springs,² found it necessary to answer the contention that treaties with Indians were not effective because they were not treaties with an independent nation, and hence, even if independent, the Indians were unincorporated. In discussing the first objection the Attorney General said, in part:

If it be meant to say that, although capable of treating, their treaties are not to be considered like the treaties of nations absolutely independent, an reason is discerned for this distinction in the circumstance that their independence is of a limited character. If they are independent to the purpose of treating, they have all the independence that is necessary to the argument. . . . The point, then, once conceded, that the Indians are independent to the purpose of treating, their independence is, to that purpose, as absolute as that of any other nation.

Nor can it be conceded that their independence as a nation is a limited independence. Like all other independent nations, they are governed solely by their own laws. Like all other independent nations, they have the absolute power of war and peace. Like all other independent nations, their territory is unalienable by any other sovereignty. Questions have arisen as to the character of their title to that territory, but these discussions have resulted in this conclusion: that, whether their title be that of sovereignty in the jurisdiction or the soil, or a title by occupancy only, it is such a title as no other nation has a right to interfere with or take from them, and without which no other nation can rightfully acquire, but by the same means by which the territory of all other nations, however absolute their independence, may be acquired—that is, by consent or conquest. As nations they are still free and independent. They are entirely self-governed—self-directed. They treat, or refuse to treat, at their pleasure; and there is no human power which can rightfully control them in the exercise of their discretion in this respect. In their treaties, in all their contracts with regard to their property, they are as free, sovereign, and independent as any other nation. And being bound, on their own part, to the full extent of their contracts, they are surely entitled, on every principle of reason, justice, and equity to hold those with whom they thus treat and contract equally bound to them. Nor can I discover the slightest foundation for applying different rules to the construction of their contracts from those which are applied to all other contracts, because they made within the local limits of the sovereignty of Georgia. (Pp. 132-138)

The Circuit Court for the Michigan District said, *

* * * It is contended that a treaty with Indian tribes, has not the same dignity or effect as a treaty with a foreign and independent nation. This distinction is not authorized by the constitution. Since the commencement of the government, treaties have been made with the Indians, and the treaty-making power has been exercised in making them. They are treaties, within the meaning of the constitution, and, as such, are the supreme laws of the land (P. 336.)

It is clear that the Constitution recognized as part of the supreme law of the land treaties made with Indian tribes prior to its ratification.³ The Supreme Court said with reference to the provisions of an Indian treaty: *

¹ *Holsten v. Jay*, 17 Wall. 211, 242-248 (1872); *Worcester v. Georgia*, 6 Pet. 516, 559 (1823); *Tuner v. American Baptist Missionary Union*, 24 Fed. Cas. No. 14261 (C. C. Mich. 1892).

² 2 Op. A. G. 110 (1828).

³ *Tuner v. American Baptist Missionary Union*, 24 Fed. Cas. No. 14261 (C. C. Mich. 1892).

⁴ *Worcester v. Georgia*, 6 Pet. 516, 559 (1823). Examples of such treaties are found in the opinion of the Supreme Court in *Cherokee Nation v. Georgia*, 5 Pet. 1, 82-88 (1831).

⁵ *United States v. Fort-three Galleons of Whiskey*, 93 U. S. 188 (1876).

* * * The Constitution declares a treaty to be the supreme law of the land, and Chief Justice Marshall, in *Poste and Flann v. Ascham*, 2 Pet. 814, has said, "That a treaty is to be regarded, in courts of justice, as equivalent to an act of the legislature, whenever it operates of itself, without the aid of any legislative provision." No legislation is required to put the seventh article in force, and it must become a rule of action, if the contracting parties had power to incorporate it in the treaty of 1808. About this there would seem to be no doubt. (P. 136.)

Generally speaking, the incidents attaching to a treaty with a foreign power have been held applicable to Indian treaties. Thus, in accordance with the general rule applicable to foreign treaties, the courts will not go behind a treaty which has been ratified to inquire whether or not an Indian tribe was properly represented by its head men, nor determine whether a treaty has been procured by duress or fraud, and declare it unenforceable for that reason.⁶

* * * the treaty, after executed and ratified by the proper authorities of the Government, becomes the supreme law of the land, and the courts can no more go behind it for the purpose of annulling its effect and operation, than they can behind an act of Congress.⁷

An Indian treaty, like a foreign treaty, may be modified by mutual consent.⁸

The fact that Congress has, by legislation, repealed, modified, or disregarded various Indian treaties has been thought by some to show that Indian treaties are of inferior legal validity. The fact is, however, that the power of Congress to enact legislation in conflict with treaties is well established in the field of foreign affairs, as well as in the field of Indian affairs.⁹

In upholding legislation contravening a treaty, the Supreme Court in *Tanc Wolf v. Hirschback*,¹⁰ said:

* * * Until the year 1871 the policy was pursued of dealing with the Indian tribes by means of treaties, and, of

⁶ *United States v. New York Indians*, 173 U. S. 484 (1900); *United States v. Old Settles*, 148 U. S. 427, 408 (1913). See in *U. S. Supp.*, and on the term of tribal government, see Chapter 7, sec. 3.

⁷ *Wilson v. Hirschback*, 90 U. S. 806, 873 (1875).

⁸ 14 Pet. 4 (1840). Justice McLean said in the case of *Lafayette v. Poter*.

It is agreed that it was not in the power of the United States and the Cherokee nation, by the treaty of Tellico, in 1798, to vary in any degree the treaty line of Holston, so as to affect private rights, or the rights of North Carolina. This answer to it is, that the Holston treaty does not purport to alter the boundary of the Holston treaty, but by the acts of the parties, this boundary is recognized. Not that a new boundary was specified, but the old one was substantially delineated. Will any one deny that the parties to the treaty are competent to determine any dispute respecting its limits. In what mode can a controversy of this nature be so satisfactorily determined as by the contracting parties? If then language in the treaty be wholly indefinite, or the natural objects called for are uncertain or contradictory, there is no power but that which formed the treaty which can remedy such defects. And it is a sound principle of national law, and applies to the treaty-making power of this government, whether exercised with a foreign nation or an Indian tribe, that all questions of disputed boundaries may be settled by the parties to the treaty. And to the exercise of these high functions by the government, within its constitutional powers, neither the rights of a state, nor those of an individual, can be interpreted, or the character of the nation, in the exercise of the powers of the executive and the legislative, concluding the treaty of Tellico, to be construed in terms, or by law, the boundary of the Holston treaty. (P. 18.)

⁹ The Supreme Court in *Re Davis Webb*, 235 U. S. 683 (1912), said:

Of course, an act of Congress may repeal a prior treaty as well as it may repeal a prior act. *The Cherokee Tobacco*, 11 Wall. 616; *United States v. United States*, 141 U. S. 593, 600 (1902); *United States v. Davis*, 168 U. S. 604, 611; *Draper v. United States*, 164 U. S. 240, 248 (1906).

¹⁰ 187 U. S. 538, 558-559 (1908). Also see *Cherokee Tobacco*, 11 Wall. 616 (1870); *Ward v. Race Horse*, 188 U. S. 804 (1904); *Shaw v. U. S.*, 160 U. S. 264 (1896), 16 Op. A. G. 800 (1879). Accord 26 Op. A. G. 840, 847 (1897); 54 U. D. 401 (1894).

At one time this principle was not well established. This is shown by the following excerpt from H. Rept. No. 474, Comm. on Indian Affairs, 28d Cong., 1st sess., May 20, 1884:

It was not competent for an act of Congress to alter the stipulations of the treaty or to change the character of the agents appointed under it. (P. 5.)

Certain treaties with the Indians were invalidated by hostilities.²² During the Civil War Congress expressly authorized the President to declare all treaties with a tribe engaged in hostility toward the United States abrogated by such tribe, "if in his opinion the same can be done consistently with good faith and loyal and national obligations."²³

While the United States often abrogated treaty provisions,²⁴ some treaties contained drastic penalties for Indians who might commit violations. Article 1 of the Treaty of June 10, 1818,²⁵ required the chiefs and warriors of the tribe to deliver "to the authority of the United States, (to be punished according to law,) each and every individual of the said tribe, who shall, at any time hereafter, violate the stipulations of the treaty * * *". The Treaty of August 9, 1814,²⁶ after denouncing them as violators or instigators of violation, required the "surrender and surrender of all the prophets and instigators of the war, whether foreigners or natives, who have not submitted to the arms of the United States * * *". The Treaty of March 2, 1808,²⁷ provided that a chief violating an essential part of the treaty shall forfeit his position.

Some treaties provided for the modification²⁸ or abrogation of previous provisions²⁹ or declared previous treaties null and void and canceled claims under them,³⁰ or nullified preemption rights and reservations created under them,³¹ or expressly recognized former treaties.³²

²² and the courts can exercise only such jurisdiction upon the subject as Congress may confer upon them. (P 373.)

²³ See *Proclamation to Treaty of August 9, 1814* with the Creeks, 7 Stat. 120. Also see *Longhorn v. United States*, 101 U. S. 201, 200 (1880). On what constitutes war between the United States and a tribe see *Marks v. United States*, 102 U. S. 207 (1880). See *Conditt v. United States*, 102 U. S. 207, 207 (1880). (C. C. 8, 1892).

²⁴ Act of July 6, 1862, 12 Stat. 612, 628, R. S. § 2080, 26 U. S. C. 72 discussed in *Jordan v. Joy*, 17 Wall. 211, 215 (1872).

²⁵ See in 14, supra.

²⁶ With the Pottawatomie-Navy Pottawom, 7 Stat. 173, 174. The same provision was contained in other treaties, such as the Treaty of June 18, 1818, with the Grand Pawnee Tribe, Art. 4, 7 Stat. 173, Treaty of June 22, 1818, with the Pawnee-Mahara Tribe, Art. 4, 7 Stat. 175.

²⁷ With the Creeks, Art. 8, 7 Stat. 120.

²⁸ With the Utes, Art. 17, 16 Stat. 610.

²⁹ For example, see Treaty of January 20, 1826, with the Choctaws, 7 Stat. 281. Sometimes permanent additions to treaties in force were made (Treaty of September 25, 1818, with the Osages, Art. 3, 7 Stat. 188) and rights under previous treaties were preserved (Treaty of July 10, 1850, with the Sac and others, Art. 12, 7 Stat. 828).

³⁰ The Treaty of August 31, 1822, with the Osages, 7 Stat. 222, abrogates the Treaty of November 10, 1808, Art. 2, 7 Stat. 107, the Treaty of September 8, 1822, with the Sac and Fox Tribes, 7 Stat. 223, abrogates the Treaty of November 8, 1804, 7 Stat. 84, the Treaty of February 27, 1807, with the Fortwarranters, Art. 13, 15 Stat. 634, voids all provisions of former treaties inconsistent with the provisions of this treaty.

³¹ The Treaty of April 1, 1850, with the Wyandots, Art. 11, 0 Stat. 897 abrogated and declared null and void all former treaties between the United States and the Wyandots, except provisions previously made for the benefit of individuals "by grants of reservations of lands, or other ways, which are considered as sacred rights, and not to be affected in any thing contained in this treaty."

³² Article 21 of the Treaty of June 22, 1833, with the Choctaws and Chickasaws, 11 Stat. 611, provided:

"This convention shall supersede and take the place of all former treaties between the United States and the Choctaws, and also, of all treaty stipulations between the United States and the Choctaws, and between the Choctaws and Chickasaws, inconsistent with this agreement, and shall take effect and be obligatory upon the contracting parties, from the date hereof, whenever the same shall be ratified by the respective councils of the Choctaw and Chickasaw Tribes, and by the President and Senate of the United States."

Also see Treaty of August 7, 1868, with the Creeks, Art. 26, 15 Stat. 600.

³³ Treaty of January 24, 1820, with the Creeks, Art. 1, 7 Stat. 286.

³⁴ Supplementary articles to the Treaty of December 20, 1805, with the Choctaws, 7 Stat. 488, Treaty of May 18, 1864, with the Sac and Foxes, Art. 1, 10 Stat. 1074; Treaty of May 18, 1864, with the Kickapoo, Art. 8,

Treaties sometimes provided saving clauses in the event of rejection of some of the articles. For example, article 7 of the Treaty of August 5, 1820, with the Chickasaws,³⁴ provides among other things:

" * * * That it is expressly understood and agreed, that the fourth, fifth, and sixth articles, or either of them, may be rejected by the President and Senate, without affecting the validity of the other articles of the treaty."

Future contingencies sometimes provided for included violation by a chief of an essential part of the treaty³⁵ or relinquishment by chiefs of land reserved by treaty,³⁶ nonrecognition of the Indians,³⁷ abandonment of land³⁸ and misfeasance of "good reliable land" ceded to the tribe.³⁹

The legal force of Indian treaties did not insure their actual enforcement. Some important treaties were negotiated but never ratified by the Senate,⁴⁰ or ratified only after a long delay.⁴¹ Treaties were sometimes consummated by methods amounting to bribery,⁴² or signed by representatives of only a small part of the signatory tribes.⁴³ The Federal Government failed to fulfill the terms of many treaties,⁴⁴ and was sometimes unable or unwilling to prevent whites,⁴⁵ or white people,⁴⁶ from violating treaty rights of the Indians.

10 Stat. 1078, Treaty of July 31, 1865, with the Ottawas and Chippewas, Art. 3, 11 Stat. 621.

³⁵ Treaty of October 25, 1805, with the Choctaws, Art. 1, 7 Stat. 93, Treaty of July 18, 1815, with the Pottawatomies, Art. 4, 7 Stat. 123, Treaty of July 18, 1815, with the Shawankees, Art. 3, 7 Stat. 121, Treaty of September 25, 1818, with the Illinois Nation, Art. 2, 7 Stat. 181.

³⁶ Treaty of March 2, 1808, with the Utes, Art. 18, 16 Stat. 610.

³⁷ Treaty of September 18, 1822, with the Florida Indians, Additional Art. 7, Stat. 224, 220.

³⁸ By Art. 10, the selection of any article would not affect the other provisions in the Treaty of June 22, 1818, with the Kickapoo, 18 Stat. 623, Art. 1 of the Treaty of November 24, 1834, with the Creeks, 7 Stat. 271, provided that the rejection of a certain article would not affect the other provisions.

³⁹ For example, see Treaty of November 10, 1808, with the Hoque River Tribe, Art. 4, 10 Stat. 110.

⁴⁰ Treaty of September 21, 1833, with the Otos and Missourians, Art. 8, 7 Stat. 422.

⁴¹ Treaty of September 18, 1822, with the Florida Tribes, Art. 0, 7 Stat. 224.

⁴² Hoopes, *Indian Affairs* and their Administration, with Special Reference to the Far West (1892), p. 90.

⁴³ *Ibid.*, p. 118.

⁴⁴ Kinney, *A Continent Lament—A Civilization Won* (1897), pp. 37, 38, 32, 66, 71, 94, Schmeckel, *The Office of Indian Affairs, its History, Activities, and Organization* (1897), p. 81.

⁴⁵ Kinney, *op. cit.*, pp. 44, 45.

⁴⁶ Kinney, *op. cit.* p. 68, Hoopes, *op. cit.* pp. 180, 218, 219; Schmeckel describes this condition.

One of the defects of the treaty system was that agreements were continually being made which were not carried into effect. This was due in part to frequent adjournments, in part to the failure of Congress to make the necessary appropriations, and in part to the inherent difficulties presented by the nature of the problem.

Some of the stipulations of almost all treaties which it was impossible to carry out were those maintaining the Indians against the intrusion of the white settlers and providing for the punishment of white persons committing offenses against the Indians. As the western boundaries moved in the Indians were thousands of miles in extent, it was impossible to police this area in such a way as to prevent trespass or to secure evidence against offenders. (P. 62.)

⁴⁷ See Kinney, *op. cit.* p. 71.

⁴⁸ *Ibid.*, pp. 148, 149, 174, 184, 208; Hoopes, *op. cit.* pp. 84, 220, 228-282, 286; Schmeckel, *op. cit.* p. 44.

⁴⁹ Treaty guarantees of land to the Indians were often violated. In 1792 Secretary of War Pickens, in his instructions to the Commissioners for negotiating a treaty with the Choctaws, made the following comment: "The arts and practices to obtain Indian land, in defiance of treaties and the laws, and at the risk of involving the whole country in war, have become so daring, and received such encouragement from persons, some powerful, as to render it necessary that the means to counteract them shall be augmented."

Am. St. Papers, *Indian Affairs*, vol. 1, p. 680, quoted by Schmeckel, *ibid.*, pp. 24-25.

SECTION 2. INTERPRETATION OF TREATIES¹⁵

A cardinal rule in the interpretation of Indian treaties is that ambiguities are resolved in favor of the Indians.¹⁶

For example, a proviso in an Indian treaty which exempts lands from "levy, sale, and forfeiture" is not, in the absence of expressions so limiting it, confined to the levy and sale under ordinary judicial proceedings, but also includes the levy and sale by county officers for the nonpayment of taxes.¹⁷

An agreement embodied in an act of Congress which in terms "ceded, granted, and relinquished" to the United States all of their "right, title, and interest," did not make the lands public lands in the sense of being subject to sale or other disposition under the general land laws, but only in the manner provided for in the special agreement with the Indians.¹⁸

"The best interests of the Indians," however, do not necessarily coincide with a grant to them of the broadest power over lands. The Supreme Court has held that the best interests of the Indians do not require that they should be allotted lands in fee rather than lands held in trust by the government for them.¹⁹

While trying to serve the Indians' best interests, the courts have indicated that they will not dispose with any of the conditions or requirements of the treaties upon any notion of equity or general convenience or substantial justice. Justice Harlan, in the case of *United States v. Charles Nantux*,²⁰ said

That in no case has it been adjudged that the courts could by mere interpretation or in deference to its view as to what was meant make all the circumstances, more or less, into an Indian treaty something that was inconsistent with the clear import of its words. It has never been held that the obvious, palpable meaning of the words of an Indian treaty may be disregarded because, in the opinion of the court, that meaning may in a particular transaction work what it would regard as impulsive to the Indians. That would be an intrusion upon the domain committed by the Constitution to the political departments of the Government. Congress did not intend, when passing the act under which this litigation was maintained, to invade the Court in *Clanin* as this court with authority to determine whether the United States had, in its treaty with the Indians, violated the principles of *Law* dealing. What was said in *The Unalutka*, 6 Wheat. 1, 71, 72, is evidently applicable to treaties with Indians. *Justice* Harlan, speaking for the court, said: "In the first

place, this court does not possess any treaty-making power. That power belongs to the Constitution to another department of the Government, and to alter, amend, or add to any treaty by meeting any clause, whether small or great, important or trivial, would be on our part an assumption of power and not an exercise of judicial functions. It would be to make, and not to construe a treaty. Neither can this court supply a *coram vobis* in a treaty, any more than in a law. We are to find out the intention of the parties by just rules of interpretation applied to the subject-matter, and, having found that, on our duty is to follow it as far as it goes and to stop where it stops—whatever may be the imperfections or difficulties which it leaves behind."

In the next place, this court is bound to give effect to the stipulations of the treaty in the manner and to the extent which the parties have declared, and not otherwise. We are not at liberty to dispense with any of the conditions or requirements of the treaty, or to take away any qualification or integral part of any stipulation, upon any notion of equity or general convenience, or substantial justice. The terms which the parties have chosen to fix, the forms which they have prescribed and the circumstances under which they are to have operation, rest in the exclusive discretion of the contracting parties, and whether they belong to the essence or the detail of the treaty, equally give the rule to the judicial tribunals." (17 532-538.)

So, too, it has been held that the reservation of a privilege in fish and hunt on lands transferred by a contract entered by a treaty does not prevent the prosecution of tribal Indians violating a conservation law on such lands, since the transfer does not expressly or impliedly limit the right of the state to enact conservation measures.²¹

A somewhat different, although related, view of treaty interpretation is to the effect that, since the wording in treaties was designed to be understood by the Indians, who often could not read and were not trained in the technical language, doubtful clauses are resolved in a nontechnical way as the Indians would have understood the language.²²

¹⁵ *Kremley v. Brooks*, 241 U. S. 8 376 (1916). The clause "Also, excepting and reserving to them . . . the privilege of fishing and hunting on the said tract of land hereby intended to be conveyed" (Treaty of September 16, 1797, with the Seneca Nation, 7 Stat. 601, 602) was interpreted as

* * * reservation of a privilege of fishing and hunting upon the granted lands in common with the Indians, and a license to whom the privilege might be extended, but subject nevertheless to limit necessary means of appropriate regulation, as to all those privileges which were inherent in the sovereignty of the state over the lands where the privilege was exercised. (17 563-564.)

Interpretations of other clauses are noted in sec. 4 of this Chapter and Chapter 6, sec. 33 and Chapter 14, sec. 7.

¹⁶ *Johnson v. M'Intosh*, 21 U. S. 60, 69 (1800). Chapter 8, sec. 91. See *Worcester v. Georgia*, 6 U. S. 515, 551-551' (1812). In commenting on frequent mistakes, one writer said

* * * As the Indians had no written language and few of the character and knowledge of the whites, the conditions were entered on generally through interpreters, many of whom were ignorant. The description of the lands ceded was also a source of misunderstanding. In the Indian end of the Mississippi, the geography was fairly well known, and it was possible to describe the river with a fair degree of accuracy by reference to the streams and ridges, the area west of the Mississippi, however, was little known when many of the treaties were made, and the descriptions were of the most indefinite character.

The method of making the treaties varied according to the character of the commissioners negotiating for them. Some were manifestly fraudulent, notably the treaty with the Cheeks made in 1826. Others were "clever" Indian parties, such as the treaty with the Osage, for instance, George C. Sibley, factor at Fort Osage, gives the following account of the negotiations with that tribe in 1808:

"On the 8th of November, 1808 Peter Chouteau, the United States agent for the Osage, arrived at Fort Clark. On the 10th he assembled the chiefs and warriors of the Great and Little Osage in council and proceeded to write to them the stipulations of a treaty which, he said, Governor Lewis had demanded of him to offer the Osage, and to execute with them. Having barely written the first few lines, he paused and then earnestly demanded that they should give their assent to the treaty, and then, in this effect, in my hearing, and very nearly in the following words: 'You have heard this treaty proposed to you. Those who now come to stand and sign it, shall be considered friends of the United

¹⁷ Also see Chapter 15, sec. 50. Agreements with Indians in the first period, according to the same principle as treaties. (See sec. 6, infra.) *Metz v. Leavelle*, 278 U. S. 58, 64 (1928). *Metz v. Stone* said in the case of *Worcester v. Georgia*, 256 U. S. 360 (1919).

While in general late expositions are not to be presumed and statutes, construing them are to be strictly construed, *United States v. Chief Justice*, 278 U. S. 213, the contrary is the rule to be applied to tax exemptions, secured by the Indians by agreement between them and the national government. *Chief Justice v. Trapp*, 340 U. S. 675. Such problems are to be liberally construed. Doubtless, people who are the wards of the nation, dependent upon its protection and good faith. Hence, in the words of Chief Justice Marshall, "The language used in treaties with the Indians should never be construed in their prejudice. It would be made use of, which are susceptible of a more extended meaning than their plain import as connected with the intent of the treaty, they should be construed as used only in the latter sense." *Worcester v. Georgia*, 6 U. S. 515, 582. See *The Kansas Indians*, 5 Wall. 737, 740 and they must be construed not according to their technical meaning but "in the sense in which they would naturally be understood by the Indians." *Jones v. McLean*, 178 U. S. 1, 11. (17.)

¹⁸ *Winters v. United States*, 207 U. S. 564 (1908), 74 Op. A. G. 430 (1902), 6 Op. A. G. 668 (1884), *Worcester v. Georgia*, 6 U. S. 515, 582 (1832). And see Art. 11 of Treaty of September 9, 1849, with Navajo, 9 Stat. 974.

¹⁹ *The Kansas Indians*, 5 Wall. 737 (1860).

²⁰ *The Act of April 27, 1904*, 33 Stat. 882 (New Reservation) interpreted in *Antelope Co. v. United States*, 262 U. S. 109 (1920).

²¹ See 52 Op. A. G. 586 (1902).

²² *Worcester v. Georgia*, 6 U. S. 515, 623 (1812).

²³ 178 U. S. 404 (1900). Also see *United States v. Minnesota*, 270 U. S. 181 (1926).

The Supreme Court in the case of *Jones v. Meehan*¹⁴ said:

In constituting any treaty between the United States and an Indian tribe, it must always (as was pointed out by the counsel for the appellants) be borne in mind that the negotiations for the treaty are conducted, on the part of the United States, an enlightened and powerful nation, by representatives skilled in diplomacy, and often of a written language, understanding the modes and forms of creating the various technical estates known to their law, and assisted by an interpreter employed by themselves, that the treaty is drawn up by them and in their own language, that the Indians, on the other hand, are a weak and dependent people, who have no written language and are wholly unfamiliar with all the forms of legal expression, and whose only knowledge of the terms in which the treaty is framed is that imparted to them by the interpreter employed by the United States, and that the treaty must therefore be construed, not according to the technical meaning of its words to learned lawyers, but in the sense in which they would naturally be understood by the Indians. (19-10-11.)

These principles received many applications in decisions interpreting terms derived from private conventions which were often used in treaties with the Indians.¹⁵ For example, the

States, and treated accordingly. "Those who came to come forward and sign it must be considered enemies of the United States, and treated accordingly. The Indians, on the other hand, are a weak and dependent people, who have no written language and are wholly unfamiliar with all the forms of legal expression, and whose only knowledge of the terms in which the treaty is framed is that imparted to them by the interpreter employed by the United States, and that the treaty must therefore be construed, not according to the technical meaning of its words to learned lawyers, but in the sense in which they would naturally be understood by the Indians. (19-10-11.)"

In discussing the status of Indian tribes during the Civil War, one writer stated:

"Moreover, the Indians (though as selected allies some nations, diplomatically approached. Treaties were made with them as with foreign powers, and not in the federal, unilateral way that had been customary in times past. Also, the American Indians are Slavish and Resistant, vol. 1, The Slaveholding Indians (1915), p. 17."

¹⁴ 175 U. S. 1, (1900).

¹⁵ *Fleming v. McClinton*, 218 U. S. 55, 59 (1909). For example, by Art. 4 of the Treaty of September 18, 1823, 7 Stat. 224, the United

word "grant" is not construed in an absolute fee simple, unless the treaty by some other words clearly indicates that the tribe so understood the nature of the conveyance."

The United States Supreme Court,¹⁶ interpreting the clause,

The United States shall cause to be conveyed to the Choctaw Nation a tract of country west of the Mississippi River, in fee simple to them and their descendants, to issue to them while they shall exist as a nation and live on it, . . . (7 Stat. 28.)

held that this did not create a trust for the individuals then comprising the nation and their respective descendants.

Although an interpretation of a treaty should be made in the light of conditions existing when the treaty was executed, as often indicated by its history before and after its making,¹⁷ the exact situation which caused the inclusion of a provision is often difficult to ascertain.¹⁸ New conditions may arise which could not be anticipated by the signatories to a treaty. A practical administrative construction of a treaty which has long been acquiesced in by congressional action is usually followed by the courts.¹⁹

States promised to guarantee the signatory Florida tribes "the peaceable possession of the district of country" assigned them, and the Treaty of September 26, 1823, with the Chickasaws and others, Art. 2, 7 Stat. 481, provides that in consideration of the cession of land, "the United States shall grant to the said United Nation of Indians to be held as other Indian lands are held which have lately been assigned to emigrating Indians, a tract of country west of the Mississippi river, to be assigned to them by the President of the United States."

¹⁶ 3 Op. A. G. 322 (1838). And see Chapter 15, sec. 5C.

¹⁷ *Fleming v. McClinton*, 215 U. S. 55, 58-59 (1909).

¹⁸ *Beauville v. United States*, 78 C. Cls. 455, 458 (1898). Also see *Agnes v. United States*, 41 C. Cls. 45, 53 (1893).

¹⁹ 22 Op. A. G. 558 (1921). See *Fish v. Fish*, 22 Fed. Cl. 544 (C. C. A. 10, 1931), cert. den. 282 U. S. 903 (1931), in which the court declined to permit the testimony of interested witnesses 30 years after the execution to thwart the object of an agreement as interpreted by the courts.

²⁰ *Hill v. Dutcher*, 12 Fed. Cl. No. 0058 (C. C. E. D. 1975). Also see *Agnes v. United States*, supra, at 58, and see Chapter 5, sec. 7.

SECTION 3. THE SCOPE OF TREATIES

In the Constitution²⁰ the President was given power to make treaties, with the advice and consent of the Senate, provided two-thirds of the Senators present concur.²¹ The Supreme Court, in interpreting this provision, said:

"Inasmuch as the power is given, in general terms, without any description of the objects intended to be embraced within its scope, it must be assumed that the framers of the Constitution intended that it should extend to all those objects which in the intercourse of nations had usually been regarded as the proper subjects of negotiation and treaty, if not inconsistent with the nature of our government and the relation between the States and the United States. (*Holmes v. Jennison et al.*)

²⁰ Treaties already made were recognized by the Constitution. *Cherokee Nation v. Georgia*, 5 Pet. 1 (1831); *Worcester v. Georgia*, 6 Pet. 515, 559 (1832).

²¹ Art. 2, sec. 2, cl. 2. An amendment to a treaty adopted by the Senate which did not receive Presidential approval was not made known in his proclamation cannot be regarded as part of the treaty. *New York v. United States*, 170 U. S. 1, 23 (1898). Professor Willoughby writes of the early practice.

During the first years under the Constitution the relations between the President and the Senate were especially close. In 1789 President Washington notified the Senate that he would confer with them with reference to a treaty with certain of the Indians (1789), and, on the next day, and again two days later, went with General Knox before that body for that purpose. Again, in 1790, President Washington in a written communication asked the advice of the Senate as to a new boundary treaty to be entered into with the Cherokee. (23 ed. 1626) vol. I, p. 621.

²² *Holmes v. Joy*, 17 Wall. 211, 242-243 (1872).

14 Peters, 509, 1 Kent, 169, 2 Story on the Constitution, § 1503, 7 Hamilton's Works, 501, Duer's Jurisprudence, 229.)

Again, the scope of this power was described by the Supreme Court in the case of *United States v. Forty-two Gallons of Whiskey*:

Besides the power to make treaties with the Indian tribes is, as we have seen, coextensive with that to make treaties with foreign nations. In regard to the latter, it is, beyond doubt, ample to cover all the usual subjects of diplomacy. . . . (137.)

During the last period of treaty making, amendments by the Senate were frequent.²²

A special limitation of the treaty-making power is that it cannot appropriate money.²³ Referring to this fact, the Circuit Court for the District of Michigan²⁴ said that a treaty

"cannot bind or control the legislative action in this respect, and every foreign government must be presumed to know, that so far as the treaty stipulates to pay money, the legislative sanction is required. (134d.)"

²² 38 U. S. 188 (1870). Also see *Geoffroy v. Riggs*, 133 U. S. 258, 260 (1890).

²³ See, for example, Treaty of February 18, 1867, with Sac and Fox Indians, 15 Stat. 406; Treaty of February 23, 1867, with the Senecas, and others, Art. 40, 15 Stat. 513, 528.

²⁴ 24 Op. A. G. 929 (1901); 26 Op. A. G. 163 (1904).

²⁵ *Winter v. American Baptist Missionary Union*, 24 Fed. Cl. No. 14261 (C. C. Mich. 1882).

However, as Boyd has pointed out⁶⁶

Although in regard to treaties calling for appropriations Congress has seemed reluctant to act without making it plain that there was a discretionary right vested in Congress in the premises, such appropriations have always been forthcoming.

Apart from this limitation, treaties may contain provisions which could not constitutionally be included in acts of Congress.⁶⁷

Within the broad scope of "all the usual subjects of diplomacy," the Federal Government and the Indian tribes adopted treaties covering not only all aspects of intercourse between Indians and whites but also some of the internal affairs of the tribes themselves. Among the most important of the subjects covered were:

- A The international status of the tribe
 - 1 War and peace
 - 2 Boundaries
 - 3 Passports
 - 4 Extradition
 - 5 Relations with third powers
- B Dependence of tribes on the United States
 - 1 Protection
 - 2 Exclusive trade relations
 - 3 Representation in Congress
 - 4 Congressional power
 - 5 Administrative power
 - 6 Termination of treaty-making
- C Commercial relations
 - 1 Cessions of land
 - 2 Reserved rights in ceded land
 - 3 Payments and services to tribes
- D Jurisdiction
 - 1 Criminal jurisdiction
 - 2 Civil jurisdiction
- E Control of tribal affairs

A THE INTERNATIONAL STATUS OF THE TRIBE

Until the last decade of the treaty-making period, terms familiar to modern international diplomacy were used in the Indian treaties.

The United States sometimes guaranteed the integrity of the territory of a nation,⁶⁸ unprovoked war was "repelled, prosecuted and determined,"⁶⁹ in conformity with principles of national justice and honorable warfare,⁷⁰ some of the Creek Nation acted "countervail to national faith" and "unified themselves to be unbigoted to violations of their national honor,"⁷¹ the United States desisted that "perfect peace shall exist between the nations or tribes named and the Republic of Mexico."⁷²

Many provisions show the international status of the Indian tribes,⁷³ through clauses relating to war, boundaries, passports, extradition, and foreign relations.

⁶⁶ Boyd, *The Expanding Treaty Power*, in *Selected Essays on Constitutional Law*, vol. 3, *The Nation and the States*, (1898), p. 430, 434.

⁶⁷ *Almon v. England*, 252 U. S. 415 (1920). Also see *Selected Essays on Constitutional Law*, vol. 3, op. cit. fn. 68, pp. 497-498.

⁶⁸ For discussion of removal provisions see sec. 4B of this Chapter. Relevant treaty provisions are discussed in other chapters.

⁶⁹ Treaty of September 17, 1778, with the Delaware, Art. 6, 7 Stat. 18, 15; Treaty of August 9, 1814, with the Creeks, 7 Stat. 130, 121.

⁷⁰ Preamble to Treaty of August 9, 1814, with the Creeks, 7 Stat. 130.

⁷¹ *Ibid.*

⁷² Treaty of August 24, 1835, with the Comanche and others, Art. 9, 7 Stat. 474, 475.

⁷³ Also see Chapter 14, sec. 7.

1 War and peace.—The capacity of Indian tribes to make war was frequently recognized.⁷⁴ Most of the very early treaties were treaties of peace and friendship,⁷⁵ and often provided for the restoration or exchange of prisoners,⁷⁶ and sometime for hostages until prisoners were restored.⁷⁷

Indian tribes have also waged wars with states. The state of Georgia and the Creek Nation were engaged in several wars towards the close of the eighteenth century.⁷⁸

The Supreme Court⁷⁹ commented on the status of Indian as in these terms:

We recall no instance where Congress has made a formal declaration of war against an Indian nation or tribe, but the fact that Indians are engaged in acts of general hostility to settlers, especially if the Government has deemed it necessary to dispatch a military force for their subjugation, is sufficient to constitute a state of war. *Marik v. United States*, 161 U. S. 277. (P. 287.)

A few treaties included mutual assistance pacts. By Article 9 of the Treaty of January 9, 1780 with the Winndots and others,⁸⁰ the parties agreed to give notice of war on any harm that might be inflicted against the other party, "and do all in their power to hinder and prevent the same." Article 2 of the Treaty of July 22, 1814, with the Winndots and others,⁸¹ provided that,

The tribes and bands above mentioned, engage to give them and to the United States in prosecuting the war against Great Britain, and such of the Indian tribes as still continue hostile, and to make no peace with either without the consent of the United States.

In some treaties the Indians agreed to suppress insurrections and permit the military occupation of their country by the United States,⁸² or the establishment of garrisons or forts by the

⁷⁴ *See* *U. S. Treaty of Dancing Rabbit Creek of September 27, 1830, with the Choctaw Nation* 7 Stat. 838, 834.

• • • no war shall be undertaken or prosecuted by said Choctaw Nation but by declaration made in full Council, and to be approved by the U. S. unless it be in self-defense • • • (Art. V.)

For a discussion see *Memorandum v. McCutchan*, 215 U. S. 58, 60 (1900).

⁷⁵ *See* Treaty of September 17, 1778, with the Delaware Nation, 7 Stat. 13. "That a perpetual peace and friendship shall from henceforth take place." • • • (Art. 2). Later treaties "gave peace." That this was intended to cover "peace and friendship" is made clear in Treaty of January 9, 1780, with the Winndots, etc., Art. XIII, 7 Stat. 28, which "renewed and confirmed the peace and friendship" entered into in an earlier treaty. That earlier treaty merely gave peace. Treaty of January 21, 1780, with the Winndots, etc., Preamble, 7 Stat. 10. See, for example, "A Treaty of Peace and Friendship" with the Six Nations, Art. 1, 7 Stat. 141, and Treaty of September 20, 1810, with the Chickasaws, Art. 1, 7 Stat. 150.

⁷⁶ Treaty of November 28, 1785, with the Choctaws, Arts. 1 and 2, 7 Stat. 18; Treaty of July 22, 1791, with the Choctaws, Art. 3, 7 Stat. 40.

⁷⁷ Treaty of October 22, 1784, with the Six Nations, Art. 1, 7 Stat. 15; Treaty of January 21, 1780, with the Winndots and others, Art. 1, 7 Stat. 10.

⁷⁸ *See* 2 Op. A. G. 110 (1828).

⁷⁹ *Monong v. United States*, 180 U. S. 261 (1901). *See* Chapter 14, sec. 8.

⁸⁰ 7 Stat. 28. *See* also Treaty of August 3, 1785, with the Winndots, Art. 9, 7 Stat. 49; Treaty of November 28, 1785, with the Choctaws, Art. 11, 7 Stat. 18; Treaty of January 8, 1786, with the Choctaws, Art. 10, 7 Stat. 21; Treaty of January 31, 1786, with the Shawnee Nation, Art. 4, 7 Stat. 20.

⁸¹ 7 Stat. 118. Article 12 of the Treaty of November 10, 1808, with the Great and Little Osage Nations, 7 Stat. 107, provided:

And the chiefs and warriors as aforesaid, promise and engage that neither the Great nor Little Osage nation will ever, by sale, exchange or in presents, supply any nation or tribe of Indians, not in amity with the United States, with guns, ammunition or other implements of war.

Also see Treaty of July 30, 1835, with the Belonistee and Minnesotae Tribes, Art. 7, 7 Stat. 281.

⁸² Treaty of March 21, 1868, with the Seminoles, Art. 1, 14 Stat. 705.

President,¹⁰ or to prevent other tribes from making hostile demonstrations against the United States government or people.¹¹

2. *Boundaries*.—Nations are usually separated by frontiers. Many treaties fixed the boundaries between the United States and Indian tribes,¹² and between Indian tribes.¹³ Old boundaries were sometimes altered,¹⁴ and during the recent period,¹⁵ treaties generally described the new territory granted to the Indians.¹⁶

Frequently treaties prohibited the trespass,¹⁷ or settlement¹⁸ of American citizens on Indian territory, unless licensed to trade.¹⁹

Such provisions were supplemented by statutes.²⁰

3. *Passports*.—Additional evidence of the national character of the Indian tribes appears in the provisions requiring passports for citizens or inhabitants of the United States to enter the domain of an Indian tribe. The Treaty of August 7, 1790,²¹ with the Creek Nation provided in part:

Nor shall any such citizen or inhabitant go into the Creek country, without a passport first obtained from the Governor of some one of the United States, or the officer of the troops of the United States commanding at the nearest military post on the frontiers, or such other person as the President of the United States may, from time to time, authorize to grant the same.

Such provisions were supplemented by statutes, which required citizens of the United States, as well as foreigners, to secure passports before entering the Indian country, this statutory requirement being waived in the case of citizens.²²

4. *Extradition*.—The surrender of fugitives from justice by one nation to another is usually ordered by treaty, similarly with the Indians and the United States.

Some treaties required the Indian tribes to deliver up persons committing crimes who were on their land, to be punished by the

United States.²³ A few treaties provided for the extradition of "each person" for punishment by the states,²⁴ or by the "states or territory of the United States northwest of the Ohio."²⁵ A few early treaties provided for the punishment of United States citizens in the presence of the Indians.²⁶ A particularly broad provision in regard to extradition was contained in the Treaty of June 10, 1838, with the Sioux,²⁷ which requires the extradition of violators of treaties, laws, and regulations of the United States, or of the laws of the State of Minnesota. Other treaties provided that the Indians shall "prevent fugitive slaves from taking shelter among them and shall deliver such fugitives to the Indian agent."²⁸

5. *Relations with third powers*.—During the first few decades of the Republic, the political relations of many of the Indian tribes were not confined to the United States. As late as 1835²⁹ the "friendly relations" existing between some Indian tribes and the Republic of Mexico,³⁰ the Republic of Texas,³¹ and among the several Indian tribes were formally recognized by the United States.³²

B DEPENDENCE OF TRIBES ON THE UNITED STATES

While the national character of Indian tribes has been frequently recognized in treaties³³ and statutes,³⁴ numerous treaty provisions establish their status as dependent nations.³⁵

¹⁰ Article 9 of the Treaty of January 21, 1785, with the Winnebago and others, 7 Stat. 816, provides:

If any Indian in Indiana shall commit a robbery or murder an any citizen of the United States, the tribe to which such offender may belong shall be bound to deliver them up at the nearest post, to be punished according to the ordinances of the United States.

Also see Treaty of September 27, 1850, with the Chickasaw, Art. 8, 7 Stat. 833.

¹¹ Treaty of July 2, 1791, with the Cherokee Nation, Art. 11, 7 Stat. 80.

¹² Treaty of January 9, 1790, with the Winnebago and others, Art. 7, 7 Stat. 24.

¹³ Treaty of November 28, 1785, with the Chickasaw, Art. 7, 7 Stat. 19.

¹⁴ Treaty of January 9, 1790, with the Cherokee Nation, Art. 9, 7 Stat. 21. Article 7 of the Treaty of May 15, 1840, with the Comanches and other tribes, 9 Stat. 814, provided that Indian lands at incursion shall be delivered up to the United States.

¹⁵ Art. 6, 12 Stat. 1087. Also see Treaty of March 12, 1868, with the Ponca, Art. 7, 12 Stat. 607. For an example of a provision providing for extradition between tribes see Treaty of August 7, 1850, with the Creek and Seminoles, Art. 14, 11 Stat. 500.

¹⁶ Treaty of September 18, 1823, with the Flatland, Art. 7, 7 Stat. 221. Treaty of August 24, 1850, with the Comanche and others, 7 Stat. 474.

¹⁷ *Id.*, Art. 9.

¹⁸ Treaty of May 26, 1847, with the Kiowa and others, 7 Stat. 638. See to 105, Art. 1. Indian tribes also made treaties with the states and with the Confederacy. The Federal Government sometimes supervised state dealings with Indians. While states entered into treaties with Indians prior to the ratification of the Constitution (W. A. Duer, *Course of Lectures on the Constitutional Jurisprudence of the United States*, 2d ed. (1838), p. 291), the Constitution forbids a state from entering "into any treaty, alliance, or federation." * * * (Art. 1, sec. 8. See Coffey v. Gooses, 128 U. S. 1, 18-14 (1887).) Many states like New York entered into numerous treaties with Indian tribes subsequent to the Constitution with the consent of the United States. The Supreme Court in *Worcester v. Georgia*, 6 Pet. 515, 551, said, "Under the constitution no state can enter into any treaty, and it is believed, that, since its adoption, no state, under its own authority, has held a treaty with the Indians." *Acord v. Coffey v. Gooses*, 128 U. S. 1, 18 (1887). See Chapter 8, sec. 11.

On the view of the South that each state succeeded to the property rights of Great Britain and could treat with the Indians as it pleased, see *United States v. Shuman County, N. C.*, 40 F. 2d 99 (D. C. W. D. N. C. 1930), rev'd sub nom. *United States v. Wright, et al.*, 58 F. 2d 300 (C. C. A. 8, 1931), cert. den. 288 U. S. 580. Treaty of January 21, 1785, with the Winnebago and others, Art. 7, 7 Stat. 16; Treaty of November 28, 1785, with the Chickasaw, Art. 2, 7 Stat. 18; Treaty of January 8, 1790, with the Choctaw Nation, Art. 2, 7 Stat. 21.

¹⁹ See Chapter 14, sec. 8.

²⁰ The relationship of the United States to the Indians has been likened to suzerainty. Wilson and Tucker, *International Law* (1935), p. 68.

²¹ Treaty of June 10, 1838, with the Creek Nation, Art. 8, 7 Stat. 66.

²² Treaty of November 30, 1838, with the Osage, Art. 1, 7 Stat. 107.

²³ Treaty of October 26, 1803, with the Yakima, Art. 1, 14 Stat. 781.

²⁴ See Chapter 15, sec. 12, and see 40 C. of this Chapter.

²⁵ See Chapter 1, sec. 3, in 40. The primary purpose of some treaties was to establish boundaries, 9 Op. A. G. 91 (1848).

²⁶ Treaty of August 10, 1820, with the Sioux and others, 7 Stat. 272.

Article 1 provided for peace between Sioux and Chippewa, Sac and Foxes and the Ioway.

²⁷ Treaty of July 10, 1791, with the Cherokee, Art. 4, 7 Stat. 80.

²⁸ Treaty of October 17, 1802, with the Chickasaw, Art. 3, 7 Stat. 78.

²⁹ See sec. 418, *infra*. Also see Treaty of December 20, 1835, with the Chickasaw, Art. 16, 7 Stat. 478, providing for removal in 2 years. Article 5 of the Treaty of January 10, 1834, with a band of the Winnebago, 7 Stat. 804, provides that the land may

* * * remove to Canada, or to the river Heron in Michigan, where they own a reservation of land, or to any place they may obtain a right or privilege from other Indians to go.

³⁰ See sec. 418, *infra*; and see Chapter 15, sec. 3.

³¹ Article 8 of the Treaty of May 24, 1850, with the Chickasaw, 7 Stat. 460, provides that

* * * the agent of the United States, upon the application of the chiefs of the nation, will resort to every legal civil remedy, (at the expense of the United States), to prevent incursions upon the ceded country; * * *

Article 7 of the Treaty of March 6, 1861, with the Sac and others, 12 Stat. 1171, provided that no nonmember of a tribe, except Government employees or persons connected with Government activities, shall go on the reservation, except with the permission of the agent or the Superintendent of Indian Affairs.

³² Treaty of January 21, 1785, with the Winnebago and others, Art. 5, 7 Stat. 10; Treaty of July 2, 1791, with the Cherokee Nation, Art. 8, 7 Stat. 80. Also see sec. 42 *infra*.

³³ See Chapter 16.

³⁴ Act of May 10, 1790, 1 Stat. 498; also see Act of March 8, 1790, sec. 2, 1 Stat. 748 and Act of March 30, 1803, sec. 2, 2 Stat. 139. See in 47, Chapter 1.

³⁵ Art. 7, 7 Stat. 85, 87. See also Treaty of July 2, 1791, with the Cherokee, Art. 9, 7 Stat. 89.

³⁶ See Chapter 4, sec. 6.

1. *Protection*—For example, article 2 of the Treaty of August 13, 1803, with the Kaskaskias¹¹⁷ provides that—

The United States will take the Kaskaskia tribe under their immediate care and patronage, and will afford them a protection as effectual against the other Indian tribes and against all other persons whatever as is enjoyed by their own citizens. And the said Kaskaskia tribe do hereby engage to remain from making war or giving any insult or offence to any other Indian tribe or to any foreign nation, without having first obtained the approbation and consent of the United States. (P. 78)

Similar provisions are contained in other treaties.¹¹⁸

In considering a similar provision, the Supreme Court said—

By this treaty [Treaty of Hopewell] the Cherokees were recognized as one people, composing one tribe or nation, but subject, however, to the jurisdiction and authority of the Government of the United States, which could regulate their trade and manage all their affairs. (P. 205)

Treaties with many of the other tribes left no doubt of the protectorate of the United States over them.¹¹⁹

In many respects this relationship is similar to that established in a great variety of cases between great powers and small, weak or backward states. Thus the limitations upon Indian law making and enforcement which appear in some treaties may be likened to the limitations imposed upon the jurisdiction of certain oriental states, such as China, over the nationals of western countries residing within their territories.¹²⁰

The practical inequality of the parties must be borne in mind in reading Indian treaties. It explains the presence of many clauses and the frequency with which similar or identical provisions appear in many Indian treaties during certain periods.¹²¹

2. *Exclusive trade relations*—The political dependence of the Indian tribes upon the Federal Government implied, and was implied by their economic dependence. This economic dependence found expression in agreements by the tribes not to sell land or personal property or otherwise have commercial dealings with other sovereignties than the Federal Government or with their

citizens or even with citizens of the United States not authorized by the Federal Government to engage in such transactions.

In some cases, these undertakings were explicit, as in Article 10 of the Treaty of November 10, 1808,¹²² whereby the Osages disclaimed all right to

cede, sell or in any manner transfer their lands to any foreign power, or to citizens of the United States or inhabitants of Louisiana, unless duly authorized by the President of the United States to make the said purchase or accept the said cession on behalf of the government.

In other cases, the exclusiveness of economic relations with the Federal Government was implied in agreements that the United States "shall have the sole and exclusive right of regulating the trade with the Indians."¹²³

Occasionally a tribe was given power to regulate trade and intercourse, so far as may be compatible with the constitution of the United States and the laws made in pursuance thereof regulating trade and intercourse with the Indians,¹²⁴ or was empowered to veto the granting of a trading house to trade within certain areas.¹²⁵

Some treaties provided for the appointment of an agent to trade with the Indians,¹²⁶ and established trading posts¹²⁷ or designated places for trade.¹²⁸ Occasionally Indians were prohibited from trading outside the limits of the United States,¹²⁹ or were required to apprehend fugitives or other unauthorized persons coming "into their district or country, for the purposes of trade or other views," and to deliver them to federal officials.¹³⁰

¹¹⁷ 7 Stat. 107, 109. Also see Treaty of January 9, 1789 with the Wampanoag and others, Art. 1, 7 Stat. 28; Treaty of September 21, 1842, with Sac and Foxes, Art. 5, 7 Stat. 474. Treaty of May 17, 1840, with the Comanche and others, Art. 2, 9 Stat. 513. Treaty of November 22, 1795, with the Chickasaws, Art. 6, 7 Stat. 18. Treaty of January 10, 1790, with the Chickasaws, Art. 8, 7 Stat. 24. Article 3 of the Treaty of June 9, 1825, with the Ponca Tribe, 7 Stat. 257, contains another type of trade clause.

* * * The said tribe also admit the right of the United States to regulate all trade and intercourse with them. Also see Treaty of January 4, 1786, with the Choctaw Nation, Arts. 8, 9, 7 Stat. 21.

Sometimes this power was gained in mutual consideration. Treaty of July 8, 1825, with the Cheyenne Tribe, Art. 1, 7 Stat. 205; Treaty of July 30, 1825, with the Delaware or Monacan Tribe, Art. 5, 7 Stat. 201.

The Treaty of December 30, 1849, Arts. 1 and 4, 9 Stat. 984, provided for the submission of the Utah Indians to the power and authority of the United States and extended to these Indians the trade and intercourse laws already applicable to other tribes. Also see Treaty of September 9, 1849, with the Navajos, Art. 3, 9 Stat. 974. Some of the treaties did contain such sweeping provisions, but merely provided that "the United States agree to admit and receive traders to hold intercourse with said tribe [the signatory tribe], under valid and equitable regulations." Treaty of June 9, 1825, with the Ponca Tribe, Art. 4, 7 Stat. 247. For similar provisions see Treaty of June 22, 1825, with the Teton, Teton, and Yankton bands of Sioux, Art. 4, 7 Stat. 260, and Treaty of July 5, 1825, with the Sisseton and Ogallala Tribes of Sioux, Art. 4, 7 Stat. 282.

¹²² Treaty of August 7, 1808, with the Cheeks and Seminoles, Arts. 15, 11 Stat. 609. But cf. 1 Op. A. G. 615 (1824).

¹²³ Treaty of July 19, 1856, with the Cheyennes, Art. 8, 14 Stat. 709. Also, Treaty of September 17, 1778, with the Delaware, Art. 5, 7 Stat. 18.

¹²⁴ Treaty of January 9, 1789, with the Wampanoag and others, Arts. 10, 11, and 14, 7 Stat. 28; Treaty of June 20, 1790, with the Creeks, Art. 7, 7 Stat. 69. See Chapter 10.

¹²⁵ Treaty of July 5, 1825, with the Sisseton and Ogallala Tribes, Art. 8, 7 Stat. 282; Treaty of July 0, 1825, with the Cheyenne Tribe, Art. 4, 7 Stat. 260; Treaty of January 9, 1789, with the Wampanoag and others, Art. 7, 7 Stat. 28; Treaty of August 3, 1796, with the Wampanoag and others, Art. 8, 7 Stat. 40.

¹²⁶ Treaty of December 28, 1856, with the Nisqually and others, Art. 12, 10 Stat. 1182.

¹²⁷ Treaty of September 28, 1825, with the Ottoo and Miaminoe Tribes, Art. 4, 7 Stat. 277; Treaty of September 30, 1825, with the Pawnee, Art. 4, 7 Stat. 279.

¹¹⁷ 7 Stat. 78.

¹¹⁸ The Treaty of August 7, 1790, with the Creek Nation, Art. 2, 7 Stat. 85, provides that

The undersigned Kings, Chiefs, and Warriors, for themselves and all parts of the Creek Nation within the limits of the United States, do acknowledge themselves, and the said parts of the Creek Nation, to be under the protection of the United States of America, and of no other, save such sovereignty; and they also stipulate that the said Creek Nation will not hold any treaty with an individual State, or with individuals of any State. * * *

The Treaty of November 17, 1807, with the Ottomaw, and others, Art. 7, 7 Stat. 103, provides that

The said nations of Indians acknowledge themselves to be under the protection of the United States, and no other power, and will prove by their conduct that they are worthy of so great a blessing. Compare the following excerpt from the first section of a law passed by the Georgia legislature on October 31, 1787, quoted in 2 Op. A. G. 110, 124 (1828)

* * * That from and immediately after the passing of this act, the Creek Indians shall be considered as out of the protection of this State, and it shall be lawful for the government and people of the same to prosecute and capture the said Indians, wherever they may be found within the limits of the State. * * * (Pp. 126-127)

¹¹⁹ *Becker Band of Ojibwe Indians v. United States*, 117 U. S. 288 (1885).

¹²⁰ For example, Treaty of December 30, 1849, with the Utah Indians, Arts. 1 and 4, 9 Stat. 984.

¹²¹ B. D. Dickinson, *The Legality of States in International Law* (1920), p. 224.

¹²² For example, Treaty of September 20, 1825, with the Ottoo and Miaminoe, 7 Stat. 277, and the Treaty of September 30, 1825, with the Pawnee, 7 Stat. 279; Treaty of October 28, 1807, with the Cheyenne-Arapaho Tribes, Art. 11, 16 Stat. 600; and Treaty of April 29, 1856, with the Sioux, Art. 11, 16 Stat. 985. Also see Chapter 8, sec. 11.

¹²³ Cf. Chapter 16.

3. *Representation in Congress*—Further light on the relations between the tribes and the Federal Government may be found in treaties which provided for the sending of Indian delegates to Congress.¹⁷⁸ This practice was explained in the report of the House Committee on Indian Affairs on the Trade and Intercourse Act of 1834.¹⁷⁹

The proposition for allowing Indians a delegate is not new for the first time brought forward.

It was first suggested in 1772, and in the first treaty ever formed by the United States with any Indian tribe. The treaty with the Delaware, of the 17th September, 1778, contains the following article, "And it is further agreed on, by the contracting parties, (should it, for the future, be found conducive for the interests of both parties,) to invite any other tribes who have been friends to the interests of the United States, to join the present confederation, and to form a State, whereof the Delaware nation shall be the head, and have a representative in Congress. *Provided*, Nothing contained in this article is to be considered as conclusive until it meets with the approbation of Congress."

In the treaty of Hopewell, of 1785, is the following article, "Article 12 That the Indians may have full confidence in the justice of the United States, respecting their interests, they shall have the right to send a deputy of their choice, whenever they think fit, to Congress."

In the treaty with the Chickasaws, of September, 1800, they requested the privilege of having a delegate in the House of Representatives, and the treaty states that "the commissioners do not feel that they can, under a treaty stipulation, accede to the request, but if their desire present it in the treaty, that Congress may consider of and decide the application."

The proposition is now presented to Congress, with the decided opinion of the committee that it ought to receive a favorable consideration. (1p 21-22)

This recommendation was never effectuated.

4. *Congressional power*—The extent to which Indian treaties conferred or conferred congressional power to legislate over Indian affairs is the subject of a separate inquiry.¹⁸⁰ For the present it is sufficient to note that federal statutes have been extended over Indian country by the mere force of a treaty,¹⁸¹ and that treaties sometimes provided for the creation of United States courts in the Indian country.¹⁸² Thus, for example, Article 2 of the Treaty of October 4, 1812,¹⁸³ with the Chippewa Indians provides in part

The Indians stipulate "1. That the laws of the United States be continued in force, in respect to their trade and intercourse with the whites, until otherwise ordered by Congress.

Article 7 of the Treaty of October 2, 1825,¹⁸⁴ with the Chippewa Indians reads:

"1. The laws of the United States, now in force, or that may hereafter be enacted, prohibiting the introduction and sale of spirituous liquors in the Indian country, shall be in full force and effect throughout the country hereby ceded, until otherwise directed by congress or the President of the United States.

The Treaty of February 27, 1855,¹⁸⁵ with the Winnebago Indians provided:

The laws, which have been or may be enacted by Congress, regulating trade and intercourse with the Indian tribes, shall continue and be in force within the country herein provided to be selected as the future permanent home of the Winnebago Indians, and those portions of

and laws which prohibit the introduction, manufacture, use of, and traffic in, spirituous liquors, in the Indian country, shall continue and be in force within the country hereby ceded to the United States, until otherwise provided by Congress.

5. *Administrative power*—The President was frequently granted considerable power by treaties. He was authorized to establish trading posts,¹⁸⁶ military posts or stations on Indian lands;¹⁸⁷ to designate places for trade;¹⁸⁸ to appoint agents;¹⁸⁹ to arbitrate claims of whites against Indians and Indians against whites,¹⁹⁰ to arbitrate territorial¹⁹¹ and other differences between tribes,¹⁹² to prescribe the time of the removal and settlement of Indians,¹⁹³ to determine whether grants of land to certain Indians shall be conveyed,¹⁹⁴ to dispose of certain reserved lands as he sees fit,¹⁹⁵ to give reservations to the headmen of a tribe,¹⁹⁶ or cattle,¹⁹⁷ or agricultural aid,¹⁹⁸ to extend to an Indian tribe "from time to time, such benefits and acts of kindness as may be convenient, and seem just and proper" to him,¹⁹⁹ to decrease the amount of annuities in proportion to any annual decrease of the Ponces, and stop the payment of annuities in the event that satisfactory efforts to advance and improve their condition were not made,²⁰⁰ to approve attorneys chosen by the chiefs and headmen,²⁰¹ to invest tribal money in stocks;²⁰² to make payments to the relations and friends of Indians,²⁰³ and to receive complaints of injuries done by individuals to the Indians and use such prudent means "as shall be necessary to preserve the said peace and friendship" with an Indian tribe.²⁰⁴

Article 7 of the Treaty of September 30, 1850,²⁰⁵ with the Delawares and others provided in part

"1. when any theft or other depredation shall be committed by any individual or individuals of one of the tribes above mentioned, upon the property of any individual or individuals of another tribe, the chiefs of the party injured shall make application to the agent of the

¹⁷⁸Treaty of June 20, 1796, with the Creek Nation, Art. 3(a), 7 Stat. 28.

¹⁷⁹Treaty of June 16, 1802, with the Creek Nation, Art. 3, 7 Stat. 68. Other federal officials like the Secretary of the Interior and the Commissioner of Indian Affairs were also granted power by treaty.

¹⁸⁰Treaty of July 6, 1805, with the Seneca and Oneida Tribes, Art. 4, 7 Stat. 252; Treaty of July 6, 1805, with the Cayenne Tribes, Art. 4, 7 Stat. 255.

¹⁸¹Treaty of October 20, 1825, with the Chickasaw Nation, Art. 9, 7 Stat. 351.

¹⁸²Treaty of January 8, 1821, with the Creek Nation, 7 Stat. 217.

¹⁸³Treaty of August 13, 1812, with the Chippewa and others, Art. 2, 7 Stat. 203.

¹⁸⁴Treaty of September 21, 1825, with the Otoes and Missourians, Art. 8, 7 Stat. 429.

¹⁸⁵Treaty of February 8, 1855, with the Menomonees, Art. 1, 7 Stat. 842.

¹⁸⁶Treaty of September 17, 1818, with the Wyandots and others, Art. 3, 7 Stat. 178; Treaty of October 2, 1818, with the Potawatamie Nation, Art. 4, 7 Stat. 185.

¹⁸⁷Treaty of June 2, 1825, with the Ojibwa, Art. 10, 7 Stat. 240.

¹⁸⁸Treaty of October 1, 1823, with the Western Band of Shawonees, Art. 6, 18 Stat. 680.

¹⁸⁹Id., Art. 7.

¹⁹⁰Treaty of September 24, 1818, with the Chippewa Nation, Art. 8, 7 Stat. 204.

¹⁹¹Treaty of June 6, 1825, with the Cayenne Tribes, Art. 2, 7 Stat. 255.

¹⁹²Treaty of March 12, 1858, with the Ponces, Art. 2, 12 Stat. 907; also see Treaty of February 18, 1851, with the Arapahoe and Cheyenne Indians, Art. 4, 12 Stat. 1103.

¹⁹³Treaty of November 6, 1857, with the Tonawanda Band of Senecas, Art. 5, 12 Stat. 951.

¹⁹⁴Id., Art. 6. Also see Treaty of October 1, 1820, with the Sac and Foxes of the Mississippi, Art. 11, 15 Stat. 467, giving the Secretary power over tribal money.

¹⁹⁵Treaty of November 1, 1887, with the Winnebago Nation, Art. 4, 7 Stat. 544, interpreted in 8 Op. A. G. 471 (1890).

¹⁹⁶Treaty of August 8, 1786, with the Wyandots and others, Art. 9, 7 Stat. 49.

¹⁹⁷7 Stat. 118.

¹⁷⁸See sec. 415, infra.

¹⁷⁹11 Sept. No. 474, Comm on Ind. Aff., 28 Cong., 1st sess., May 20, 1884.

¹⁸⁰See Chapter 5, sec. 2.

¹⁸¹See *paria Oreo Jao*, 100 U. S. 506, 507 (1888).

¹⁸²Treaty of July 10, 1860, with the Cherokees, Art. 7, 14 Stat. 790.

¹⁸³7 Stat. 591.

¹⁸⁴18 Stat. 607. See Chapter 17, sec. 1, fn. 14.

¹⁸⁵Art. 8, 10 Stat. 1172.

United States, who is charged with the delivery of the annuities of the tribe to which the offending party belongs, whose duty it shall be to hear the proofs and allegations on either side, and determine between them, and the amount of his award shall be immediately deducted from the annuity of the tribe to which the offending party belongs, and given to the person injured, or to the chief of his village for his use.

Treaties provided for the withholding, for a year or for such time as an administrator should determine, of annuities of an Indian drinking intoxicating liquors or providing others with liquor in violation of treaty provisions.³⁶⁰ Administrative determinations were also authorized for reducing annuities in cases of depredations³⁶¹ and horse stealing.³⁶²

6 *Termination of treaty-making*.—The last stage of dependence is reached when a treaty-making power abandons the right to make further treaties. Such a provision is found in the Treaty of February 18, 1861,³⁶³ with the Assiniboin and Cheyenne Indians.

* And, in order to render unnecessary any further treaty engagements or arrangements hereafter with the United States, it is hereby agreed and stipulated that the President, with the assent of Congress, shall have full power to modify or change any of the provisions of former treaties with the Assiniboin and Cheyennes of the Upper Arkansas, in such manner and to whatever extent he may judge to be necessary and expedient for their best interests.

A similar result is achieved by treaties in which a tribe makes provision for the termination of its tribal existence.³⁶⁴

³⁶⁰ Treaty of March 12, 1858, with the Ponies, 12 Stat. 907, Treaty of June 19, 1868, with the Sioux, Art. 7, 13 Stat. 1037. The use of congressional power in conjunction with the treaty-making power to impose prohibitions against the liquor traffic by treaties with the Indians is discussed in Chapter 17, sec. 2. Treaty provisions regarding the enforcement of liquor prohibition laws were common.

Article 12 of the Treaty of October 18, 1820, with the Choctaw Nation, 7 Stat. 210, provided

In order to promote industry and sobriety amongst all classes of the Red people, in this nation, hereinafter the poor, it is further provided by the parties, that the agent appointed to reside here shall be, and he is hereby vested with full power to seize and confiscate all the whiskey which may be introduced into said nation, except that used at public stands, or brought in by the agent of the agent, or the principal Chiefs of the three Districts.

The Indians were sometimes required in and in the enforcement of these laws. These provisions were sometimes made whereby the Indians promised to tell the agent of violations of liquor prohibitions (Treaty of May 13, 1849, with the Comanche and other tribes, Art. 12, 9 Stat. 844.)

In some of the treaties the Indians promised "to use their best efforts to prevent the introduction and use of adult spirits in their country" (Treaty of May 18, 1854, with the Sac and Foxes, Art. 10, 10 Stat. 1074.) The Treaty of February 11, 1856, with the Menomonee Tribe, Art. 1(2), 11 Stat. 979, provided "That the Menomonee will suppress the use of adult spirits among their people, and resist, by all prudent means, its introduction in their settlements."

The Treaty of February 22, 1855, with the Chippewas, Art. 9, 10 Stat. 1106 provides

* * * that they will abstain from the use of intoxicating drinks and other vices which they have been addicted

³⁶¹ Treaty of September 30, 1850, with the Delawares and others, Art. 7, 7 Stat. 113.

³⁶² Treaty of June 20, 1794, with the Choctaw Nation, Art. 4, 7 Stat. 43. Article 7 of the Treaty of January 22, 1855, with the Williamette Indians, 10 Stat. 1143, provided that

* * * any one of them who shall drink liquor, or procure it for other Indians to drink may have his or her proportion of the annuities withheld from him or her so long time as the President may determine

Also see Treaty of December 26, 1864, with the Nisquallys, Art. 9, 10 Stat. 1132.

³⁶³ Art. 7, 12 Stat. 1163.

³⁶⁴ See Chapter 14, sec. 1-2.

C COMMERCIAL RELATIONS

Commercial dealings generally formed the substance of those treaties which were not specifically treaties of peace.

1 *Cessions of land*.—That which the Indians had which the United States most desired was, until very recently, land. The process of treaty-making was in the first method of acquiring lands for, as well as from, the Indians.³⁶⁵ The United States and the Indians sometimes exchanged land,³⁶⁶ and land was sometimes ceded to the states.³⁶⁷

The right to pass through the Indian territory in certain places was sometimes reserved by the United States,³⁶⁸ as were rights in land roads and establish inns and ferries,³⁶⁹ or to permit telegraph lines or railroads³⁷⁰ or a named railroad to have a right-of-way (provided just compensation is paid),³⁷¹ and options to purchase rights-of-way.³⁷²

Considerable power was often given to the Federal Government in provisions relating to land. The Treaty of August 5, 1820,³⁷³ granted to the United States the right to search for minerals. Many treaties empowered the United States to allot land to Indians,³⁷⁴ which, in a few cases was made "except from tax-

³⁶⁵ See Chapter 13, sec. 8, Westwood, *Legal Aspects of Land Acquisition*, p. 2. Indians and the Land Commission, by the Delegation of the United States, First Inter-American Conference on Indian Lands, Pinar del Rio, Mexico, published by Office of Indian Affairs, April 1940.

³⁶⁶ For an example of cession by the United States to Indians see Treaty of September 17, 1852, with the Winnebagoes, Art. 4, 7 Stat. 370. For an example of a reservation for a tribe of land from a cession see Treaty of September 21, 1812, with the Sac and Fox, Art. 2, 7 Stat. 474. Land was reserved to the Indians reserving the right to leave all lands. The sale was not to be sold at a higher price than \$7 per hundred of 50 pounds weight, otherwise the lease would be forfeited. Treaty of October 10, 1816, with the Chickasaws, Art. 4, 7 Stat. 192. It is well settled that good title to lands of an Indian tribe may be granted to Indians by a treaty between the United States and the tribe, without an act of Congress or any patent from the executive authority of the United States. That land can be disposed of by treaty. 9 Op. At. 24 (1867).

³⁶⁷ Examples of treaty provisions on land cessions to the Indians to the United States will be found in the Treaty of August 27, 1801, with the Piankeshaws, Art. 1, 7 Stat. 88. Treaty of September 30, 1850, with the Delawares and others, Art. 1, 7 Stat. 113. Treaty of July 8, 1817, with the Choctaws, Art. 10, 7 Stat. 150.

³⁶⁸ Treaty of June 10, 1812, with the Senecas, 7 Stat. 70, Treaty of July 8, 1817, with the Choctaws, Art. 1 and 2, 7 Stat. 150. Treaty of February 12, 1823, with the Creek Nation, Art. 7, 7 Stat. 247.

³⁶⁹ Treaty of May 31, 1796, with the Seven Nations of Canada, 7 Stat. 55.

³⁷⁰ Treaty of August 4, 1795, with the Wyandots and others, Art. 8, 7 Stat. 49. On provisions regarding free navigation for all through navigable streams, see Treaty of July 8, 1817, with the Choctaws, Art. 9, 7 Stat. 150.

³⁷¹ Treaty of September 20, 1817, with the Wyandots and others, Art. 11, 7 Stat. 100. Also see Treaty of November 21, 1794, with the Six Nations, Art. 8, 7 Stat. 44. Treaty of August 10, 1825, with the Kansas, Arts. 1, 2, and 4, 7 Stat. 270. Art. 7 provided for compensation for this privilege. Treaty of August 7, 1793, with the Creeks and Miamies, Art. 19, 11 Stat. 990.

³⁷² Treaty of July 4, 1806, with the Delawares, Art. 18, 14 Stat. 798. Also see Treaty of June 22, 1853, with the Choctaws and Chickasaws, Art. 18, 11 Stat. 611.

³⁷³ Treaty of January 22, 1855, with the Williamettes, Art. 8, 10 Stat. 1141.

³⁷⁴ Treaty of November 15, 1851, with the Potawatamies, Art. 4, 12 Stat. 1101. Also see Treaty of May 30, 1860, with the Delawares, Art. 3, 12 Stat. 1159.

³⁷⁵ With the Chippewas, Art. 4, 7 Stat. 990.

³⁷⁶ Treaty of July 8, 1817, with the Choctaws, Art. 8, 7 Stat. 155. Treaty of February 27, 1855, with the Winnebagoes, Art. 4, 10 Stat. 1172. Treaty of January 31, 1856, with the Wyandots, Arts. 3 and 4, 10 Stat. 1180, construed in *Ellis v. Hurlock*, 12 Fed. Cas. No. 6,458 (C. C. Kan. 1875). Sometimes a distinction was made between full-bloods and half-bloods. Treaty of June 8, 1825, with the Kansas Nation, Art. 6, 7 Stat. 244. Treaty stipulations apply to half-bloods as well as full-bloods, unless otherwise specially provided. 20 Op. A. G. 742 (1894).

(iron, lead, salt, or furs), until otherwise provided by Congress.¹¹⁷ There were also many other species of restrictive clauses such as the promise that land "shall be exempt from levy, sale, or forfeiture, until otherwise provided by State legislation, with the assent of Congress," or the granting to the Indians the use of a number of tracts of land which "shall not be liable to taxes of any kind so long as such land continues the property of the said Indians."¹¹⁸

The extent to which Indian treaties revolved about land cession will form a principal thread of inquiry in section 4 of this chapter.

2 *Reserved rights in ceded lands*—In way of softening the shock of land cession the Indian tribes were often guaranteed special rights in ceded lands, such as the exclusive right of fishing in streams bordering on the reservation,¹¹⁹ or "the right of hunting on the ceded territory, with the other usual privileges of occupancy, until required to remove by the President of the United States,"¹²⁰ or to hunt on lands ceded to the United States or "perfect right of fishing" at will,¹²¹ "without hindrance or molestation, so long as they deem themselves peaceful, and offer no injury to the people of the United States,"¹²² or to hunt and make sugar on ceded land.¹²³

The nature of these rights forms a part of a later discussion of tribal property.¹²⁴

3 *Payments and services to tribes*—In payment for lands ceded, and occasionally by way of compensation for other benefits or indemnification for injuries done to Indians, the Federal Government assumed extensive financial obligations to the Indian tribes. These obligations might be discharged either by lump sum or annuity payments of money or by payment in services and commodities. This is the source and only of the intricate legal problems in which tribal funds,¹²⁵ per capita payments,¹²⁶ and individual Indian moneys¹²⁷ are involved, but also of the federal services which today constitute the chief function of the Indian Service.¹²⁸

¹¹⁷ Treaty of October 5, 1820, with the Kansas Indians, VII 3, 12 Stat 1111. See Chapter 15, see 4A.

¹¹⁸ Treaty of January 31, 1850, with the Winnebago, Art. 8, 10 Stat 1169.

¹¹⁹ Treaty of September 20, 1817, with the Wyandots and others, Art. 15, 7 Stat 180.

¹²⁰ Treaty of June 11, 1836, with the Pawnee, Art. 3, 12 Stat 937.

¹²¹ Treaty of October 1, 1842, with the Chippewas, Art. 2, 7 Stat 591.

¹²² Treaty of June 16, 1820, with the Chippewas, Art. 2, 7 Stat 206. Also see Treaty of June 6, 1837, with the Walla-Walla, Chinook, and Umatilla Tribes, 19 Stat 515, discussed in Mease III 2, D, June 16, 1837. Also see Chapter 15, see 21.

¹²³ Only, of August 3, 1795, with the Winnebago and others, Art. 7, 7 Stat 40, also see Art. 5.

¹²⁴ Treaty of September 20, 1817, with the Wyandots and others, Art. 11, 7 Stat 180. Treaty of September 24, 1819, with Chippewas Nation, Art. 6, 7 Stat 203.

¹²⁵ See Chapter 15, see 22. See also Chapter 14, see 7.

¹²⁶ See Chapter 15, see 22, 23, 24. Chapter 9, see 6.

¹²⁷ Ibid. And see Chapter 10, see 4, 5.

¹²⁸ Ibid.

¹²⁹ See Chapter 12. The unpublished Treaty of April 25, 1792, with the Five Nations (Archives No. 10) provided

"THAT THE UNITED STATES, in order to promote the happiness of the five nations of Indians, will cause to be expended annually the amount of one thousand five hundred dollars, in purchasing for them clothing, domestic animals and implements of husbandry, and for erecting and repairing dwellings to reside in their villages."

The Treaty of September 27, 1830, with the Choctaw Nation, 7 Stat. 833, provided

"... The U. S. agree also to erect a Common House for the Nation at some convenient central point, after three people shall be settled; and a House for each Chief, also a Church for each of the three Districts, to be used also as school houses, until the Nation may continue to build others; and for three hundred thousand dollars shall be appropriated; also five thousand dollars (five) twenty-five hundred dollars shall be given to the support of three teachers of schools, to twenty visits. Likewise there shall be furnished to the Nation three blacksmiths one for each district for sixteen years, and a qualified Mill Wright for five

frequently services of various kinds were provided for in treaties. Among the articles commonly specified in treaties were those which represented the differences between the white and the Indian civilizations—cattle, hogs, iron, steel, wagons, plows, and other farming tools.¹²⁹ The purpose of civilizing the Indians is apparent in the choice of goods and services which the tribe will receive.¹³⁰ Such services included the providing of "one grist-mill and one saw-mill," "one blacksmith and one gunsmith," "and such implements of agriculture as the proper agent may think necessary," and "one hundred and sixty bushels of salt" annually,¹³¹ "farming utensils, cattle, black-

years. Also there shall be introduced the following articles, twenty-one hundred bushels, to each nation, who conspires a rifle, muskets, weapons and ammunition, One thousand axes, ploughs, hoes, shovels and rods, saws, and ten hundred looms. There shall also be introduced, one set of iron and two hundred weight of steel annually to each Indian in sixteen years. (Art. 20)

Article 4 of the Treaty of February 8, 1831, with the Menominee Nation, 7 Stat. 812, provides:

"The above reservation being made to the Menominee Indians for the purpose of retaining them from that wandering habit, by attaching them to the soil, and to the United States of the United States, as a mark of affection in its children of the Menominee tribe, will cause to be employed five carpenters of established character for capacity, industry, and moral habits, for ten successive years, whose duty it shall be to assist the Menominee Indians in the cultivation of their lands, and to instruct their children in the business and occupation of farming. Also, free females shall be employed, of like good character, for the purpose of teaching women Menominee women, in the art of useful housewifery, during a period of ten years.—The annual compensation allowed to the instructors, for which three thousand dollars, and that of the females three hundred dollars, and the United States will cause to be received, houses suited to their condition, on said lands, meat, or the Indians make to occupy them (for which ten thousand dollars shall be appropriated), also, houses for the farmers, for which three thousand dollars shall be appropriated, to be expended under the direction of the Secretary of War. Whenever the Menominee tribe settle on their lands, they shall be supplied with useful household articles, horses, cows, hogs, and sheep, farming utensils, and other articles of husbandry necessary to them, to the value of six thousand dollars, and they desire that some suitable device may be contrived, by which the Indians may be enabled to sell or dispose of their goods, and to dispose of them from sale or barter, to evil disposed white persons, none of which, nor any other articles with which the United States may at any time furnish them, shall be liable to sale, or be disposed of or bartered, without permission of the agent. The whole to be under the immediate care of the farmers employed to remain among said Indians, but subject in the general control of the United States Indian Agent at Green Bay acting under the Secretary of War. The United States will erect a grist and saw mill on Fox river, for the benefit of the Menominee Indians, and employ a good miller, subject to the direction of the agent, whose business it shall be to grind the mills, required for the use of the Menominee Indians, and saw the timber required for building on their lands, as also to in strict and regular manner the Menominee Nation, as desired to, and conveniently may be instructed by the Secretary of War. The expenses of erecting such mills, and a house for the miller to reside in, shall not exceed six hundred dollars, and the compensation of the miller shall be six hundred dollars, to continue for ten years. And if the mills so erected by the United States, should ever saw some lumber of great more value than is required for the proper use of said Menominee Indians, the proceeds of such lumber shall be applied, shall be applied to the expenses occurring in the Green Bay agency, under the direction of the Secretary of War."

Article 12 of the Treaty of April 20, at St. Louis, 1868, with the Sioux Nation, 15 Stat. 635, provides: "That"

"The United States hereby agree to furnish annually to the Indian the physician, teacher, carpenter, miller, cooper, farmer, and blacksmith, as well as the necessary tools and appropriations shall be made from time to time on the estimates of the Secretary of the Interior, as will be sufficient to employ such persons. (P. 635)

See also Chapter 15, see 28A, in 008.

¹³⁰ Art. 4 of Treaty of October 23, 1820, 7 Stat. 300, 311 (Miami).

See also Art. of May 1, 1848, Art. 3, 27 Stat. 113, 111 (Menominee was of some due to Indians of the Blackfoot, Fort York, and Fort Belknap Reservations).

¹³¹ Of Act of April 30, 1838, see 17, 27 Stat. 34, 300 (Sioux). The Southern Utes were entitled to receive quantities in the form of sheep. Art. of February 20, 1835, see 5, 28 Stat. 877, 878.

¹³² Treaty of September 24, 1819, with the Pawnee, Art. 4, 11 Stat. 720.

¹³³ Treaty of October 6, 1818, with the Miami Nation, Art. 5, 7 Stat. 180.

¹³⁴ Of Treaty of June 20, 1791, with the Creeks, Art. 8, 7 Stat. 81.

¹³⁵ Treaty of June 7, 1833, with the Delawares and others, Art. 3, 7 Stat. 74.

¹³⁶ Treaty of November 14, 1868, with the Creeks, Art. 4, 7 Stat. 86.

¹³⁷ Treaty of September 18, 1833, with the Flatheads, Art. 6, 7 Stat. 224.

¹³⁸ Treaty of February 12, 1825, with the Creeks, Art. 7, 7 Stat. 257.

smith and such agricultural assistants as the President may deem expedient,¹⁷ two boats,¹⁸ horses, pelicans and provisions,¹⁹ rifles, gun ammunition, etc., in compensation for houses left by Indians who had retired,²⁰ to each nation removing, "a blanket, kettle, rifle and, belted moccasins and moccasins, and ammunition sufficient for hunting and defence, for one year," plus corn,²¹ 200 cattle, 200 hogs, plus 2,000 pounds of non-ferrous metals and 1,000 pounds of tobacco annually, and the assistance of laborers,²² the payment of annuities in the form of money, merchandise, provisions, or domestic animals, at the option of the Indians,²³ the building of houses, for chiefs,²⁴ mills, and mills for a period of 3 years,²⁵ annuities and money for the repair of mill and woodhouse,²⁶ the building of a church and an allowance for a Catholic priest.²⁷

The United States agreed in treaties with most of the tribes to pay annuities in various forms for education, blacksmiths, farmers, laborers, millwrights, iron, coal, steel, salt, agricultural implements, tobacco, and transportation.²⁸

Many treaties contained clauses providing for additional annuities,²⁹ or for the commutation of annuities,³⁰ or for presents and annuities,³¹ and good "clothing,"³² and clothing.³³

By treaties, the United States also agreed to make payments to enable the raising of a tribal crop of high horses,³⁴ to pay a state for a balance due by a tribe,³⁵ to provide money for poor Indians,³⁶ to pay demands for slaves and other property alleged

to have been stolen by the Indians,³⁷ to pay debts or other obligations owed by the nation,³⁸ to pay the Indians for land ceded to a state,³⁹ for expenses incurred by the sachem and headmen in attending to tribal business for 5 years,⁴⁰ to indemnify the individuals of the Cherokee nation for losses sustained by them in consequence of the march of the militia and other troops in the service of the United States through that nation,⁴¹ etc., etc.

D JURISDICTION

1. *Criminal jurisdiction*.—Many treaties deal with the difficult political problems created by offenses of Indians against whites or whites against Indians.

Some of the earliest treaties adopt the rule usual in treaties between equals. Whites committing offenses within the Indian country against Indian laws are subjected to punishment by the Indian tribe, just as Indians committing offenses against state or federal laws outside the Indian country are subjected to punishment by state or federal courts.⁴²

A number of treaties adopt a modified rule, similar to that found in treaties between the United States and various Oriental nations,⁴³ whereby the United States is granted jurisdiction over its citizens in the Indian country, to punish them for offenses they may commit, and the Indian tribe undertakes to deliver such offenders to agents of the Federal Government.⁴⁴

Finally, a number of treaties commit upon the Federal Government authority to punish Indians who commit offenses against non-Indians even within the Indian country.⁴⁵

Not until some time after the end of the treaty-making period did the Federal Government make the ultimate step of asserting jurisdiction over offenses committed by Indians against Indians within the Indian country.⁴⁶

2. *Civil jurisdiction*.—Most treaties contain no express provisions on civil jurisdiction and therefore, by implication, confirm the rule that tribal law governs the members of the tribe within the Indian country, to the exclusion of state law.⁴⁷

A few treaties, however, make explicit and emphatic the assurance that state laws will not be applied to the Indians. These clauses are usually found in treaties with tribes that have had real experience with state jurisdiction, and the intensity of Indian feeling on the subject is sometimes reflected in the language of the treaty. Thus the purpose of the Treaty of May 6, 1828, with the Cherokee Nation⁴⁸ is stated to be the securing to the Cherokees migrating westward of

... a permanent home, and which shall, under the most solemn guarantee of the United States, be, and remain, theirs forever—a home that shall never, in all future time, be embarrassed by having extended around it the

¹⁷ Treaty of September 21, 1819, with the Chickasaw, Art. 5, 7 Stat. 203.

¹⁸ Treaty of July 10, 1819, with the Kickapoo, Art. 8, 7 Stat. 200.

¹⁹ Treaty of October 1, 1818, with the Delaware, Art. 4, 7 Stat. 185.

²⁰ Treaty of July 5, 1817, with the Cherokee, Art. 6, 7 Stat. 196.

²¹ Treaty of October 15, 1820, with the Choctaw, Art. 5, 7 Stat. 210.

²² Treaty of October 21, 1826, with the Miami, Art. 1, 7 Stat. 300.

²³ Treaty of June 2, 1825, with the Osage, Art. 4, 7 Stat. 240.

²⁴ Treaty of June 2, 1825, with the Osage, Art. 1, 7 Stat. 240. Also

²⁵ Treaty of November 18, 1828, with the Osage, Art. 1, 7 Stat. 307.

²⁶ Treaty of December 2, 1794, with the Cherokee and others, Arts. 2 and 3, 7 Stat. 17. Cf. Treaty of January 7, 1806, with the Cherokee, Art. 2, 7 Stat. 101.

²⁷ Treaty of June 7, 1874, with the Miami, Art. 11, 10 Stat. 1094.

²⁸ Treaty of August 11, 1807, with the Kickapoo, Art. 3, 7 Stat. 78.

²⁹ Dept. of Commerce, No. 474, 2d ed. 1st sess., May 20, 1824, vol. IV (pp. 63-66), lists these as the most important, but contains references to other types. For examples see Treaty of November 17, 1807, with the Osage and others, Art. 2, 7 Stat. 105; Treaty of August 5, 1826, with the Chickasaw, Art. 6, 7 Stat. 210; Treaty of June 9, 1805, with the Walla-Walla and others, Art. 4, 12 Stat. 915; Treaty of April 10, 1835, with the Yankton Sioux, Art. 4, 11 Stat. 712. Hence treaties prohibited the use of annuities for the payment of debts of individuals. Treaty of November 18, 1828, with the Cherokee and others, Art. 7, 7 Stat. 1122; Treaty of November 29, 1824, with the Timpugan and others, Art. 7, 10 Stat. 1125.

³⁰ The Treaty of December 30, 1807, with the Pinkshears, Art. 3, 7 Stat. 100, provided for annuities and added that "the United States, may, at any time they shall think proper, divide the said annuity amongst the individuals of the said tribe." Also see Treaty of August 11, 1807, with the Kickapoo, Art. 3, 7 Stat. 78.

³¹ Treaty of November 17, 1807, with the Ottawa and others, Art. 3, 7 Stat. 107.

³² Treaty of November 11, 1794, with the Six Nations, Art. 6, 7 Stat. 44. Also see Treaty of March 24, 1832, with the Creek, Art. 13, 7 Stat. 308.

³³ Treaty of January 21, 1788, with the Wampanoag and others, Art. 10, 7 Stat. 10. Treaty of June 26, 1791, with the Cherokee, Art. 3, 7 Stat. 13. Treaty of December 29, 1837, with the Cherokee, Art. 18, 7 Stat. 378.

³⁴ Treaty of December 21, 1826, with the Miami, Art. 4, 12 Stat. 981.

³⁵ Treaty of May 7, 1808, with the Crow, Art. 6, 15 Stat. 640. Also see Treaty of May 10, 1808, with the Cheyenne and others, Art. 6, 15 Stat. 637. For some other types of provisions relating to annuities see

Treaty of July 1, 1835, with the Caddo Nation and the State of Louisiana, Art. 4, 7 Stat. 470; Treaty of November 23, 1838, with the Creek, Art. 6, 7 Stat. 574.

³⁶ Treaty of October 18, 1820, with the Choctaw, Art. 12, 7 Stat. 210.

³⁷ Treaty of January 8, 1821, with the Creek, Art. 4, 7 Stat. 315.

³⁸ Treaty of October 22, 1826, with the Miami, Art. 6, 7 Stat. 300.

⁴² Treaty of May 6, 1822, with the Hemenet, Art. 6, 7 Stat. 309.

⁴³ Treaty of November 10, 1608, with the Osage, Art. 4, 7 Stat. 107.

⁴⁴ Treaty of March 22, 1816, with the Cherokee, Art. 2, 7 Stat. 188.

⁴⁵ Treaty of November 24, 1816, with the Stockbridge Indians, Art. 18, 0 Stat. 973.

⁴⁶ Treaty of March 22, 1816, with the Cherokee, Art. 5, 7 Stat. 189.

⁴⁷ See Chapter 1, sec. 3, fn. 48.

⁴⁸ See *cf.* Art. 21 of Treaty of July 4, 1844, with China, 8 Stat. 302, 500.

⁴⁹ See *cf.* Art. 6 of Treaty of August 21, 1818, with the Quapaw Tribe, 7 Stat. 176, 177. Cf. Treaty of May 15, 1810, with the Comanche and others, Art. 12, 0 Stat. 844, providing that any person introducing intoxicating liquors among these Indians "shall be punished according to the laws of the United States."

⁵⁰ See *cf.* Art. 8 of Treaty of January 21, 1788, with the Wampanoag and others, 7 Stat. 16, 17; Art. 6 of Treaty of November 28, 1785, with the Cherokee, 7 Stat. 18.

⁵¹ See Chapter 7, sec. 9, Chapter 18.

⁵² See Chapter 7, sec. 1, 2.

⁵³ 7 Stat. 311. *See also* Art. 5 of Treaty of New Britain, December 20,

1835, with the Cherokee Tribe, 7 Stat. 478.

lines, or placed over it the jurisdiction of a Territory or State, may be pressed upon by the extension in any way, of any of the limits of any existing Territory or State.

Various other treaties contained similar pledges.²²⁰ Some treaties contained specific guarantees against taxation.²²¹

E. CONTROL OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS

From 1776 to 1849 we find no treaty provision which limits the powers of self-government of any tribe with respect to the internal affairs of the tribe. All limitations upon tribal power, during this period, are in some way related to interference with non-Indians. Even the Spanish treaty provisions recognizing allotment of tribal land either last, as part of the treaty itself, the individuals, or define the class of individuals who are to receive allotments,²²² or provide for the issuance of patents by the authorities of the tribe.²²³

In the wake of the War with Mexico, several treaties were imposed upon tribes of the newly acquired territory in which the long-established distinction between internal and external affairs of the tribes was abandoned and the internal affairs of the tribes were declared subject to federal control.

The language contained in the Treaty of September 8, 1849, with the Navajo,²²⁴ wherein the tribe agreed that the United States "shall, at its earliest convenience, designate, settle, and adjust their territorial boundaries, and pass and execute in their territory such laws as may be deemed conducive to the prosperity and happiness of said Indians"²²⁵ is symptomatic rather than legally important. It symbolizes a tendency to disregard the national character of the Indian tribes, a tendency that was, perhaps stimulated by the loose organization and backward culture of the Southwestern nomadic tribes.

²²⁰ See, e. g., Art. 14 of the Treaty of March 24, 1852, with the Creek Tribe, 7 Stat. 893, 894; Art. 11 of the Treaty of July 20, 1851, with the Wyandots, Senecas, and Shawnees, 7 Stat. 861, 853.

²²¹ For example, Treaty of September 20, 1817, with the Wyandots and others, Art. 15, 7 Stat. 100, 106.

²²² Treaty of August 9, 1811, with Creek Nation, 7 Stat. 120; Treaty of September 20, 1817, with the Wyandot, Seneca, Delaware, and other tribes, 7 Stat. 100.

²²³ Treaty of November 6, 1818, with the Miami Tribe, 7 Stat. 500. And of Art. of March 8, 1836, 6 Stat. 810 (Brothertown), providing for allotment by chiefs of title, who were to observe "the existing laws, customs, usages, or agreements of said tribe." Accord Art. of March 3, 1817, 6 Stat. 945 (Sticksbridge).

²²⁴ 9 Stat. 974.

²²⁵ Ibid., Art. 9. Accord Art. 7 of Treaty of December 30, 1849, with the Utah Indians, 9 Stat. 984.

A year later, in 1850, began a series of treaties by which various tribes undertook to abandon their tribal existence.²²⁶

In 1851, a new breadth of authority was conferred upon the executive branch of the Federal Government by such clauses as the following:

And, regulations to protect the rights of persons and property among the Indians, parties of this Treaty, and adapted to their condition and wants, may be prescribed and enforced in such manner as the President or the Congress of the United States, from time to time, shall direct.

This provision, taken from the Treaty of July 23, 1851, with the See-so-loon (Sisseton) and Way-pai-toon (Wahpeton) Sioux,²²⁷ was copied bodily in several later treaties.²²⁸

The most important branch in the scope of tribal self-government made by treaty was made in 1854 and thereafter, by those treaties which conferred upon the President power to allot tribal lands to individual Indians.²²⁹

Along with this encroachment upon the powers of the tribes to apportion rights in tribal land among the members of the tribe, there came other extensions of federal authority over the handling and distribution of tribal funds and other incidental matters.²³⁰

The Civil War brought new occasions for the use of federal power in tribal affairs as a result of conflicts between different factions of a tribe. The Treaty of June 14, 1863, provided for "a general amnesty of all past offences against the laws of the United States, committed by any member of the Creek Nation"²³¹ and "an amnesty for all past offences against their government."²³²

Thus during the last decade or so of the treaty-making period, the basis upon which treaties had been made was gradually undermined by successive specific encroachments upon the autonomy of various tribes.

²²⁶ Treaty of April 1, 1850, with the Wyandot Indians, 9 Stat. 987. And see Chapter 14, sec. 2.

²²⁷ 10 Stat. 949, 950.

²²⁸ See, e. g., Treaty of August 5, 1851, with the Maday-wa-kan-toon, etc., Sioux, 10 Stat. 954.

²²⁹ See Treaty of March 13, 1854, with the Ottoo and Mib-souria Indians, 10 Stat. 1038, and Treaty of March 16, 1854, with the Onasas Tribe, 10 Stat. 1043, discussed in sec. 40, infra.

²³⁰ See sec. 31 (5), supra.

²³¹ Art. 1, 14 Stat. 785.

²³² Also see Chapter 8, sec. 11. Also see the pre-Civil War Treaty of August 6, 1840, with the Cherokee Nation, "Treaty Privy" and "Old Settlers," Art. 2, 9 Stat. 871, whereby the Cherokee Nation declared a general amnesty for all past offences after a period of civil strife, and agreed to a bill of rights.

SECTION 4. A HISTORY OF INDIAN TREATIES

A. PRE-REVOLUTIONARY PRECEDENTS: 1522-1776

First mention of the necessity of a civilized nation treating with the Indian tribes to secure Indian consent to cessions of land or changes of political status²³³ was made in 1582 by Francisco de Victoria,²³⁴ who had been invited by the Emperor of Spain to advise on the rights of Spain in the New World.

After considering in detail the argument that barbarians could not own land by reason of the sin of unbelief or other mortal sin, or by reason of "unsoundness of mind," Victoria reached the conclusion that:

* * * the aborigines in question were true owners, before the Spaniards came among them, both from the public and the private point of view.²³⁵

²³³ Victoria, *De Indis et De Jure Belli Rebellionis* (Trnava, by John Pawley Bate, 1917), 1587, sec. 2, titles 6, 7.

²³⁴ Ibid., Introduction (Nye), p. 71.

²³⁵ Ibid., sec. 1, title 24, p. 128.

Since the Indians were true owners, Victoria held, discovery could convey no title upon the Spaniards, for title by discovery can be justified only where property is ownerless.²³⁶ Nor could Spanish title to Indian lands be validly based upon the divine rights of the Emperor or the Pope,²³⁷ or upon the unbelief or unsoundness of the aborigines.²³⁸ Thus, Victoria concluded, even the Pope had no right to partition the property of the Indians, and in the absence of a just war only the voluntary consent of the aborigines could justify the annexation of their territory.²³⁹ No less than their property, the government of the aborigines was entitled to respect by the Spaniards, according to the view of Victoria. So long as the Indians respected the natural rights of Spaniards, recognized by the law of nations, to travel in their

²³⁶ Ibid., sec. 2, p. 129.

²³⁷ Ibid., sec. 2, titles 1-6.

²³⁸ Ibid., sec. 2, titles 8-10.

²³⁹ Ibid.

total rights, in the fullest and most ample manner, as if both were bounded by former treaties, as long as the said Delaware nation shall abide by, and hold fast the chain of friendship now entered into." The parties further agree, that other tribes, friendly to the interest of the United States, may be invited to form a state, whereof the Delaware nation shall be the head, and have a representation in congress. This treaty, in its language, and in the provisions, is framed, as near as may be, on the model of treaties between the crowned heads of Europe. The sixth article shows how congress then treated the numerous columns of cheering disks antithetical to the political and civil rights of the Indians.²¹

Articles 4 and 5 are also noteworthy. By Article 4, any offenders of either party against the treaty of peace and friendship were not to be punished, except

"... by imprisonment, or any other competent means, till a fair and impartial trial can be had by judges or juries of both parties, as near as can be to the laws, customs and usages of the contracting parties and natural justice."

Article 5²² provided for a

"... well-regulated trade, under the conduct of an intelligent, amiable agent, with an adequate salary, one more influenced by the love of his country, and a constant attention to the duties of his department by promoting the common interest than the sinister purposes of converting and binding all the duties of his office to his private emolument."

C. DEFINING A NATIONAL POLICY: 1783-1800

Following the close of the Revolutionary War the United States entered into a series of treaties with Indian tribes by which the "hatchet" was "forever buried."²³

In the spring of 1784 Congress appointed commissioners, to negotiate with the Indians. Full power was given them to draw boundary lines and conclude a peace, with the understanding that they would make clear that the Indian territory was forfeit as a result of the military victory.²⁴ This idea was not novel at General Washington, on September 7, 1783, had expressed himself as agreeable to regarding the territory held by the Indians as "conquered provinces," although opposed to driving them from the country altogether.²⁵ The commissioners met at Fort Stanwix and on October 22 concluded a treaty with the hostile tribes of the Six Nations.²⁶ In the opening paragraph the United States receives the Indians "into their protection." This has

been cited as the source of the concept of the Federal Government as the guardian of Indian tribes.²⁷

Article 2 provides that the "Onondago and Tuscarora Nations shall be secured in the possession of the lands on which they are settled."

Article 4 orders

"... goods to be delivered to the said Six Nations for their use and comfort."

Thus began a practice which later developed into a comprehensive system of supplying promised goods and services to Indian tribes.²⁸

Soon afterwards another treaty was agreed upon with the Wampanoag, Delaware, Chippawag, and Ottawa at Fort McIntosh on January 21, 1785.²⁹ The next year the Shawnee chiefs signed a treaty at the mouth of the Miami.³⁰ These three treaties, which are the only ones entered into with the northern tribes before the adoption of the Constitution, are very similar in nature. All of them rectify the conclusion of hostilities and the extension of the protective influence of the United States.³¹

In the Treaty of January 21, 1785, at Fort McIntosh,³² and the Treaty of January 31, 1785, at the Miami,³³ the boundaries between the Indian nations and the United States are defined and the lands therein are allotted to the said nations to live and hunt on, with the provision that if any citizen of the United States should attempt to settle on their territory, he would forfeit the protection of the United States.³⁴ In addition both treaties "provided for the return to the United States of Indian robbers and murderers." In the treaty with the Shawnees³⁵ there is a similar provision with regard to United States offenders against the Indians.

Congress was slower in taking action regarding the southern tribes. It was not until March 15, 1785,³⁶ that a resolution was

²¹ United States v. Douglas, 180 Fed. 182 (C. C. A. 8, 1911).

²² An illuminating statement regarding title claimed under the Treaty of Fort Stanwix is found in *Deceit v. State of New York*, 22 F. 2d 851 (P. C. N. D. N. Y. 1927).

²³ The source of title here is not fellow patent or other form of grant by the federal government. Here the Indians claim unmemorial title, arising prior to white occupation, and recognized and adjudicated to treaties between Great Britain and the United States and between the United States and the Indians. By the treaty of 1781 between the United States and the Six Nations of Indians, and the treaty of 1783 between the United States and the state of New York and the Seven Nations of Canada, the right of occupation of the lands in question by the Indians, was not granted, but recognized and confirmed. (P. 261).

²⁴ See, for a similar provision, the Treaty of Fort McIntosh with the Wampanoag, Delaware, etc., January 21, 1785, 7 Stat. 10.

²⁵ Treaty of January 21, 1785, 7 Stat. 15. By this treaty the United States Supreme Court status in *Johnson v. M'Intosh*, 170 U. S. 1 (1899).

²⁶ The United States relinquished and quitclaimed to the said nations respectively all the lands lying within certain limits, to live and hunt upon, and otherwise occupy as they saw fit; but the said portions of either of them, were not to be at liberty to dispose of those lands, except to the United States. (P. 2).

See also *Commonwealth v. Osoe*, 4 Dall. 170 (1800).

²⁷ Treaty of January 31, 1785, 7 Stat. 20.

The Fort McIntosh treaty in its 10th article introduces a technique of giving precedents upon the signing of the document which is soon to become standard practice in negotiating agreements with the Indians. Also to be noticed is the reserving for the first time of land within Indian boundaries for establishment of United States trading posts which is provided in Article 4 of the same treaty.

²⁸ Arts. 3, 4, 5, 7 Stat. 26.

²⁹ Arts. 6, 7, 7 Stat. 26.

³⁰ For a discussion of the significance of this stipulation see Treaty of July 4, 1791, with the Cherokee, 7 Stat. 80; and in 204 and 205, *infra*.

³¹ Art. 9, 7 Stat. 16; Art. 8, 7 Stat. 26.

³² Art. 9, Treaty of January 21, 1785, 7 Stat. 26. The Treaties at Hopewell, *infra*, contain a similar provision with the Cherokee, November 28, 1785, Art. 7, 7 Stat. 18; the Chociwag, January 3, 1786, Art. 6, 7 Stat. 21; the Chickasaw, January 10, 1786, Art. 6, 7 Stat. 24.

³³ Four Cont. Cong. (Library of Congress ed.), 1786, vol. XXVIII, pp. 100-102.

²⁴ Worcester v. Georgia, 6 W. 515, 24 F. 482 (1822). See also Art. 12 Treaty with the Choctaws of November 28, 1785, 7 Stat. 18, discussed below, which granted to the Choctaws the right to send a deputy of their own choice to Congress whenever they think fit. This, however, was never carried into effect. See also sec. 23(3), *supra*.

²⁵ See Chapter 4, sec. 2 and Chapter 10.

²⁶ The phrase appears in the Treaties at Hopewell with the Choctaws November 28, 1785, Art. 18, 7 Stat. 18, with the Chociwag, January 3, 1786, Art. 11, 7 Stat. 21, and with the Chickasaw, January 10, 1786, Art. 11, 7 Stat. 24.

This phrase was later supplanted by the phrase "all annuities for past arrears shall henceforth cease." See to 288, *infra*. As the disturbances caused by the Revolutionary War settled, this phrase disappeared. Mohr, *op. cit.*, p. 208. In 1786 the Continental Congress, through its chairman, David Ramsey, again tried to make it clear, this time to the Seneca Indian, Complanter, that

"... the United States alone possess the sovereign power within the limits described at the late Treaty of peace between Great Britain and the King of England." "You may tell the Seneca Indians that they tell lies, who say that the King of England has not in his late Treaty with the United States given up, to them the lands of the Indians." Cont. Cong. (Library of Congress ed.), 1786, vol. XXX, p. 280.

²⁷ 10 Ford, Washington Writings, vol. X (1861), pp. 808-812.

²⁸ Treaty of October 22, 1784, 7 Stat. 15. The Treaty was construed in *New York v. Indians*, 5 Wall. 761 (1866) and in *Commonwealth v. Osoe*, 4 Dall. 170 (1800).

nessed for the appointment of commissioners to deal with the Indian nations in the southern part of the country.

The federal commissioners met with the Cherokees at Hopewell in the Keowee, and concluded a treaty on November 28, 1785,²⁰ which declared that the United States " . . . gave peace to all the Cherokees, and receive them into the Love and protection of the United States of America, on the following conditions:" In *Worcester v. Georgia*,²¹ Chief Justice Marshall gave the following answer to the argument that this language put the Indians in an inferior status:

" . . . When the United States gave peace, did they not also receive it? Were not both parties desirous of it? If we consult the history of the day, does it not inform us, that the United States were at least as anxious to obtain it as the Cherokees? We may ask further, did the Cherokees come to the seat of the American government to solicit peace, or, did the American commissioners go to them to obtain it? The treaty was made at Hopewell, not at New York. The word "give," then, has no real importance attached to it.

Marshall, at the same time, also called attention to Article 8 of the Hopewell agreement which acknowledges the Cherokees to be under the protection of no other power but the United States, saying:

"The general law of European sovereignty, respecting their claims in America, limited the interference of Indians, in a great degree, to the paternalistic potentate whose ultimate right of domain was acknowledged by the others. This was the general law, though, in time of peace. It was sometimes changed in war. The consequence was, that their supplies were deprived chiefly from that nation, and their trade confined to it. Goods, indispensable to their comfort, in the shape of presents, were received from the same hand. Want was of still more importance, the strong hand of government was interposed to restrain the disorderly and licentious from intrusions into their country, from encroachments on their lands, and from those acts of violence which were often attended by a corporal murder. The Indians perceived in this protection only what was beneficial to themselves—an engagement to punish aggressions on them. It involved, practically, no claim to their lands—no dominion over their persons. It merely bound the nation to the British crown, as a dependent ally, claiming the protection of a powerful friend and neighbor, and receiving the advantages of that protection without involving a surrender of their national character. This is the true meaning of the stipulation, and is, undoubtedly, the sense in which it was made.

Article 9 of the Hopewell treaty with the Cherokees holds that

" . . . the United States in Congress assembled shall have the sole and exclusive right of regulating the trade with the Indians, and managing all their affairs in such manner as they think proper.

In *Worcester v. Georgia* it was argued that in this article the Indians had surrendered control over their internal affairs. This interpretation was vigorously rejected by the Supreme Court:

"To construe the expression "managing all their affairs" into a surrender of self-government, would be, we think, a perversion of their necessary meaning, and a departure from the construction which has been uniformly put on them. The great subject of the article is the Indian trade, the influence it gave, made it desirable that Congress should possess it. The commissioners brought forward the claim, with the profession that their motive was "the benefit and comfort of the Indians, and the prevention of injuries or oppressions." This may be true, as respects the regulation of their trade, and as respects the regulation of all affairs connected with their trade, but cannot be true, as respects the management of all their affairs. The most important of those are the cession of their lands and

seemingly against intruders on them. Is it credible, that they should have considered themselves as surrendering to the United States the right to regulate their future cessions, and the terms on which they should be made? or to compel their submission to the violence of disorderly and licentious intruders? It is equally inconceivable that they could have supposed themselves, by a phrase thus slipped into an article, on another and most interesting subject, to have divested themselves of the right of self-government on subjects not connected with trade. Such a measure could not be "for their benefit and comfort," or for "the prevention of injuries and oppressions." Such a construction would be inconsistent with the spirit of this and of all subsequent treaties, especially of those articles which recognize the right of the Cherokees to declare hostilities, and to make war. It would convert a treaty of peace, covertly, into an act annihilating the political existence of one of the parties. Had such a result been intended, it would have been openly avowed."

Article 12, permitting Cherokee representation in Congress, is of particular interest, although it was never fulfilled.²²

During the last year of the Confederation the dissatisfaction among the Indians resulting from using the "conquered province" concept as the basis for treaty deliberations became apparent. The Secretary of War, therefore, on May 2, 1788,²³ recommended a change in policy which would permit the outright purchase of the land of the western territories described in former treaties with such additions as might be affected by further negotiations.²⁴ Acting on this suggestion, Congress appropriated \$20,000.00 on July 2, 1788,²⁵ which, together with the balance remaining from the sum allocated on October 22, 1787,²⁶ was committed to use in extinguishing Indian claims to land already ceded.

The immediate result of this step were the treaties of Fort Mifflin with the Wamund, Delaware, Chippewa, and Ottawa, Indians,²⁷ and with the Six Nations, entered into early in 1789,²⁸ which reaffirmed many of the original terms of the Fort Stanwix and Fort McIntosh treaties. Both of those agreements provide for the United States relinquishing and guaranteeing certain described territory to the Indian nations. However, article 8 of the Fort Mifflin treaty with the Wyandots, Delawares, Chippewas, and Ottawas,²⁹ added that the said nations should not be at liberty

" . . . to sell or dispose of the same, or any part thereof, to any sovereign power, except the United States, nor to the subjects or citizens of any other sovereign power, nor to the subjects or citizens of the United States.

Article 7 also provided for the opening up of trade with Indians, establishing a system of licensing with guarantees of protection to certified traders, and a promise by the Indians to apprehend and deliver to the United States those individuals who intrude themselves without such authority. Article 6 makes first mention of depredations, and binds both parties to a method of handling claims arising therefrom.

Although the Fort Mifflin conferences were held during the life of the Confederation, the report of the results obtained was received in the first months of the new government operating

²⁰ *Ibid.*, pp. 552-554.

²¹ See Art. 6, Treaty with the Delawares of September 17, 1778, 7 Stat. 13, and in 254, *supra*.

²² *Mohr*, op. cit., p. 132.

²³ *Ibid.*

²⁴ *Ibid.*

²⁵ *Ibid.*

²⁶ Treaty of January 6, 1789, 7 Stat. 28.

²⁷ Treaty of January 6, 1789 (unratified), 7 Stat. 29. See also in 203 *supra*, for interpretation of this treaty in *Jones v. Mifflin*, 175 U. S. 1, 9 (1899).

²⁸ Treaty of January 6, 1789, 7 Stat. 28.

²⁹ 7 Stat. 18.

³⁰ 6 Pet. 515, 521 (1822).

³¹ *Ibid.*, p. 551.

under the Constitution, and transmitted to the Senate of the United States on May 25, 1789, for its approval.²⁴

Puzzled over the proper procedure, George Washington wrote to the Senate asking what it meant by advising him to "execute and enforce" the observance of the treaties.

It is said to be the general misunderstanding and practice of nations, as a check on the mistakes and indiscretions of ministers or commissioners, not to consider any treaty negotiated and signed by such officers, as final and conclusive, until ratified by the sovereign or government from whom they derive their powers. This practice has been adopted by the United States respecting their treaties with European nations, and I am inclined to think it would be advisable to observe it in the conduct of our treaties with the Indians.

Not unmindful of the significance of the ratification of Indian treaties, the Senate appointed a special committee to investigate the matter. After several days of debate the Senate advised formal ratification.²⁵

On August 22, 1789, George Washington appeared in the Senate Chamber to point out to the assembled group the gravity of the Indian situation in the South. North Carolina and Georgia, the President said, had not only protested against the treaties of Hopewell but had disregarded them. Moreover, open hostilities existed between Georgia and the Creek Nation. All of this, the President continued, involved so many complications that he wished to raise particular issues for the "advice and counsel" of the Senate. Accordingly, he put seven questions which resulted in instructions to deal with the Creek situation first, and, if need be, to use the whole amount of the current appropriation for Indian treaties for this purpose.²⁶

On August 7, 1790, articles of agreement were concluded between the President of the United States and the kings, chiefs, and warriors of the Creek Nation.²⁷ Article 5 is a solemn guarantee to the Creeks of all their lands within certain described limits. Article 7 stipulated that—

No citizen or inhabitant of the United States shall attempt to hunt or destroy the game on the Creek lands. Nor shall any such citizen or inhabitant go into the Creek country, without a passport first obtained from the Governor of some one of the United States.

The obligation thus assumed by treaty the United States proceeded to implement in section 2 of the Indian Intercourse Act of May 19, 1796,²⁸ which made it a criminal offense for whomever to hunt, trap, or drive live-stock in the Indian country.

It was found necessary to attach secret articles providing for transportation of merchandise duty free into the Creek Nation

by the United States in the event of hostilities between the Creeks and Spaniards.²⁹

In Article 5 of the secret treaty, the United States, for the first time,

agree to estimate and clothe such of the Creek youth as shall be agreed upon, not exceeding four in number at any one time.³⁰

In the following year, 1791, the commissioners turned their attention to the difficulties between the Cherokee and the State of Georgia. Finally, on July 2, near the junction of the Holston River and the French Broad, the Cherokee Nation abandoned its claims to certain territories in return for \$1,000 annuity.³¹ The instrument signed on that occasion was well described by the court in *Worcester v. Georgia*.

The third article contains a perfectly equal stipulation for the surrender of prisoners. The fourth article declares that "the boundary between the United States and the Cherokee nation shall be as follows, beginning," etc. We went no more of "allotments" or of "hunting-grounds." A boundary is described, between nation and nation, by mutual consent. The national character of such—the ability of each to establish this boundary, is acknowledged by the other. To preclude forever all disputes, it is agreed, that it shall be plainly marked by commissioners, to be appointed by each party, and in order to extinguish forever all claims of the Cherokee to the ceded lands, an additional consideration is to be paid by the United States. For this additional consideration, the Cherokee release all right to the ceded land, forever. By the fifth article, the Cherokee allow the United States a road through their country, and the navigation of the Tennessee river. The acceptance of these cessions is an acknowledgment of the right of the Cherokee to make or withhold them. By the sixth article, it is agreed, on the part of the Cherokee, that the United States shall have the sole and exclusive right of regulating their trade. No claim is made to the management of all their affairs. This stipulation has already been explained. The observation may be repeated, that the stipulation is itself an admission of their right to make or refuse it. By the seventh article, the United States solemnly guarantee to the Cherokee nation all their lands not hereby ceded. The eighth article renounces to the Cherokee any citizens of the United States who may settle on their lands; and the ninth forbids any citizen of the United States to hunt on their lands, or to enter their country without a passport. The remaining articles are equal, and contain stipulations which could be made only with a nation admitted to be capable of governing itself.³²

This treaty of July 2, 1791, again includes a provision (Article 8) noticed before, viz: that any citizen settling on Indian land "shall forfeit the protection of the United States, and the Cherokee may punish him or not, as they please."³³ Thus

²⁴ The Debates and Proceedings in the Congress of the United States (1789-90), vol. 1, pp. 40-41 (Hereinafter referred to as Debates and Proceedings).

²⁵ *Ibid.*, p. 88.

²⁶ *Ibid.*, p. 84. It is interesting to note that the committee report (p. 82) which was reported drew a distinction between treaties with European powers and treaties with the aborigines insisting that solemnization was not necessary in the latter case.

²⁷ *Ibid.*, pp. 66-71. Washington asked the Senate "• • • if all offers should fail to induce the Creeks to make the ceded cessions to Georgia, shall the Commissioners make it an ultimatum." (P. 70.) The Senate answered "No." (P. 71.)

²⁸ Stat. 35. A recital often found in Indian treaties is the following, which appears in Art. 18: "All animosities for past grievances shall henceforth cease." (See also Treaty of July 2, 1791, Art. 15, 7 Stat. 80; Treaty of June 29, 1794, Art. 9, 7 Stat. 60.) It should be further noted that Art. 2 pledges the Creeks to refrain from treating with any individual State, or the individuals of any State. *Patterson v. Jones*, 2 Pet. 216 (1829), construes provisions of this treaty relative to grants of land within the territorial limits of the State of Georgia.

²⁹ 1 Stat. 469.

³⁰ Treaty of August 7, 1790, Archives No. 17, Debates and Proceedings, vol. 1, p. 1020 (*supra*, at 284).

The Creek Treaty was amended on June 29, 1794, by a treaty which among other things provided that the United States give to the Creek Nation "lands to the value of six thousand dollars, and • • • send to the Indian nation, two blacksmiths, with stokers, to be employed for the upper and lower Creeks with the necessary tools." Art. 8, Treaty of June 29, 1794, 7 Stat. 60.

³¹ See Art. 3, Treaty with the Kaskaskians, August 13, 1808, 7 Stat. 78, *supra*, for the first contribution by the United States to organized education in the support of a school. "• • • to instruct • • • in the rudiments of literature." See also Chapter 12, *supra*.

³² Art. 4, Treaty of July 2, 1791, 7 Stat. 80. This sum was increased later to \$1,000 by the Treaty at Philadelphia of February 17, 1792, 7 Stat. 62. The Holston Treaty was further amended by the Treaty of Tallico of October 2, 1798, 7 Stat. 65, contained in *Preston v. Borden*, 1 Wheat. 115 (1810); *Laffleur v. Priest*, 14 Pet. 4, 13 (1840).

³³ *Worcester v. Georgia*, 6 Pet. 515, 555-559 (1832).

³⁴ See fn. 208 *supra*. A similar provision appears in the Treaties of January 21, 1785, with the Windecks, Delawares, Chippewas, and Ojib-

article, the court in *Raymond v. Raymond*²² cites as the basis for the lack of jurisdiction of the federal judiciary in suits between members of the Cherokee Nation, saying

It is not material to the present issue that this provision has been subsequently modified. It shows, as do subsequent treaties, that for more than a century this title of Indians had claimed and exercised, and the United States have guaranteed and secured to it, the exclusive right to regulate its local affairs, to govern and protect the persons and property of its own people, and of those who join them, and to adjudicate and determine their reciprocal rights and duties. (P. 722.)

Despite efforts at conciliation, dissatisfaction was spreading among the Indian tribes. Word was received that the Indians of the Northwest Territory were preparing to cooperate with the Six Nations in a major war. Washington dispatched instructions to Colonel Pickens to hold a council with the Six Nations. At the same time preparations were made to take military action on the western frontier and General Wayne, a Revolutionary War veteran, was put in charge of the troops, who on August 20, 1794, routed the natives in the battle of Fallen Timbers.

A new treaty was made with the Six Nations on November 11, 1794.²³ In this agreement the lands belonging to the Oneidas, Onondagas, Cayugas, and Senecas were described and acknowledged by the United States as the property of the aforementioned Indian nations and in addition the United States pledged to add the sum of \$3,000 to the \$1,600 annuity already allowed by the Treaty of April 23, 1792,²⁴ with the Five Nations.

Shortly thereafter, a treaty²⁵ was concluded with the nations which had participated in the ill-fated expedition against General Wayne. This agreement provides for the cession of an immensely important area which today comprises most of the State of Ohio and a portion of Indiana. At the same time the United States stipulates (Article 5)

The Indian tribes who have a right to these lands, are quietly to enjoy them, hunting, planting, and dwelling thereon so long as they please, without any molestation from the United States, but when those tribes, or any of them, shall be disposed to sell their lands, or any part of them, they are to be sold only to the United States, and until such sale, the United States will protect all the said Indian tribes in the quiet enjoyment of their lands against all citizens of the United States, and against all other white persons who intrude upon the same.

The exact meaning of this verbal was at issue in *Williams v. City of Chicago*. After examining the instrument in detail the court held

... We think it entirely clear that this treaty did not convey a fee simple title to the Indians; that under it no tribe could claim more than the right of continued occupancy, and that when this was abandoned all legal

right of interest which both tribe and its members had in the territory came to an end. (149-437-438.)

The Seven Nations of Canada on May 31, 1796,²⁶ ceded all territorial claims within the State of New York, with the exception of a tract of land 6 miles square.²⁷

D EXTENDING THE NATIONAL DOMAIN: 1800-17

By 1800 the rapid growth of the nation had given impetus to the drive to add to the territory under federal ownership. This could be done effectively by extinguishing native title to desired lands. The treaty makers of this period may be said to have had a single objective—the acquisition of more land.

Success in this direction was almost immediate and by 1803 the President of the United States was able to report to Congress

The friendly tribe of Kaskaskia Indians, ... has transferred its country to the United States, reserving only for its members what is sufficient to maintain them in an agricultural way. ... This country, among the most fertile within our limits, extending along the Mississippi from the mouth of the Illinois to and up the Ohio, though not so necessary as a barrier since the acquisition of the other bank, may yet be well worthy of being laid open to immediate settlement, as its inhabitants may be secured with rapidly in support of the lower country, should untoward circumstances expose that to foreign enterprise.²⁸

Article 3 of the Kaskaskia treaty²⁹ contains the last provision for contributions by the United States for organized education,³⁰ for the erection of a new church,³¹ and for the building of a house for the chief as a gift.³²

The Indians pledge themselves to refrain from waging war or giving any insult or offense to any other Indian tribe or to any foreign nation without first having obtained the approbation and consent of the United States (Art. 2). The United States in turn take the tribe under their immediate care and patronage, and guarantee a protection similar to that enjoyed by their own citizens. The United States also reserve the right to divide the annuity promised to the tribe "... amongst the several families thereof, reserving always a suitable sum for the great chief and his family." (Art. 4.)

President Jefferson selected William Henry Harrison, Governor of Indiana Territory, to represent the United States Government in its negotiations with the Indian tribes of the West.³³

After protracted negotiations at Fort Wayne with the Delaware, Shawnees, and other tribes of the Northwest Territory, a substantial cession of territory was secured by the Treaty of June 7, 1803.³⁴

An interesting provision is found in Article 8, whereby the United States guaranteed to deliver to the Indians annually salt

was, Art. 5, 7 Stat. 18, November 28, 1785, with the Cherokees, Art. 5, 7 Stat. 18, January 8, 1780, with the Choctaws, Art. 4, 7 Stat. 21, January 10, 1780, with the Chickasaws, Art. 4, 7 Stat. 21, January 31, 1780 with the Shawnees, Art. 7, 7 Stat. 20, January 9, 1780, with the Wyandots, Delawares, Chippewas, and Ottawas, Art. 7, 7 Stat. 23, August 7, 1790, with the Creeks, Art. 6, 7 Stat. 85, August 8, 1796, with the Wyandots, Delawares, Chippewas, Ottawas, etc., Art. 6, 7 Stat. 49. See also Chapter 1, sec. 8.

²² *Raymond v. Raymond*, 85 Fed. 721 (C. C. A. 8, 1897).

²³ 7 Stat. 44. An earlier treaty had been concluded October 22, 1784, 7 Stat. 16.

²⁴ Unpublished treaty (Archives No. 19).

²⁵ Treaty with the Wyandots, Delawares, Shawnees, etc., August 8, 1796, at Greenville, 7 Stat. 40. "The ratification of this treaty is to be considered as the terminus a quo a man might safely begin a settlement on the Western frontier of Pennsylvania." *Marble's Lessee v. Noyes*, 4 Dell. 260, 260 (1800). For provisions under that treaty relating to disposal of land by Indians see *Patterson v. Foster*, 4 Fed. 288, supra. Chippewa Indians were treated as a single tribe in this treaty. *Chippewa Indians of Minnesota v. United States*, 301 U. S. 858 (1937).

²⁶ 242 U. S. 481 (1917).

²⁷ Treaty of May 31, 1796, 7 Stat. 55. "The 7 tribes signified are the Senecas (Mogawis), Shawnees (Senecas), Anasaghs (Monsangas), Kaskaskias, Adenewas, Karibats and Adenewas (Algonquians)." 4th, 6th, and 9th are undesignated. Bull. No. 80, Bureau of American Ethnology, Handbook of American Indians, pt. 2, p. 610.

²⁸ This tract was reserved for the Indians of St. Regis village, and is now the St. Regis Reservation. See Chapter 22, sec. 20.

²⁹ Message of October 17, 1803, in Debates and Proceedings (1803-4), vol. 33, pp. 12-18.

³⁰ Treaty of August 18, 1803, 7 Stat. 78.

³¹ See Unpublished Treaty of August 7, 1790 (Archives No. 17), in 200 supra, and Chapter 13, sec. 2.

³² In 1794 the United States agreed to contribute \$1,000 toward rebuilding a church for the Oneidas destroyed by the British in the Revolutionary War. Treaty of December 2, 1794, Art. 4, 7 Stat. 47.

³³ Gifts to the chief were continued in later treaties.

³⁴ Osceola, Tecumseh, and his Tens (1798), p. 96.

³⁵ 7 Stat. 74. While certain commercial concessions have been accorded before this, for the first time the United States is granted (Art. 4) the

not to exceed 150 bushels from a salt spring which the Indians had ceded.

The next year another large area was secured from the Delaware.²⁰⁰ In this treaty the United States expressly recognizes the Delaware Indians "as the rightful owners of all the country" specifically bounded (Art. 4).

Since the Powhatan tribe refused to recognize the title of the Delaware to the land ceded by this treaty,²⁰¹ Harrison negotiated a separate treaty.²⁰² It provided for land cessions and reserved the right to the United States of appointing the annuity, "allowing always a due proportion for the chiefs."

Harrison went to St. Louis to meet the chiefs of the Sacs and Foxes, and bargain for their land, which was rich in mineral deposits of copper and lead. There he succeeded in getting, on November 3, 1804,²⁰³ as has been noted by his biographer Dawson, "the largest tract of land ever ceded in one treaty by the Indians since the settlement of North America."

In this agreement it is stipulated (Art. 8) that "the laws of the United States, regulating trade and intercourse with the Indian tribes, are already extended to the country inhabited by the Sacs and Foxes." The tribes also promise to put an end (Art. 10) to the war which exists between them and the Great and Little Osages. Article 11 guarantees a safe and free passage through the Sac and Fox country to every person traveling under the authority of the United States.²⁰⁴

The conclusion of the treaty at St. Louis brings to an end for several years negotiations with the Indians of the West. However, treaty-making in other quarters continued and Jefferson was able to inform Congress in 1805

Since your last session, the northern tribes have said "as to the land between the Connecticut Reserve and the former Indian boundary, and those on the Ohio, from the same boundary to the Rapids, and for a considerable depth inland. The Chickasaw and the Choctaw have said "as the country between and adjacent to the two dist

right to locate three tracts of land as sites for houses of entertainment. However, if forces are established in connection therewith, the Indians are to cover said fortification.

See other treaties which have not been examined at length were negotiated during the first years of Jefferson's Administration: Chickasaw, Treaty of October 24, 1801, 7 Stat. 63; Choctaw, Treaty of December 17, 1801, 7 Stat. 66; Creek, Treaty of June 16, 1802, 7 Stat. 68; Seneca, Treaty of June 30, 1802, 7 Stat. 72; Cherokee, Treaty of October 17, 1802, 7 Stat. 78; Choctaw, Treaty of August 31, 1803, 7 Stat. 80. There were two treaties for the building of roads through Indian territory, two treaties relinquishing areas of land to private individuals under the sanction of the United States, and two treaties for summing boundary lines in accordance with previous negotiations, and two treaties providing for cessions of territory to the United States.

²⁰⁰Treaty of August 18, 1801, 7 Stat. 81.

²⁰¹See Art. 6, Treaty of August 18, 1804, with the Delaware, 7 Stat. 81.

²⁰²August 27, 1804, 7 Stat. 83.

²⁰³*Ibid.*, Art. 4.

²⁰⁴Treaty of November 8, 1804, 7 Stat. 84, contained in *Sac and Fox Indians of the Mississippi in Iowa v. Roe and Fox Indians of the Mississippi in Oklahoma*, 220 U. S. 181 (1911).

²⁰⁵Oakson, *op. cit.* p. 105.

An additional article provided that under certain conditions grants of land from the Spanish government, not included within the treaty boundaries should not be invalidated. This particular provision was given application in a decision by the Supreme Court of the United States in *March v. Brooks*, 14 Wall. 518 (1852).

²⁰⁶Treaty with the Wyandots, Ottawas, etc., of July 4, 1805, 7 Stat. 87; Treaty with the Delaware Potawatamies, etc., of August 21, 1805, 7 Stat. 81. In this last mentioned treaty the United States agreed to consider (Art. 4) the Miami, Del. River, and Wabash Indians as "joint owners" of a certain area of land and for the first time agreed not to purchase said land without the consent of each and said tribes. In early treaties the Chickasaw were dealt with as a single tribe. *Chilpewa Indians of Minnesota v. United States*, 801 U. S. 808 (1937).

²⁰⁷Treaty with the Chickasaw of July 28, 1805, 7 Stat. 89, Treaty with the Cherokee of October 25 and 27, 1805, 7 Stat. 83, 85.

Tennessee, and the Creek.²⁰⁸ The residue of their lands in the foot of Tennessee up to the Ulenahatchee. The three former purchases are important, inasmuch as they considerable dismembered parts of our settled country, and render their intercourse secure, and the second particularly so, as, with the small point on the river, which we expect is to this time ceded by the Chickasaw,²⁰⁹ it completes our possession of the whole of both banks of the Ohio, from its source to near its mouth, and the navigation of that river is thereby rendered entirely safe to our citizens settled and settling on its extensive waters. The purchase from the Creek has been for some time particularly interesting to the State of Georgia.²¹⁰

A treaty negotiated with the Choctaw in November 16, 1805,²¹¹ contained the first cession of land for the use of individual Indians.²¹²

Article 2 carries the significant provision of

Eight thousand dollars to enable the Muscogees to discharge the debt due to their merchants and traders.

The treaty with the Great and Little Osages of November 10, 1805,²¹³ provided in addition to land cessions,²¹⁴ the pledge (Art. 12) that the Osages would not furnish "any nation or tribe of Indians not in unity with the United States, with guns, munitions, or other implements of war."

In one of his last official messages to Congress, on November 8, 1805, Jefferson observed

With our Indian neighbors the public peace has been steadily maintained. Some instances of individual wrong have, as at other times, taken place, but in no wise implicating the will of the nation. Beyond the Mississippi the Iowas, the Sacs, and the Alleghany, have delivered up for trial and punishment individuals from among themselves, accused of murdering citizens of the United States. On this side of the Mississippi, the Creeks, are creating themselves in direct violation of the same kind, and the Choctaw have manifested their readiness and desire for amicable and just arrangements respecting depredations committed by dissatisfied persons of their tribe.

One of the two great divisions of the Creek nation have now under consideration to solicit the citizenship of the United States, and to be identified with us in laws and government, in such progressive manner as we shall think best.

During this time there had come into power and influence among a great number of Indian tribes a Shawnee, Tecumseh, and his brother Lamentawake called "The Prophet." When disturbing reports of the behavior of the two Shawnees reached Harrison, he resolved to press further before all Indian tribes were rendered unwilling to part with their land. Accordingly in September 1809, he convened the head men of the Delaware, Potawatamies, Miami, and Del. River Miami and requested some 2,000,000 acres.²¹⁵ Thus they yielded.²¹⁶ A month later

²⁰⁸Treaty of November 14, 1805, 7 Stat. 90, contained in *Offer v. Grosjean*, 128 U. S. 1, 14 (1887).

²⁰⁹Treaty of December 30, 1805, 7 Stat. 100.

²¹⁰Message of December 8, 1805, in *Debate and Proceedings* (1805-T), vol. 10, p. 15.

²¹¹Treaty of November 16, 1805, 7 Stat. 98.

²¹²*Ibid.*, Art. 1. A tract of land was reserved for the use of Alexis and Sophia, daughters of a white man and Choctaw woman.

²¹³This is not the first time that allusion to the dissatisfied financial situation of the Indians, was made in a treaty. Both the Treaty with the Creek, June 18, 1802, Art. 2, 7 Stat. 65, and the Treaty with the Chickasaw, July 23, 1805, Art. 2, 7 Stat. 89, make mention of debts owed by the natives. Also see Chapter 8, *sec.* 70.

²¹⁴Treaty of November 10, 1805, 7 Stat. 107, contained in *Hot Springs Cave*, 92 U. S. 668, 704 (1875).

²¹⁵*Debate and Proceedings* (1809-9), vol. 19, p. 17.

²¹⁶*Ibid.* By the Treaty of Detroit, November 17, 1807, 7 Stat. 106, and the Treaty of Brownstown, November 25, 1808, 7 Stat. 112, less important territorial concessions were secured.

²¹⁷Oakson, *op. cit.* p. 106.

²¹⁸Treaty of September 30, 1809, 7 Stat. 118.

Harrison concluded an agreement with the Weas recognizing their claim to the land just ceded and extrajudging it for an annuity and a cash gift, and planned additional money if the Kickapoo should agree to the cession.¹⁰ Shortly thereafter, December 9, 1800, the Kickapoo capitulated and ceded some 250,000 acres for a \$200 annuity plus \$1,500 in goods.¹¹

These cessions soon occasioned dissatisfaction among the Indians and in the summer of 1810, with Indian war imminent in the Wabash valley, Harrison summoned Tecumseh and his warriors to a conference at Vincennes.¹² Here the Shawnee Chief deflected his indignation. Only with great regret would he consider hostilities against the United States, against whom land purchases were the only complaint. However, unless the treaties of the autumn of 1809 were renewed, he would be compelled to enter into an English alliance.¹³

Upon being informed by the Governor that such conditions would not be accepted by the Government of the United States, Tecumseh proceeded to merge Indian antagonisms with those of a larger conflict—the War of 1812 with Great Britain. The only treaty of military alliance the United States was able to negotiate was that with the Wyandots, Delaware, Shawanese, Seneca, and Miami on July 22, 1814.¹⁴

In 1813 was broke out among the Upper Creek towns that had been attacked by the eloquence of Tecumseh several years before Fort Mims near Mobile was burned and the majority of its inhabitants killed.¹⁵ Andrew Jackson, in charge of military operations in that quarter, launched an obstinate and successful campaign, leveling whole towns in the process.¹⁶

Since the Creeks were a nation, and the hostile Creeks could not make a separate peace, Jackson met with representatives of the nation, friendly for the most part, and presented his "Articles of Agreement and Capitulation."¹⁷

The General demanded the surrender of 20,000,000 acres,¹⁸ half or more of the ancient Creek domain,¹⁹ as an indemnity for war expenses. Failure to comply would be considered hostile.²⁰ A large part of this territory belonged to the loyal Creeks, but Jackson made no distinction. Under protest, the "Articles of Agreement and Capitulation" were signed August 9, 1814.²¹

¹⁰ Treaty of October 26, 1800, 7 Stat 316.

¹¹ Treaty of Vincennes, 9, 1800, 7 Stat 117. Alliance from Osage, op. cit., p. 107.

¹² Adams, History of the United States of America During the First Administration of James Madison (1860), vol. VI, p. 85.

¹³ Ibid., pp. 87-88.

¹⁴ Treaty of July 22, 1814, 7 Stat 118.

¹⁵ Adams, op. cit., vol. VII, pp. 224-231.

¹⁶ Ibid., vol. VII, pp. 230-237.

¹⁷ Ibid., vol. VII, pp. 230-237.

¹⁸ Adams, Andrew Jackson (1833), p. 189.

¹⁹ Adams, op. cit., vol. VII, p. 240. Adams estimates that two-thirds of the Creek land was demanded, James estimates one-half (op. cit. p. 180).

²⁰ James, op. cit. p. 100, Adams, op. cit. p. 300.

²¹ 7 Stat 120. "Title of the Creek Nation" to lands in Georgia "was extinguished throughout most of the southern part of the state by the treaties made with the nation in 1802, 1805, and 1814." 7 Stat 65, 96, 120. *Office of Geology*, 123 U S 1, 14 (1887). Thus land cession was the subject of much controversy for more than a century. After the passage of the so-called jurisdiction act (Act of May 24, 1924, 43 Stat 1316), giving jurisdiction to the Court of Claims to render judgment on claims arising out of Creek treaties, the Creek Nation filed a petition seeking payment for the twenty-three millions and more acres of land with interest, averring that:

"... the representatives of the Creek Nation met, all of them, with one exception, being friendly and not hostile to the United States, and promised to General Jackson that the lands were peacefully surrendered to the Creek Nation by treaty, that the hostile Creeks had no interest in the fee to the lands, and that the treaty as so provided should not provide any compensation for the lands required to be ceded." "... that said Jackson represented to said council that he was without power to make any agreement to compensate them for their lands and that unless

Certain other provisions indicate the spirit of capitulation in which the treaty was negotiated. For example, Article 8 demands that all communication with the British and the Spanish be abandoned, and Article 6 provides that "all the prophets and instigators of the war" who have not submitted to the aims of the United States "shall be surrendered."

The terms of the peace which brought to an end the War of 1812 provided for a general amnesty for the Indians,²² and the Federal Government proceeded to come to terms of peace with the various tribes. Twenty treaties were negotiated in 2 years, providing chiefly for mutual友好, perpetual peace, and delivering up of prisoners, the recognition of former treaties, and acknowledgment of the United States as sole protector.²³

E INDIAN REMOVAL WESTWARD: 1817-46

With the increasing tolerance of Indians to part with their lands by treaties of cession, the policy of removal westward was accelerated. The United States offered lands in the West to territory possessed by the Indians in the eastern part of the United States. This served the double purpose of making available for white settlement a vast area, and solving the problem of conflict of authority caused by the presence of Indian nations within state boundaries.

Although the program had been considered in certain quarters for some time, it was not until after the close of the War of 1812 that the first exchange treaty was concluded.²⁴ Then for al-

though they signed the treaty as he had drawn it he would furnish the whole tribe with provisions and ammunition and that they could do so down to the sea and hold the land as they pleased. But if by the time they got there they would be on their backs and whip them and the British and drive them into the sea and that they would in fact extremely they admitted and signed the Treaty (p. 271-272).

This petition was dismissed on March 7, 1827, the Court of Claims holding that the jurisdictional act does not give jurisdiction over a claim, the allowance of which involved the setting aside of a treaty on the ground that it was entered into under fraud. *Creek Nation v. United States*, 62 U S 270 (1827), cited at 271 U S 751.

²² Ninth Article, Treaty of Ghent of December 24, 1814, 8 Stat 218.

²³ Four treaties, July 18, 1815, 7 Stat 123, Pankashaw, July 18, 1815, 7 Stat 124, Teton, July 10, 1815, 7 Stat 125, Sioux of Lake, July 10, 1815, 7 Stat 126, Sioux of the River of St. Peter, July 10, 1815, 7 Stat 127, Yankton, July 14, 1815, 7 Stat 128, Omaha, July 20, 1815, 7 Stat 129, Kickapoo, September 2, 1815, 7 Stat 130, Delaware, Wyandot, Seneca, etc., September 8, 1815, 7 Stat 131, Oneida and Little Ojage, September 12, 1815, 7 Stat 132. The Supreme Court in con- vening the treaty with the Great and Little Ojage, September 12, 1815, states: "Jackson was reconciled between the continuing peace, and (some) treaties were renewed." *State of Missouri v. State of Iowa*, 559, 658 (1819). See September 13, 1815, 7 Stat 134, Fort, September 14, 1815, 7 Stat 135, L'Anse, September 16, 1815, 7 Stat 136, Kansas, October 28, 1815, 7 Stat 137, Race of York River, May 13, 1816, 7 Stat 141, Sioux of the Land, Sioux of the Broad Leaf, and Sioux of the Pine Point, June 1, 1816, 7 Stat 148, Winnebago, June 8, 1816, 7 Stat 141, Menominee, March 30, 1817, 7 Stat 151, Ottawa, June 24, 1817, 7 Stat 161, Ponce, June 25, 1817, 7 Stat 165.

Four treaties negotiated during this period provided for cessions of territory. Chickasaw, March 22, 1816, 7 Stat 138, Ottawa, Chipawaw, etc., August 24, 1816, 7 Stat 140, Choctaw, September 14, 1816, 7 Stat 148, Chickasaw, September 20, 1816, 7 Stat 150, Chactaw, October 24, 1816, 7 Stat 152.

The treaty of September 20, 1816, 7 Stat 150, with the Chickasaw, made provision (Art. 6) for liberal presents to specified chiefs and individual Indians. Article 7 provided that no more Indians were to be granted to peddlers to traffic in goods in the Chickasaw Nation.

The treaty of July 8, 1817, 7 Stat 160. Concluded in *Cherokee Nation v. Georgia*, 5 Pet. 1, 6 (1831), *Wash v. Brooks*, 8 Wall 232, 323 (1861) *Hollen v. Joy*, 21 Wall 231, 232 (1872). The Supreme Court again construed this treaty in *Tecumseh v. United States*, 224 U S 418, 429 (1912).

In 1817 "..." The Chickasaw Nation ceded to the United States certain tracts which they formerly held, and in exchange the United States bound themselves to give to that branch of the Nation on the Arkansas as much land as they had received, or might thereafter

most 30 years thereafter Indian treaty making was concerned almost solely with removing certain tribes of natives to the vacant lands lying to the westward. The first and most significant of these treaties was concluded with the Southern tribes later known as the "Five Civilized Tribes."

1. *Cherokees*—In 1816 Andrew Jackson as Commissioner for the United States met with the Cherokees to discuss the proposition of exchanging lands. Many influential Cherokees were latently opposed to it, and the great majority of Indians were extremely dubious of the value of removing elsewhere.

However, the next year a treaty, prepared by Andrew Jackson, was accepted by representatives of the Cherokee Nation.¹⁰¹ Its terms include (Art. 5) a cession of the land occupied by the Cherokee Nation in return for a proportionate tract of country elsewhere, a stipulation (Art. 3) for the taking of a census of the Cherokee Nation in order to determine those emigrating and those remaining behind and thus divide the annuities between them, compensation for improvements (Arts. 6 and 7), and (Art. 8) reservations of 640 acres of Cherokee land in fee estate with a reversion in fee simple to their children, to "each and every head of any Indian family residing on the east side of the Mississippi River" who may wish to become citizens.¹⁰² These "reservations" were the first allotments, and the idea of individual title with restrictions on alienation, as a basis of citizenship, was destined to play a major role in later Indian legislation.

When the attempt to execute the treaty was made, its weaknesses came to light. Removal was voluntary, and the national will to remove was lacking. In 1819 a delegation of Cherokees appeared in Washington and negotiated with Secretary Calhoun a new treaty,¹⁰³ which contemplated a cessation of migration.

The Cherokee Nation opposed removal and further cession of land, but once more the Federal Government sought to persuade them to move west. By the treaty of May 6, 1828,¹⁰⁴ made with that portion of the Cherokee Nation which had removed across the Mississippi pursuant to earlier treaties, another offer was made. Article 8 provides:

"* * * that then Brothers yet remaining in the States may be induced to join them. * * * if by further agreed, on the part of the United States, that to each Head of a Cherokee family now residing within the chartered limits of Georgia, or in either of the States, East of the Mississippi, who may desire to remove West, shall be given, on enrolling himself for emigration, a good Rifle, a Blanket, and Kettle, and five pounds of Tobacco (and to each member of his family one Blanket), also, a just compensation for the property he may abandon, to be assessed

remove, east of the Mississippi. * * * The tribe (Cherokee) was divided into two bodies, one of which remained where they were, east of the Mississippi and the other settled themselves upon United States land in the country on the Arkansas and White rivers.

The effort of reserves to individual Indians of a mile square each, secured to heads of families by the Cherokee treaties of 1817 and 1819, is directly decided in the case of *Gornet v. Windsor's Lessee*, 2 *Yerges* Ten Rep. 148 (1828). The division of the Cherokee Nation into two parties is also discussed in *Old Belton v. United States*, 148 U. S. 427, 435-450 (1893).

¹⁰¹Treaty of July 8, 1817, 7 Stat. 169. It is to be noted that in the preamble of the treaty the following quotation of President Madison is cited with approval:

"* * * when established in their new settlements, we shall still consider them as our children, give them the benefit of exchanging their potatoes for what they will want at our factories, and always hold them firmly by the hand."

¹⁰²For opinions of the Attorney General on compensation provided by the sixth and seventh articles on rights of reserves and on descent of lands, see 8 Op. U. S. 429 (1834), 8 Op. U. S. 367 (1838), 4 Op. U. S. 115 (1842), 4 Op. U. S. 550 (1847).

¹⁰³Treaty of February 27, 1819, 7 Stat. 185.

¹⁰⁴7 Stat. 811.

by persons to be appointed by the President of the United States."

This treaty was negotiated to define the limits of the Cherokees' new home in the West—limits which were different from those contemplated by the treaty of 1817 and convention of 1819 and included the following promise:

"The United States agree to possess the Cherokees, and to guarantee it to them forever, and that guarantee is hereby solemnly pledged, of seven millions of acres of land."

Also interesting is the preamble wherein is stated:

"* * * the inviolable desire of the Government of the United States to secure to the Cherokee nation of Indians a permanent home, and which shall, under the most solemn guarantee of the United States, be, and remain, theirs forever—a home that shall never, in all future time, be embarrassed by having extended around it lines, or placed over it the jurisdiction of a Territory or State, nor be pressed upon by the extension, in any way, of any of the limits of any existing Territory or State." (T. 811.)

Article 6 provided that whenever the Cherokees desired it, a set of plain laws suited to their condition would be furnished.¹⁰⁵

Confidential agents were then sent to the Cherokee Nation to renew efforts to secure immigrants to the west, but these efforts met with little success.¹⁰⁶ Obviously more forcible measures would have to be used, and the expansionists awaited eagerly the replacing of John Quincy Adams with a Chief Executive who would not hesitate to take such action.¹⁰⁷

The election of 1828 supplied just such a President. Despite a conciliatory inaugural address,¹⁰⁸ Andrew Jackson immediately made it clear that the Indians must go West.¹⁰⁹ In this he was

¹⁰⁵The term "property which he may abandon" is construed as fixed property, "that which he could not take with him, in a word, the land and improvements which he had occupied" in 2 Op. U. S. 451 (1830).

¹⁰⁶Treaty of May 6, 1828, Art. 2, 7 Stat. 811.

¹⁰⁷This treaty was ratified with the proviso that it should not interfere with the lands assigned or to be assigned to the Creek Indians nor should it be construed to cede any lands heretofore ceded to any tribe by any treaty now in existence.

On February 14, 1834, a treaty (7 Stat. 414) to settle disputed Creek claims was negotiated with the Cherokee Nation west of the Mississippi. In addition to certain amendments to the preceding agreement, an article described as a

"* * * potential conflict West, and a free and unobstructed use of the Country lying West of the Western boundary of the above described limits, and as far West as the sovereignty of the United States, and their right of soil extend."

which had been guaranteed in Treaty of May 6, 1828, Art. 2, 7 Stat. 811, was reaffirmed.

¹⁰⁸This article was circled, at Cherokee request, by Treaty of February 11, 1838, Art. 9, 7 Stat. 414.

¹⁰⁹Foreman, *Indian Removal* (1929), pp. 21, 231, 241, *Abel, Indian Consolidation*, in *Annual Report, American Ethnological Association* (1906), vol. 1, p. 861.

¹¹⁰*Abel, op. cit.*, p. 870.

¹¹¹In his speech of March 4, 1829, Jackson said:

"It will be my sincere and constant desire to observe toward the Indian tribes within our limits a just and liberal policy, and to give that humane and considerate attention to their rights and their wants which is consistent with the habits of our Government and the feelings of our people." (*H. Misc. Doc.*, 68th Cong. 2d sess. (1805-06), vol. 87, pt. 2, p. 438.)

¹¹²See *Abel op. cit.*, p. 870, 378, *Foreman, op. cit.*, p. 21. In his first message to Congress of December 8, 1829, Jackson used voluntary removal as a protection to the Indians and the states. (*H. Misc. Doc.*, 53d Cong. 2d sess. (1893-94), vol. 87, pt. 2, p. 468.) On May 28, 1830, the Indian Removal Act (4 Stat. 411, 25 U. S. C. 174, R. S. § 2114) was passed. (Amendments guaranteeing protection to the Indians from the states and respect for treaty rights until removal were deleted (*Abel, op. cit.*, p. 380).) It gave to President Jackson power to initiate proceedings for exchange of lands. This began, with requests for conference, in August of 1830 (*Foreman, op. cit.*,

aided by the legislation of Georgia which had enacted laws to harass and make intolerable the life of the Indian Cherokee.⁴⁶

When the objectives of the hostile legislation became evident the chief of the Cherokee Nation, John Ross, determined to seek relief and filed a motion in the Supreme Court of the United States to enjoin the execution of certain Georgia laws. The bill reviewed the various guarantees in the treaties between the Cherokee Nation and the United States and complained that the action of the Georgia legislature was in direct violation thereof.

While the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court was denied on the grounds that the Cherokee Nation was not a foreign state within the meaning of the Constitution, Chief Justice Marshall nevertheless gave intimation to a highly significant analysis—the first judicial analysis⁴⁷ of the effect of the various treaties upon the status of the Indian nation.

“The numerous treaties made with them by the United States, recognize them as a people capable of maintaining the relations of peace and war, of being responsible in their political character for any violation of their engagements, or for any aggression committed on the citizens of the United States, by any individual of their community. Laws have been enacted in the spirit of these treaties. The acts of our government plainly recognize the Cherokee nation as a state, and the country is bound by those acts.”

Shortly thereafter, two missionaries, Worcester and Butler, were indicted in the Superior Court of Gwinnett County for residing in that part of the Cherokee country attached to Georgia by recent state laws, in violation of a legislative act which forbade the residence of whites in Cherokee country without an oath of allegiance to the state and a license to remain.⁴⁸ Mr. Worcester pleaded that the United States had acknowledged its treaties with the Cherokees the latter's status as a sovereign nation and as a consequence the prosecution of state laws could not be maintained. He was tried, convicted and sentenced to 4 years in the penitentiary.

On a writ of error the case was carried to the Supreme Court of the United States, where the Court asserted its jurisdiction and reversed the judgment of the Superior Court for the County of Gwinnett in the State of Georgia, declaring that it had been pronounced under color of a law which was repugnant to the Constitution, laws and treaties of the United States. Chief Justice Marshall in delivering this opinion examined the records of the various treaties with the Cherokees and proceeded to point out:

“They [state laws] interfere forcibly with the relations established between the United States and the Cherokee nation, the violation of which, according to the settled principles of our constitution, are committed exclusively to the government of the Union. They are in direct hostility with treaties, repeated in a succession of years, which mark out the boundary that separates the Cherokee country from Georgia, guarantee to them all the land within their boundary, solemnly pledge the faith of the United States to restrain their citizens from trespassing on it, and recognize the pre-existing power of the nation to govern itself. They are in hostility with the acts of congress for regulating this intercourse, and giving effect to the treaties.”

pp 21-22) The Indians were advised that refusal meant end of federal protection and abandonment to state laws (Abel, *op cit*, p 382, Foreman, *op cit*, pp 221-232).

⁴⁶ See *Worcester v Georgia*, 6 Pet 515 (1832). See also, Foreman, *op cit*, pp 229-230.

⁴⁷ *Cherokee Nation v Georgia*, 5 Pet 1, 16 (1831). See Chapter 14, sec 8.

⁴⁸ Foreman, *op cit*, p 235.

⁴⁹ Worcester v Georgia, 6 Pet 515, 561, 562, (1832). On the failure of Georgia to abide by the Supreme Court decision, see Chapter 7, sec 2.

In September 1831, the President sent Benjamin F. Cuyler of Tennessee into the Cherokee country to superintend the work of enrolling the natives for the journey to the west.⁵⁰ Cuyler found the task difficult and slow, only 71 families enrolling by December.⁵¹ The Cherokees were divided on removal, one group headed by John Ridge favorable to emigration, another faction remaining loyal to their chief, John Ross, and opposed to the program.⁵² In 1834 the Ridge faction negotiated a sweeping treaty for removal which failed of ratification by the Cherokee council.⁵³

In 1835, delegates from both factions were sent to Washington. After the Ross group had refused the President's terms, negotiations were opened with the opposing party, and on March 14 an agreement was drawn up which was not to be considered binding until it should receive the approval of the Cherokee people in full council.⁵⁴

At a full council meeting in October 1835, at Red Clay, Tennessee, both factions, temporarily abandoning their quarrels, united in opposition to this treaty and rejected it.⁵⁵ Another meeting was then called at New Echota, and a new treaty was negotiated and signed.⁵⁶

By Article 1, the Cherokee Nation ceded all their land east of the Mississippi River to the United States for \$5,000,000.

Article 2 of this instrument recites that whereas by treaties with the Cherokees west of the Mississippi, the United States had guaranteed and ceded to be conveyed by patent a certain territory as their permanent home, together with “a perpetual outlet west,” provided that other tribes shall have access to saline deposits on said territory, it is now agreed “to convey to the said Indians, and their descendants by patent, in fee simple . . . certain additional territory.”

The estate of the Cherokees in their new homeland (by Art 2, 7,000,000 acres and an additional 800,000 acres) has been variously called a fee simple,⁵⁷ an estate in fee upon a condition subsequent,⁵⁸ and a have, qualified or determinable fee.⁵⁹

Article 5 provides that the new Cherokee land should not be included within any state or territory without their consent, and

⁵⁰ The methods which were employed at this time have been described thus:

Intrigue was met by intrigue. Cuyler secretly employed intelligent individuals for a liberal compensation to circulate among the Indians and advance to them the offer to be drawn their resistance . . . Placed with liquor, the Indians were charmed with drink for which their property was taken with or without notice of law (Foreman, *op cit*, p 231).

⁵¹ *Ibid*, p 241.

⁵² Abel, *op cit* in 352 p 404.

⁵³ Treaty of time 10, 1834 (unratified). This treaty ceded to the United States all the Cherokee land in Georgia, North Carolina, Tennessee, and Alabama, and the Indians agreed to move west. Abel, *op cit*, p 403, Foreman, *op cit*, pp 204, 205.

⁵⁴ Treaty of March 14, 1835 (unratified). By this treaty the tribe ceded all its eastern territory and agreed to move west for \$4,500,000. Foreman, *op cit*, p 200, Abel, *op cit* pp 403, 404.

⁵⁵ Foreman, *op cit*, pp 206-207.

⁵⁶ December 20, 1835, 7 Stat 478, 483 (Supplement). The events leading to this treaty are analyzed in L. K. Cohen, *The Treaty of New Echota* (1936), 8 Indiana at Work No. 10.

⁵⁷ *Cherokee Nation v. Georgia*, 5 Pet 515, 562, 563, 564, 565, 566, 567, 568, 569, 570, 571, 572, 573, 574, 575, 576, 577, 578, 579, 580, 581, 582, 583, 584, 585, 586, 587, 588, 589, 590, 591, 592, 593, 594, 595, 596, 597, 598, 599, 600, 601, 602, 603, 604, 605, 606, 607, 608, 609, 610, 611, 612, 613, 614, 615, 616, 617, 618, 619, 620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627, 628, 629, 630, 631, 632, 633, 634, 635, 636, 637, 638, 639, 640, 641, 642, 643, 644, 645, 646, 647, 648, 649, 650, 651, 652, 653, 654, 655, 656, 657, 658, 659, 660, 661, 662, 663, 664, 665, 666, 667, 668, 669, 670, 671, 672, 673, 674, 675, 676, 677, 678, 679, 680, 681, 682, 683, 684, 685, 686, 687, 688, 689, 690, 691, 692, 693, 694, 695, 696, 697, 698, 699, 700, 701, 702, 703, 704, 705, 706, 707, 708, 709, 710, 711, 712, 713, 714, 715, 716, 717, 718, 719, 720, 721, 722, 723, 724, 725, 726, 727, 728, 729, 730, 731, 732, 733, 734, 735, 736, 737, 738, 739, 740, 741, 742, 743, 744, 745, 746, 747, 748, 749, 750, 751, 752, 753, 754, 755, 756, 757, 758, 759, 760, 761, 762, 763, 764, 765, 766, 767, 768, 769, 770, 771, 772, 773, 774, 775, 776, 777, 778, 779, 780, 781, 782, 783, 784, 785, 786, 787, 788, 789, 790, 791, 792, 793, 794, 795, 796, 797, 798, 799, 800, 801, 802, 803, 804, 805, 806, 807, 808, 809, 810, 811, 812, 813, 814, 815, 816, 817, 818, 819, 820, 821, 822, 823, 824, 825, 826, 827, 828, 829, 830, 831, 832, 833, 834, 835, 836, 837, 838, 839, 840, 841, 842, 843, 844, 845, 846, 847, 848, 849, 850, 851, 852, 853, 854, 855, 856, 857, 858, 859, 860, 861, 862, 863, 864, 865, 866, 867, 868, 869, 870, 871, 872, 873, 874, 875, 876, 877, 878, 879, 880, 881, 882, 883, 884, 885, 886, 887, 888, 889, 890, 891, 892, 893, 894, 895, 896, 897, 898, 899, 900, 901, 902, 903, 904, 905, 906, 907, 908, 909, 910, 911, 912, 913, 914, 915, 916, 917, 918, 919, 920, 921, 922, 923, 924, 925, 926, 927, 928, 929, 930, 931, 932, 933, 934, 935, 936, 937, 938, 939, 940, 941, 942, 943, 944, 945, 946, 947, 948, 949, 950, 951, 952, 953, 954, 955, 956, 957, 958, 959, 960, 961, 962, 963, 964, 965, 966, 967, 968, 969, 970, 971, 972, 973, 974, 975, 976, 977, 978, 979, 980, 981, 982, 983, 984, 985, 986, 987, 988, 989, 990, 991, 992, 993, 994, 995, 996, 997, 998, 999, 1000.

* * * By looking at the title of the Cherokees to their lands, we find that they held them all by substantially the same kind of title, the only difference being that the outlet is numbered with the stipulation that the United States is to permit other tribes to get out on the Salt Plains. With this exception, the title of the Cherokee Nation to the outlet is just as fixed, certain, extensive, and perpetual as the title to any of their lands.

The President and Senate in concluding a treaty, can lawfully covenant that a patent should issue to convey lands which belong to the United States. *Holmes v. Jay*, 17 Wall 211 (1872).

⁵⁸ *Holmes v. Jay*, 17 Wall 211 (1872).

⁵⁹ *United States v. Reese*, 27 Fed Cas No 16,137 (D. C. Mass 1868).

that their right to make laws not inconsistent with the Constitution or intercourse acts should be secured.¹²

The New Echota treaty also provided (Art. 12) under certain conditions, reservations of 100 acres for those who wished to remain east of the Mississippi¹³ and for settlement of claims (Art. 13) for former reservations. In addition a commission was established (Art. 17) to adjudicate these claims.¹⁴

2. *Chickasaws*.—Although the domain of the Chickasaw Nation was considerably restricted by the treaties of 1816¹⁵ and 1818¹⁶ it was not until 1830 that the subject of "removal" was given serious consideration. During the summer of that year, the President met the principal chiefs of the Chickasaw Nation and warned them that they would be compelled either to migrate to the west or to submit to the laws of the state.¹⁷ After several days of conference a provisional treaty¹⁸ was signed. However, ratification was conditional upon the Chickasaws being given a home in the West on the lands of the Choctaw Nation, and as the two nations could come to no agreement the treaty remained unfulfilled.¹⁹ Nevertheless, white infiltration into Chickasaw land east of the Mississippi was accelerated, and the problem of removal became a pressing government problem.²⁰

On October 20, 1832,²¹ another treaty for removal was negotiated in which all of the land of the tribe east of the Mississippi

was ceded to the United States²² to be sold at public auction.²³ Article 4 provides:

1. That the Chickasaw people shall not deprive themselves of a comfortable home, in the country where they now are, until they shall have provided a country in the west to remove to. . . . It is therefore agreed . . . that they will endeavor as soon as it may be in their power, after the ratification of this treaty, to build out and procure a home for their people, west of the Mississippi river, . . . they are to select out of the surveys, a comfortable settlement for every family in the Chickasaw nation, to include their present improvements, if the land is good for cultivation, and if not they may take it in any other place in the nation, which is unoccupied by any other person. . . . All of which tracts of land, so selected and retained, shall be held, and occupied by the Chickasaw people, uninterrupted until they shall find and obtain a country suited to their wants and condition. And the United States will guarantee to the Chickasaw nation, the quiet possession and uninterrupted use of the said reserved tracts of land, so long as they may live on and occupy the same. . . .

Despite the guarantee of the United States to the Chickasaws of the "quiet possession and uninterrupted use" of the reserved tracts,²⁴ white settlers continued to occupy and occupy their country unlawfully.²⁵ Furthermore, the problem of finding land in the West proved a difficult one. Finally convinced of the need for amending the treaty in certain particulars, the Government consented to the conclusion of another treaty on May 21, 1834.²⁶ This altered the program of removal, granted in fee certain reservations, while asserting that the Chickasaws "will hope to find a country, adequate to the wants and support of their people, somewhere west of the Mississippi."

By Article 2, the Chickasaws on their removal west were to be protected by the United States from the hostile pursuits of tribes. They pledged themselves never to make war on another tribe, or on whites, "unless they are so authorized by the United States." Article 4 set up a commission of Chickasaws to pass on the competency of members of the tribe to handle and sell their land. Articles 5 and 6 listed the cases in which reservations could be granted in fee, and determined the amount of land in each case.²⁷ Article 9 provided that funds from the sale of Chickasaw lands be used for schools, mills, blacksmith shops, etc.²⁸

3. *Choctaws*.—By 1820 it was evident that the Choctaws, disturbed by the number of settlers who were pouring into the rich valleys of the Mississippi, would consent to "removal." Ac-

¹² *In Cherokee Nation v. Southern Aon or Railway Co.*, 135 U. S. 611 (1890), the Supreme Court commented on this clause:

* * * By the Treaty of New Echota, 1835, the United States government acquired that the lands ceded to the Cherokee Nation should at no future time, without their consent be included with in the territorial limits in jurisdiction of any State or Territory, and that the government would secure to that nation "the right by their national control to make and carry into effect all such laws as they may deem necessary to the government of the persons and property within their own country, belonging to that people, or such persons as have continued themselves with them." * * * But neither these nor any previous treaties evoked any intention, on the part of the government, to discontinue them from that condition of paganism or dependency and constitute them a separate independent, sovereign people, with no superior within its limits. * * * (P. 634.)

¹³ The Indians who remained behind under this provision revoked their connection with the Chickasaw Nation (*Cherokee First Bands*, 117 U. S. 288 (1886)), without becoming citizens either of the United States or North Carolina. *United States v. Boyd*, 53 Fed. 717 (C. C. A., 1897).

In later years some of the ceded Cherokee lands were bought back by Choctaws, who claimed removal. In 1925 this land was recovered to the United States in trust by Indians for disposition under the Act of June 4, 1924, 48 Stat. 876. See *Divisional Note*, 25 U. S. G. A. 31. That the President has power to appoint new commissioners thus brings no limitation to this authority, except the fulfillment of its purposes, but that the expense cannot be delayed out of the Choctaw's land is the advice of the Attorney General. 10 Op. A. G. 800 (1870), 4 Op. A. G. 78 (1842). See also 5 Op. A. G. 208 (1850), 11 Rep. No. 391, 28th Cong., 1st sess. (1844).

¹⁴ Treaty of September 20, 1832, 7 Stat. 150. For certain ceded lands north and south of the Tennessee River, the Indians received \$12,000 net annuity for 10 years (Art. 2 and 3).

Article 5 prohibits the issuance of peddling to trade within the Chickasaw Nation and describes the activities of the trader as a disadvantage to the nation.

¹⁵ Treaty of October 19, 1816, 7 Stat. 102, concluded by *Pontrevel v. Clark*, 2 How. 76, 58 (1813). All Chickasaw land north of the north boundary of Tennessee was ceded for \$300,000—\$20,000 annually for 15 years (Art. 2 and 8).

¹⁶ Foreman, op. cit. p. 193. Each of the Chickasaw chiefs was to receive four sections of land in the treaty were ratified.

¹⁷ Treaty of September 4, 1830 (unratified).

¹⁸ Several official attempts were made by the Government to persuade the Chickasaws of the desirability of amalgamating with the Choctaws. Foreman, op. cit. pp. 193-198.

¹⁹ *Ibid.*, p. 207.

²⁰ 7 Stat. 351. Supplementary and explanatory articles (7 Stat. 358) adopted October 22, 1832. Art. 9 is of interest. The Chickasaws

* * * will always need a friend to advise and direct them. There shall be an agent kept with the Chickasaws as heretofore so long as they live within the jurisdiction of the United States as a nation. * * * And whenever the office of agent shall expire, * * * the President will pay due regard to the wishes of the nation. * * *

²¹ *Ibid.*, Art. 1.

²² *Ibid.*, Art. 2.

²³ *Ibid.* See Art. 4 and 25.

²⁴ Foreman, op. cit. p. 199.

²⁵ Treaty of May 21, 1834, 7 Stat. 450. It is of interest that in previous treaties the word "cede" was used. In this the phrase "abandon their homes" is used (Art. 2).

²⁶ Art. 2. Much land was not found until 1837, when the Chickasaws purchased a large tract of land from the Choctaws. Foreman, op. cit. p. 203.

²⁷ For opinion that a widow keeping house and having children or other persons residing with her, except slaves, is the head of a family unless said children or other persons are provided for under the sixth and eighth articles, that as many Indian wives as were living with their children apart from their husbands (though wives of the same Indian) are "heads of a family" within the meaning of the fifth article of the treaty, see 3 Op. A. G. 34, 41 (1836). And see, on the scope of investments under Art. 11, 8 Op. A. G. 179 (1837).

Title to reservations was complete when the locations were made to identify them. *Best v. Fox*, 18 Wall. 112 (1878).

For details concerning the number of claimants for lands, the number approved, and the names of the survivors of those Indians who obtained title pursuant to the provisions of the Chickasaw treaty made at Washington in 1834, see 11 Rep. No. 180, 29th Cong. 1st sess., vol. VI (1846).

²⁸ Also see sec. 803 of this Chapter.

couching negotiations were begun and on October 18, 1820," the Indians ceded to the United States the "ceded tract" in western Mississippi "on land west of the Mississippi between the Arkansas and Red rivers."

Article 4 of the treaty contains the guarantee that the boundaries established should remain without alteration

until the period at which said nation shall become so civilized and enlightened as to be made citizens of the United States, and Congress shall lay off a tracted parcel of land for the benefit of each family or individual in the nation

Article 12 gives the agent full power to confiscate all whiskey except that brought under permit into the nation. This appears to be the first attempt by treaty to regulate traffic in liquor.

Shortly after the treaty was signed it was discovered that a part of Choctaw's new country was already occupied by white settlers.¹¹⁵ The President called to Washington delegates from the Choctaw Nation to reconsider the matter and negotiate another treaty. This was done on January 20, 1825,¹¹⁶ and the Choctaws for \$6,000 a year for 10 years (Art. 3), and a permanent annuity of \$6,000 (Art. 2), ceded back all the land lying east of a line which today is the boundary between Arkansas and Oklahoma. By Article 4 of the 1825 treaty it is also agreed that all those who have reservations under the preceding treaty "shall have power, with the consent of the President of the United States, to sell and convey the same in fee simple." Article 7 calls for the modification of Article 4 of the preceding treaty so that the Congress of the United States shall not exercise the power of allotting lands to individuals without the consent of the Choctaw Nation.

A few years later, federal agents, anxious to speed up the migration program under the Removal Act of 1830¹¹⁷ held another series of conferences in the Choctaw Nation.

At Dancing Rabbit Creek, at a conference characterized by generous present-giving,¹¹⁸ a treaty was signed on September 27, 1830.¹¹⁹ By this agreement the Choctaws ceded the remainder of their holdings east of the Mississippi to the United States Government in return for

* * * a tract of country west of the Mississippi River, in fee simple to them and their descendants, to issue to them while they shall exist as a nation and live on it. * * *

¹¹⁵ Treaty of Doak's Stand of October 18, 1820, 7 Stat. 210. Construed in *Choctaw Nation v. United States*, 129 U. S. 81 (1889), *United States v. Choctaw Nation*, 270 U. S. 484, 507 (1900), *Mittler v. United States*, 224 U. S. 448, 460 (1912). In *St. v. United States*, 132 U. S. 84, 100 (1849), this treaty was cited in support of the statement that the alien and dependent condition of the members of the Indian tribes could not be put off at their own will without the action or assent of the United States. In *Flint v. McKinnon*, 218 U. S. 96, 99 (1900), the Supreme Court declared that by this treaty the United States owed certain lands to the Choctaw Nation with "no qualifying words."

¹¹⁶ Abel, op cit fn 362, p 286. The tract was ceded particularly by the state of Mississippi. See Art. 1.

¹¹⁷ Art. 2.

¹¹⁸ Abel, op cit, pp 280-287.

¹¹⁹ Treaty of January 20, 1825, 7 Stat. 284, construed in 2 Op. A. G. 405 (1881), and 8 Op. A. G. 48 (1836).

¹²⁰ Act of May 28, 1830, 4 Stat. 411, R. S. § 2214, 26 U. S. C. 174. The expense account for the negotiations at Dancing Rabbit Creek submitted by the federal commissioners included items of \$1,409.84 for calico, quilts, soap, etc. Sen. Doc. No. 612, 2d ed. (cong. 1st sess., p. 251-255).

¹²¹ 7 Stat. 338. This was the first treaty made and ratified under the Removal Act of May 28, 1830, 4 Stat. 411.

¹²² Art. 2. In 1900 the United States Supreme Court examined this particular provision and ruled that this was a grant to the Choctaw Nation and was not to be held in trust for members of the tribe, which upon dissolution of the tribal relationship would confer upon each individual absolute ownership at tax rate in common. *Flint v. McKinnon*, 218 U. S. 96 (1900). See Chapter 13, sec. 1A.

This tract was the same as that in the Treaty of January 20, 1825.

Provision is also made for reservations of land to individual Indians in Articles 14¹²⁰ and 19¹²¹. In Article 14, it is also stipulated that a grant in fee simple shall issue upon the fulfillment of certain conditions.¹²²

Whether a time construction of Article 14 created a trust for the children of each reservee was one of the questions before the United States Supreme Court in *Wilson v. Wall*. Said the Court,

The parties to this contract may justly be presumed to have had in view the previous custom and usages with regard to grants to persons "desirous to become citizens." The treaty suggests that they are "a people in a state of rapid advancement in education and refinement." But it does not follow that they were acquainted with the doctrine of trusts. * * * (P. 87.)

The following provisions of Article 4 of the Treaty of Dancing Rabbit Creek deserve to be noted

"The Government and people of the United States are hereby obliged to secure to the said Choctaw Nation of Red People the jurisdiction and government of all the persons and property that may be within their limits west, so that no Territory or State shall ever have a right to pass laws for the Government of the Choctaw Nation of Red People and their descendants, and that none of the land granted them shall ever be embraced in any Territory or State, but the U. S. shall forever secure said Choctaw Nation from and against all laws except such as from time to time may be enacted in their own National Councils, not inconsistent with the Constitution, Treaties, and Laws of the United States."

¹²³ Art. 14.

¹²⁴ Article 14 provided reservations of land for those desiring to remain and become citizens of the states. Such persons retained their Choctaw citizenship, but lost their annuity if they removed. That in the event of the death of reservees under the fourteenth article of the treaty of 1830, before the fulfillment of the condition precedent to the grant in fee simple of the reserve, the interest thereby acquired passed to those persons who under state laws succeeded to the inheritable interest of the individual in question. See 2 Op. A. G. 107 (1839).

If an Indian was prevented by the force or fraud of individuals having no authority from the Government from complying with the conditions of Article 14 of the treaty of Dancing Rabbit Creek, it is considered by the Government (even though he might have temporarily lost possession by such tortious acts) his claim is still valid. 4 Op. A. G. 312 (1846). And see, on eligibility to receive reservations, 5 Op. A. G. 231 (1850).

No forfeiture has resulted from the fraudulent sale of the agent of the Government who induced claimants to apply for reserves under the nineteenth article, and which were located for them, but for which patents have not been demanded, nor issued. See 4 Op. A. G. 132 (1845).

To the effect that the essential provisions of the Choctaw treaty of 1830 must take precedence over any later claims under the previous laws, but that regulations to carry treaty into effect need not be inflexible and may be modified in any way not inconsistent with the treaty. See 8 Op. A. G. 805 (1868).

Residence for 5 years after ratification of the treaty with the intention of becoming a citizen is a condition.

¹²⁵ *Wilson v. Wall*, 6 Wall. 88, 87-90 (1867).

¹²⁶ In a negligence action brought in 1910 to the United States Court in the Indian Territory, the defense advanced was a general denial and a plea of the statute of limitations which, it was claimed, was in force in the Indian Territory when that country was a part of the territory of Missouri, and remained in force notwithstanding the separation of the territory. This Circuit Judge Caldwell denied, calling attention to the treaty with the Choctaw Nation of September 27, 1830, 7 Stat. 338, by which the United States Government "bound itself in the most solemn manner to exclude white people from the territory, and never to permit the laws of any state or territory to be extended over it." *St. Louis v. S. P. R. Co. v. O'Leary*, 40 Fed. 440, 442 (U. S. C. A. 8, 1893).

The fact that it does not empower the Choctaw to punish by their own law, white men who come into their nation, see 2 Op. A. G. 693 (1834). And see Chapter 7, sec. 0.

The nature and extent of the jurisdiction of the Choctaw Nation were reviewed by Attorney General Caleb Cushing in 1855:

Now, among the provisions of the treaty of Dancing Rabbit Creek are several of a very significant character having exclusive reference to the question of criminal jurisdiction.

In the first place, it provides that any Choctaw, committing acts of violence upon the person or property of "citizens of the United States," shall be delivered up for trial and punishment by the laws of the United States; by which also are to be punished all acts of violence committed upon persons or property of the Choctaw nation by "citizens of the United States." Provision less explicit, but apparently on the same principle, is made for the repression or punishment of theft. General engagement is made by the United States to prevent or punish the intrusion of their "citizens" into the territory of the nation. (Arts. 6, 7, 9, 12.)

In the second place, the Choctaws express a wish in the treaty that Congress would grant to the Choctaws the right of punishing, by their own laws, "any white man" who shall come into the nation, and infringe any of their national regulations (art. 4.) But Congress did not accede to this request. On the contrary, it has made provision, by a series of laws for the punishment of crimes affecting white men, committed by or on them in the Indian country, including that of the Choctaws, by the courts of the United States. (See act of June 30, 1834, 14 Stat. at Large, p. 726, and act of June 17, 1850, v Stat. at Large, p. 680.) These acts cover as far as they go all crimes except those committed by Indian against Indian.

But there is no provision of treaty, and no statute, which takes away from the Choctaws jurisdiction of a case like this, a question of property strictly internal to the Choctaw nation; nor is there any written law which confers jurisdiction of such a case on any court of United States. (Tp. 174, 175-176.)

Before the Treaty of Dancing Rabbit Creek was proclaimed,⁴⁴ whites began to move into Choctaw country illegally,⁴⁵ and Indians, "ill-equipped and inadequately provisioned" began to move west⁴⁶ under the aegis of Greenwood Le Flore, a mixed blood and former Choctaw chief.⁴⁷ President Jackson then ordered that removal be supervised by the Army.⁴⁸ Removal began on a large scale in the fall of 1831.⁴⁹ It had not been entirely completed at the end of the century.⁵⁰

4. *Creeks*.—The cession⁵¹ of land by the Creeks after the uprising of the "hostiles" in 1812 "was the first step in the direction of systematic removal."⁵²

The Compact of 1802⁵³ became the source of constant agitation in Georgia for change in the Creek boundary line. On January 22, 1818, a redefinition of the boundary of the Creek Nation was secured,⁵⁴ but the lands obtained by this agreement were less fertile⁵⁵ than had been anticipated and another treaty

was negotiated January 8, 1821.⁵⁶ Part of the consideration tendered the Creeks on this occasion (Art. 4) was the payment to the State of Georgia of " * * * whatever balance may be found due by the Creek nation to the citizens of said state * * * " The value of the ceded land was placed at \$450,000, of which not more than \$250,000 was to be paid to settle the claims of Georgia citizens against the Creek Nation,⁵⁷ the exact amount of which is left to the decision of the President of the United States.

After the award had been made, Georgia asked that it be enlarged to cover other claims. The Attorney General, after advising that the award of President Monroe must be considered final and conclusive, reviewed the contents of the treaties between the United States and the Creek Nation and asserted:

One head of these claims submitted for my opinion is the claim for property destroyed, and which the people of Georgia carry back to 1783, the date of the treaty of Augusta. How stands this claim under these treaties? There is not one treaty which contains any stipulation to answer for property destroyed. * * * what is the effect, in a treaty of peace, of express provisions with regard to some part wrongs, and a total silence as to others? Is it not a virtual extinguishment of all claims for antecedent wrongs with regard to which the treaty is silent?

It is further asked, why the Creek nation did not stipulate for the payment over to themselves of the large surplus that must inevitably remain, upon the supposition that the claim for property destroyed was not to be allowed?

They were at the foot of the white people, with whom they were treating. They saw a formidable array of claims, * * * and of the circumstances attending which, the living race of Creeks must have been wholly ignorant—and now dug up from the dead, by the State of Georgia, and presented and pressed as living and valid claims. * * * the alleged debtors were Indians, a conquered and despoiled race, for whom it was natural for them to suppose that no sympathy was left either by the creditor or the judge. Is it not probable that, under these circumstances, they were ignorant enough to think it probable that no surplus would remain, and that they were willing enough to surrender to the United States the whole \$250,000, on the condition of their relieving them from claims to which there seemed to be no end, but which threatened to be immortal? * * *

In 1824 commissioners from the United States Government arrived in the Creek Nation to negotiate for still another session. At Broken Arrow, in Alabama, they met with the Creeks and told them that the President had extensive holdings beyond the Mississippi which he wished to give them in exchange for the land they then occupied.⁵⁸

The Creek chiefs replied:

* * * ruin is the almost inevitable consequence of a removal beyond the Mississippi, we are convinced. It is true, very true, that we are surrounded by white people; that there are encroachments made—what assurances have we that similar ones will not be made on us, should we deem it proper to accept your offer, and remove beyond

⁴⁴ 7 Op. A. G. 174, 175-179 (1866). See Chapter 7, sec. 8.

⁴⁵ *Forrest*, 24, 1883.

⁴⁶ *Forrest*, op. cit. p. 31.

⁴⁷ *Ibid.*, p. 33.

⁴⁸ *Ibid.*, p. 42.

⁴⁹ *Ibid.*, pp. 48-49.

⁵⁰ *Ibid.*, p. 104.

⁵¹ Treaty of August 8, 1814, 7 Stat. 123.

⁵² *Ibid.*, op. cit. p. 302, p. 275. See pp. 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100.

⁵³ By that compact, Georgia ceded territory now part of Alabama and Mississippi in consideration of which the United States agreed to extinguish Indian title within the limits of Georgia, as soon as it could be done "peaceably and on reasonable terms." *Ibid.*, op. cit. pp. 322, 323.

Ordinarily lands ceded to the United States became part of the public domain. By the Georgia pact, it became the property of the state. Hence, Georgia felt her failure to share equitably in previous land cessions was the reason for her action. *Ibid.*, op. cit. p. 323.

⁵⁴ Treaty of January 22, 1818, 7 Stat. 123.

⁵⁵ *Indian Office Letter Books*, Series I, P. 324, cited in *Ibid.*, op. cit., pp. 323, 324.

⁵⁶ Treaty of January 8, 1821, 7 Stat. 315. Subsequent to this treaty, the question of whether the United States was keeping her part of the Georgia compact arose. A House committee reporting on January 7, 1822 (*American State Papers*, "Indian Affairs," II, p. 260), held that it was not. According to *Ibid.*, (op. cit., p. 323), the constitutional significance of removal dates from that report.

⁵⁷ By the Treaty of August 7, 1790, 7 Stat. 85, the Creeks had undertaken responsibility to return prisoners, white or Negro, in any part of the nation (Art. 8). By that article, the Treaty of Indian Springs of January 8, 1821 (Art. 4), 7 Stat. 315, had their responsibility not exceeding \$250,000 by the citizens of Georgia, for runaway slaves. *Forrest*, op. cit. p. 317.

⁵⁸ *Ibid.*, op. cit. p. 316, 1820, 1821 (1820).

⁵⁹ *Indian Office Letter Books*, Series I, P. 324, cited in *Ibid.*, op. cit., pp. 323, 324.

the Mississippi, and how do we know that we would not be encroaching on the people of other nations.¹²²

Finally after days of unavailing speech-making the conference was adjourned. However, one Commissioner, Duncan G. Campbell, aware that one faction in the Creek Nation headed by William McIntosh¹²³ favored migration, brought about the resumption of treaty negotiations at Indian Springs, its stronghold in Georgia.¹²⁴

Significantly the Great Chief of the Creeks, Little Prince, and his second in command, Big Warrior, were absent, having dispatched a representative to the treaty council to protest against the lack of authority of those in attendance.¹²⁵ Undiscouraged, Campbell continued the negotiations and on February 12, 1825,¹²⁶ a treaty was concluded providing for the surrender of certain Creek holdings for \$400,000 for lands of "like quantity, acre for acre, westward of the Mississippi."¹²⁷

A year later a new treaty¹²⁸ was negotiated and referred to the Senate which refused its "advice and consent."¹²⁹ A few days later a supplementary article¹³⁰ providing for an additional cession of land was submitted and with this alteration, the treaty received Senate confirmation.¹³¹

Here, however, the matter did not end. Georgia now denied that treaties with the Indians had the same effect as those with civilized nations and asked that the whole question of claims under the Treaty of 1821 be reconsidered. This was refused by the Attorney General of the United States who declared:

The matter of this objection requires to be coolly analyzed.

First, they are an uncivilized nation. And what then? Are not the treaties which are made with them obligatory on both sides? It was made a question in the age of Grotius, whether treaties made by Christians with heathens were obligatory on the former. "This discussion," says Vattel (book II, chap. xii, sec. 151), "might be necessary at a time when the madness of party still darkened those principles which it had long caused to be forgotten, but we may venture to believe it would be superfluous in our age. The law of nature alone opposes the treaties of nations. The difference of religion is a thing absolutely foreign to them. Different people treat with each other in quality of men, and not under the character of Christians or of Mussulmans. Their

common safety requires that they should treat with each other, and treat with security."

What Vattel says of differences of religion is equally applicable to this objection. * * * And that civilization which should claim an exemption from the full obligations of a treaty, or seek to narrow it by construction, on the ground that the other party to the treaty was uncivilized, would be as little entitled to our respect as the religion which should claim the same consequences on the ground that the other treating party was a heathen.¹³²

With the departure from the Presidency of John Quincy Adams the strict observance of treaty obligations with the Indian tribes ceased to be an accepted national policy. Henceforth the emphasis was to be on "removal," and a few days after his inauguration Andrew Jackson insisted that it was necessary for the Creeks to migrate as soon as possible.¹³³ In vain the Creeks protested.¹³⁴ Their delegation to Washington was granted an audience on the condition that they would be fully empowered to negotiate in conformity with the wishes of the Government.¹³⁵ Finally, a treaty was concluded March 24, 1832,¹³⁶ and all the Creek land east of the Mississippi passed into the possession of the Federal Government.

By article 14 of this agreement, the United States solemnly promised tribal self-government to the Creeks. A number of years later this guarantee figured in a charge to the jury regarding robbery committed in the Indian country. The court in denying that the Indian country was under the sole and exclusive jurisdiction of the United States said:

* * * A sole and exclusive jurisdiction would exclude all Indian laws and regulations, punish crimes committed by Indians on Indian land, and regulate and govern property and contracts and the civil and political relations of the inhabitants, Indians and others, in that country. It would be wholly opposed to a self-government by any Indian tribe or nation. This self-government is expressly recognized and secured by several treaties between the United States and Indian tribes in the Indian country attached by the act of 1834 to Arkansas or Missouri District for certain purposes. This may be seen from the treaty with the Choctaws in 1830, and the treaty with the Creeks in 1832, and other Indian treaties. * * * (P 104.)

For a number of years it was alleged that the United States had not fulfilled its obligations under this treaty. Suit was brought by the Creek Nation in the Court of Claims under the jurisdictional act of May 24, 1924.¹³⁷ The plaintiff sought to recover the 1837 value of the entire reserve except as to those sales for which it had been proved that the owners received the stipulated "fair consideration," alleging that the Government

¹²² Talk, December 8, 1824. Journal of Proceedings cited in Abel, *op cit.*, p. 387.

¹²³ A mixed blood, cousin of Governor Troup of Georgia, and leader of the lower Creek towns (Abel, *op cit.*, p. 383).

¹²⁴ Campbell had suggested various ways of securing the Creek signature to a "removal" treaty. Finally he was informed that the President would not countenance a treaty unless it were made "in the usual form, and upon the ordinary principles with which Treaties are held with Indian tribes. * * * Indian Office Letter Books, Series II, No. 1, pp. 308-316, cited in Abel, *op cit.*, p. 389.

¹²⁵ Abel, *op cit.*, p. 340.

¹²⁶ Stat. 287.

¹²⁷ Art. 2. All Creek holdings within the State of Georgia were included in the cession.

¹²⁸ Treaty of Washington of January 24, 1826, 7 Stat. 286.

¹²⁹ Abel, *op cit.*, p. 392.

¹³⁰ Supplementary article of March 31, 1826, 7 Stat. 288.

¹³¹ In the Committee of the Whole, Berrien of Georgia, asked that the first article be altered so that the Indian Spring Treaty could be abrogated without reflecting upon its negotiation. This was refused. Berrien and five others were the only members of the Senate who on the final vote refused to consent to ratification. Afterwards, Berrien admitted that he had voted against the treaty because he felt that it did not contain enough of an inducement to migration. American State Papers, Indian Affairs II, pp. 748-749, cited in Abel, *op cit.*, p. 392.

¹³² Before the whole matter was settled to the satisfaction of Georgia, which claimed that more than the described territory should have been relinquished, another treaty of cession was negotiated. Treaty of November 16, 1827, 7 Stat. 307.

¹³³ 2 Op. A. G. 310, 325-336 (1828). See also sec. 1, *supra*, fn. 5.

¹³⁴ Indian Office Letter Books, Series II, No. 6, pp. 373-375, cited in Abel, *op cit.*, fn. 383, p. 370.

¹³⁵ On February 8, 1832, the Head Man and Warriors of the Creek Indians addressed the Congress of the United States entreating them not to insist on the program of removal pointing out: "We are assured that, beyond the Mississippi, we shall be exempted from further cession. * * * Can we obtain * * * assurances more distinct and positive, than those we have already received and trusted? Can their power exempt us from intrusion in our promised borders, if they are incompetent to our protection where we are? * * * H. Doc. No. 102, 22d Cong. 1st. sess. (1832), vol. 2, p. 1, 2.

¹³⁶ Indian Office Letter Books, Series II, No. 7, p. 452, cited in Abel, *op cit.*, pp. 387-388.

¹³⁷ 7 Stat. 396. (This was amended in certain particulars by treaties of February 14, 1838, 7 Stat. 417, and November 23, 1838, 7 Stat. 674.) Article IV of the Treaty of February 14, 1838, 7 Stat. 417, expressly mentioned the Seminole Indians in Florida and provided for a permanent and comfortable home on the lands of the Creek Nation according to treaty negotiations with the Seminoles May 9, 1832, 7 Stat. 363.

¹³⁸ Anonymous, 1 Fed. Cas. No. 547 (C. C. Missouri 1848). And see *Alexander and Pacific Railroad Co. v. Missouri*, 168 U. S. 412, 431-438 (1897). See Chapter 38.

¹³⁹ C. 181, 48 Stat. 138.

luted to remove intruders from the country ceded as guaranteed by Article V of the treaty and that as a result it became impossible to fulfill Articles II and III involving the surveying and selection by the Indians, of reserved lands. While the Com. of Claims found that the Creek Nation, with certain exceptions, had waived all claims and demands in a subsequent treaty, its holding on the execution of this treaty is illuminating.

While the record leaves no room for doubt that most distasteful frauds by misrepresentation were perpetrated upon the Indians in the sales of a large part of the reserves, the conclusion is justified, and we think inescapable, that because of repeated investigations prosecuted by the Government these frauds were largely eliminated. The investigations were conducted by able and fearless men and were most thorough. Every possible effort was exerted by them to have individual reserves, who claimed they had been defrauded to prevent their claims. Chiefs of the nation were invited to bring to the attention of the investigators all claims of fraudulent practices upon the Indians, and were assured all claims would be considered and justice done. Hundreds of contacts upon investigation were found to have been fraudulently procured and their cancellation recommended by the investigating agents. While the identity of the particular cases investigated and found to have been fraudulent, and the final action of the Government on the agent's reports recommending the reversal of such cases are not disclosed, it is manifest their recommendations were in the main followed and new contracts of sales were made, certified to the President and approved by him. (Pp 260-261.)¹⁷

5 Florida Indians.—One of the problems arising from the treaty with Spain by which the Floridians¹⁸ were acquired was that of the proper disposition¹⁹ of the Indians who inhabited that region.²⁰ In some quarters it was believed that the Indians had been living in the territory by sufferance only and even if this were not true their lands were now forfeit by conquest.²¹ General Jackson in particular was outspoken in his opposition to treating with the Indians, asserting that if Congress were ever going to exercise its power over the natives it could not do better than to begin with these "outraged" natives.²²

After 2 years of considering the various viewpoints, concentration in Florida was decided upon, and President Monroe appointed commissioners to treat with the Florida Indians. The result was the Treaty of Camp Moultrie of September 18, 1823.²³ Article 1 of this instrument recites that—

The undersigned chiefs and warriors, for themselves and their tribes, have appealed to the humanity, and thrown

¹⁷ *Creek Nation v The United States*, 77 C. Cls. 230, 232, 280 (1903). On alleged diversion of Creek Ophan land under Article II, of the treaty as to leasing of patents on individual reserves under II, III, IV, as to state citizenship and right to patent, Art. 4. See 18 Op. A. G. 21 (1879), 9 Op. A. G. 288 (1877), 595 (1840).

¹⁸ See fn. 417, *supra*.

¹⁹ Treaty of February 22, 1819, October 20, 1820, with Spain, ratified by the United States, February 18, 1821, 8 Stat. 232.

²⁰ In 1821, a subsequent, President, was appointed for the Florida Indians by Jackson (then Governor) to explore the country, determine the number of Indians, and prepare them either for concentration in Florida or for removal elsewhere. Abel, *op. cit.*, p. 328.

²¹ They were known as Seminoles ("separatists") and consisted of descendants of Creek, Cherokee, Iroquois, Yamacraw, Yuchi, and a Negro element. Foreman, *op. cit.*, p. 315.

²² Abel, *op. cit.*, p. 328. The first Seminole War, with General Andrew Jackson in command, had ended in 1818, disastrously for the Indians. Escape by runaway slaves into their territory continued, as did the subsequent white raids. Foreman, *op. cit.*, p. 318.

²³ Abel, *op. cit.*, p. 329.

²⁴ 7 Stat. 224. For the first time (Art. 7) recognition is taken of the fugitive slave problem and the Indians agree to prevent such individuals from taking refuge, and to apprehend and return them for a compensation. See also Treaty of June 18, 1858, 7 Stat. 427, in which the Appalachian Band of Indians relinquished all privileges to which they were entitled by this treaty (Art. 1).

themselves on, and have pledged to continue under, the protection of the United States, and of no other nation, power, or sovereign, and, in consideration of the promises and stipulations hereunto made, do cede and relinquish all claim or title which they may have to the whole territory of Florida.

In return the United States (Art. 4) "assigned" land with a guarantee of peaceable possession, and gave them (Art. 3) in addition to implements, stock and an annuity, protection against all persons.

provided they conform to the laws of the United States, and refrain from making war, or giving any insult to any foreign nation, without having first obtained the permission and consent of the United States.

An additional article granted to six chiefs permission to remain and large tracts of lands.

Soon it was obvious that the territory assigned was insufficient. Agriculture was impossible in the swamps of the Interior. Although as provided by Article 9 the boundary line was to be extended to find "good tillable land," it still failed to afford the tribe adequate means of support.²⁵

Ferocity developed between Indians who remained and white settlers, and between the removed Indians and whites searching for runaway slaves. The plight of those who had removed grew steadily worse.²⁶

In 1832 at Payne's Landing, they were persuaded to migrate, although the treaty²⁷ was not to be considered binding until an initial party explored the west and found a suitable home. However, in 1833 the chiefs who undertook this preliminary search, without authority to do so, signed another treaty²⁸ which was construed to make removal under the early treaty obligatory instead of conditional. This treaty was never accepted by the tribe, and large scale removal of Seminoles never took place.²⁹

6 Other tribes.—In the Northwest Territory a treaty of removal was concluded with the Delaware Indians on October 3, 1818.³⁰ Article 2 of this agreement binds the United States in exchange for land in Indiana "to provide for the Delawares a country to reside in, upon the west side of the Mississippi, and to guarantee to them the peaceable possession of the same."

The next year treaties signed at Edwardsville, Illinois,³¹ and at Fort Harrison³² provided for exchange of Kickapoo lands from Indiana and Illinois to Missouri territory. By the terms of the Edwardsville treaty (Art. 6) the United States ceded to the Indians and their heirs forever a certain tract of land in Missouri territory, provided that "the said tribe shall never sell the said land without the consent of the President of the United States." Article 4 of the Fort Harrison treaty refers to the contemplation by the tribe of Kickapoo of the Vermilion, of "removing from the country they now occupy."

In 1824, a treaty³³ with the Quapaw Nation was concluded, whereby the Quapaws ceded all their land in Arkansas territory and agreed to remove to the land of the Caddo Indians (Art. 4).

These agreements were for a number of years the major attempts made by the United States to persuade the Indians of

²⁵ Abel, *op. cit.*, pp. 330-334; Foreman, *op. cit.*, pp. 318-319.

²⁶ Foreman, *op. cit.*, pp. 318-320.

²⁷ Treaty of May 9, 1832, Preamble and Art. 1, 7 Stat. 308.

²⁸ Treaty of March 28, 1833, 7 Stat. 428. This treaty was the cause of the second Seminole War. Foreman, *op. cit.*, p. 321. Some of the Indians fled to the swamps where Quapaw fighting went on for years.

²⁹ Foreman, *op. cit.*, p. 328.

³⁰ Treaty of October 3, 1818, 7 Stat. 198. And see supplement to this treaty, September 24, 1819, 7 Stat. 327.

³¹ Treaty of July 30, 1819, 7 Stat. 200.

³² Treaty of August 30, 1819, 7 Stat. 202.

³³ Treaty of November 15, 1824, 7 Stat. 282.

that region to exchange their holdings for land lying elsewhere.¹¹⁴ Then, in the autumn of 1832 four treaties were negotiated at Fort Hill, Missouri, which assured the departure from Missouri of the remnants of the Kickapooes,¹¹⁵ the Shawnees, and Delawares,¹¹⁶ the Kaw-skins, and Ponias,¹¹⁷ and the Piankeshaws and Weas.¹¹⁸ In the meantime other federal commissioners were negotiating with the hands of Potawatamies, who inhabited Indiana, Illinois, and Michigan. Although a number of treaties,¹¹⁹ providing for cession of their land were concluded with them it was not until late in 1834 that their signature was secured to the first of a series of "renewal" treaties.¹²⁰ The treaty of February 11, 1837,¹²¹ provided for final removal within 2 years.

For a number of years the white settlers in the Northwest and the Sacs and Foxes had clashed. In 1804¹²² the United Tribes of Sac and Fox Indians had made a treaty of limits with the United States. The white settlers interpreted that to mean relinquishment of all claims east of the Mississippi. This cession the Sacs and Foxes never recognized.¹²³ Dissatisfaction was further increased by the treaties of August 4, 1824,¹²⁴ August 19, 1825,¹²⁵ and July 15, 1829.¹²⁶ After the making of the last treaty, the Indians left on their winter hunt and upon returning discovered that their lands north of Rock River, which had been in dispute for some time, had been surveyed and sold during their absence. Hostilities ensued. At the battle of Bad Axe, August 2, 1832, the Winnebagoes and the Sacs and Foxes were defeated.¹²⁷ In the treaties of Fort Armstrong which resulted, the United States secured from the Winnebagoes all their claims east of the Mississippi,¹²⁸ and from

the Sacs and Foxes nearly all of eastern Iowa with the exception of a small reserve on which they were concentrated.¹²⁹

In the following year the Federal Government obtained the consent of the United Nation of Chippewa, Ottawa, and Potawatamie Indians¹³⁰ to a treaty at Chicago, Illinois. In this treaty¹³¹ the United States, in exchange for the land the Indians held—about 5,000,000 acres including the western shore of Lake Michigan—granted to them (Art. 2) approximately the same amount of territory to be held as other Indian lands are held.¹³² At about the same time, the Chippewas were concentrated in the northeast corner of the Indian territory.¹³³ This was done because of the failure of the original plan¹³⁴ to confine them to lands occupied by the Caddo Indians.¹³⁵

It is not to be assumed that during this period treaty-makers were occupied with "removal" to the exclusion of all else. In fact, until 1828, the number of treaties negotiated solely for the purpose of extinguishing aboriginal title to land predominated.¹³⁶ Even during the years 1828-40 when the migration program was at its height, treaties were concluded with the Ojoes and Missourians,¹³⁷ Pawnees,¹³⁸ Menomonees,¹³⁹ the Mandans,¹⁴⁰ (8 treaties) the Winandots,¹⁴¹ the United Nations of Chippewa, Ottawa, and Potawatamie Indians,¹⁴² Iowas,¹⁴³ Yankton Sioux,¹⁴⁴ Sioux,¹⁴⁵ and

¹¹⁴Treaty of September 21, 1832, 7 Stat. 374.

¹¹⁵Treaty of September 20, 1832, 7 Stat. 421.

¹¹⁶Treaty of May 18, 1832, 7 Stat. 411.

¹¹⁷Treaty of November 15, 1824, 7 Stat. 282.

¹¹⁸The lands given them by the Caddoes proved very poor, hence they returned to their old home in Arkansas. (Proclamation, Treaty of May 13, 1834, 7 Stat. 421.)

¹¹⁹It should be noted that by Treaty of July 1, 1845 the Caddo Indians (7 Stat. 470) agreed to removal in this treaty. "We * * * promise to remove at their own expense out of the boundaries of the United States * * * and never more return to live settle or establish themselves as a nation with or communities of people within the same."

¹²⁰There are 21 of these which have not been noted before. Treaty of September 29, 1817, with Winnebago, Seneca, etc., 7 Stat. 160; Treaty of September 17, 1818, with Winnebago, Seneca, etc., 7 Stat. 178; Treaty of September 20, 1818, with Winandots, 7 Stat. 180; Treaty of October 3, 1818, with Wia Tribe, 7 Stat. 336; (The United States, by treaty with the Delaware Indians in 1818, agreed to provide a country for them to reside in.) Treaty of March 9, 1820, 2 Wall 526 (1804); Treaty of October 6, 1820, with Miami Nation, 7 Stat. 180; Treaty of September 24, 1820, with Chippewa Nation, 7 Stat. 263; Treaty of June 16, 1820, with Chippewa Tribe 7 Stat. 208; 17 Stat. 203 and 7 Stat. 206, concluded in Chippewa Indians of Minnesota v. United States, 801 U. S. 885, 360 (1971); Spalding v. Chandler, 160 U. S. 494, 401 (1896); Treaty of July 6, 1825, with Ottawa and Chippewa Nations, 7 Stat. 307; Treaty of August 31, 1820, with Wia Tribe, 7 Stat. 339; Treaty of August 5, 1820, with Chippewa Tribe, 7 Stat. 209; Treaty of October 13, 1820, with Miami Tribe 7 Stat. 309; Treaty of August 11, 1827, with Chippewa, Menomonee, and Winnebago Tribes, 7 Stat. 308; Treaty of August 24, 1828, with Quapaw Nation 7 Stat. 176; Treaty of September 25, 1818, with Great and Little Osage Nation, 7 Stat. 183; Treaty of June 2, 1825, with Great and Little Osage Nation, 7 Stat. 240, concluded in *Holzer v. Joy*, 17 Wall 211, 241 (1872); Treaty of August 10, 1825, with Great and Little Osage Nation, 7 Stat. 248; Treaty of June 8, 1825, with Kiowa Nation, 7 Stat. 214 (continued in *Jones v. Mclennan*, 175 U. S. 1 (1900), *Smith v. Stinson*, 10 Wall 321 825 (1870), *Treaty of Missouri v. State of Iowa*, 7 How 680 (1849)); Treaty of November 7, 1825, with Shawnee Nation, 7 Stat. 284; Treaty of September 28, 1834, with Peoria, Kaskaskia, etc., 7 Stat. 181; Treaty of February 11, 1837, with Red River or Thorowau Nation of Miami Indians, 7 Stat. 409.

¹²¹Treaty of September 21, 1837, 7 Stat. 420.

¹²²Treaty of October 8, 1804, 7 Stat. 448.

¹²³Treaty of October 27, 1825, 7 Stat. 405. This modified the treaty concluded February 8, 1821, 7 Stat. 842, and provided for a grant of land to the Stockbridge, Munsee and Brothertown Indians, and New York Indians. Later the Stockbridge Indians migrated west under the terms of the Treaty of September 8, 1828, 7 Stat. 650.

¹²⁴Treaty of October 25, 1824, 7 Stat. 466; Treaty of November 6, 1828, 7 Stat. 609; Treaty of November 28, 1840, 7 Stat. 682.

¹²⁵Treaty of April 28, 1829, 7 Stat. 502.

¹²⁶Treaty of July 28, 1829, 7 Stat. 520.

¹²⁷Treaty of October 19, 1832, 7 Stat. 598.

¹²⁸Treaty of October 21, 1837, 7 Stat. 542.

¹²⁹Treaty of September 20, 1837, 7 Stat. 588.

¹²⁹Treaties of cession were common during this period, but ought to be noted as exchanged lands, was not.

¹³⁰Treaty of October 24, 1832, 7 Stat. 401.

¹³¹Treaty of October 26, 1832, 7 Stat. 397.

¹³²Treaty of October 27, 1832, 7 Stat. 403.

¹³³Treaty of October 29, 1832, 7 Stat. 410.

¹³⁴Treaty of October 2, 1818, with the Potawatamie, 7 Stat. 187; Treaty of August 29, 1821, with the Ottawa, Chippewa, etc., 7 Stat. 212; Treaty of August 19, 1820, with the Sac and Chippewa, etc., 7 Stat. 272.

¹³⁵Treaty of October 16, 1820, with the Potawatamie, 7 Stat. 265; Treaty of September 19, 1827, with the Potawatamie, 7 Stat. 395; Treaty of August 25, 1828, with the United Tribes of Potawatamie, Chippewa, etc., 7 Stat. 317; Treaty of September 26, 1828, with the Potawatamie, 7 Stat. 317; Treaty of July 24, 1820, with the United Nations of Chippewa, etc., 7 Stat. 308; Treaty of October 26, 1832, with the Potawatamie, 7 Stat. 378; Treaty of October 28, 1842, with the Potawatamie, 7 Stat. 404; Treaty of October 27, 1832, with the Potawatamie, 7 Stat. 390; Treaty of December 4, 1841, with the Potawatamie, 7 Stat. 486.

¹³⁶Treaty of December 15, 1814, with the Potawatamie, 7 Stat. 186; Treaty of December 15, 1814, with the Potawatamie, 7 Stat. 186; Treaty of December 15, 1814, with the Potawatamie, 7 Stat. 186; Treaty of December 15, 1814, with the Potawatamie, 7 Stat. 186.

¹³⁷Treaty of December 15, 1814, with the Potawatamie, 7 Stat. 186; Treaty of December 15, 1814, with the Potawatamie, 7 Stat. 186; Treaty of December 15, 1814, with the Potawatamie, 7 Stat. 186; Treaty of December 15, 1814, with the Potawatamie, 7 Stat. 186.

¹³⁸Treaty of December 15, 1814, with the Potawatamie, 7 Stat. 186; Treaty of December 15, 1814, with the Potawatamie, 7 Stat. 186; Treaty of December 15, 1814, with the Potawatamie, 7 Stat. 186; Treaty of December 15, 1814, with the Potawatamie, 7 Stat. 186.

¹³⁹Treaty of December 15, 1814, with the Potawatamie, 7 Stat. 186; Treaty of December 15, 1814, with the Potawatamie, 7 Stat. 186; Treaty of December 15, 1814, with the Potawatamie, 7 Stat. 186; Treaty of December 15, 1814, with the Potawatamie, 7 Stat. 186.

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¹⁴¹Treaty of December 15, 1814, with the Potawatamie, 7 Stat. 186; Treaty of December 15, 1814, with the Potawatamie, 7 Stat. 186; Treaty of December 15, 1814, with the Potawatamie, 7 Stat. 186; Treaty of December 15, 1814, with the Potawatamie, 7 Stat. 186.

¹⁴²Treaty of December 15, 1814, with the Potawatamie, 7 Stat. 186; Treaty of December 15, 1814, with the Potawatamie, 7 Stat. 186; Treaty of December 15, 1814, with the Potawatamie, 7 Stat. 186; Treaty of December 15, 1814, with the Potawatamie, 7 Stat. 186.

¹⁴³Treaty of December 15, 1814, with the Potawatamie, 7 Stat. 186; Treaty of December 15, 1814, with the Potawatamie, 7 Stat. 186; Treaty of December 15, 1814, with the Potawatamie, 7 Stat. 186; Treaty of December 15, 1814, with the Potawatamie, 7 Stat. 186.

¹⁴⁴Treaty of December 15, 1814, with the Potawatamie, 7 Stat. 186; Treaty of December 15, 1814, with the Potawatamie, 7 Stat. 186; Treaty of December 15, 1814, with the Potawatamie, 7 Stat. 186; Treaty of December 15, 1814, with the Potawatamie, 7 Stat. 186.

¹⁴⁵Treaty of December 15, 1814, with the Potawatamie, 7 Stat. 186; Treaty of December 15, 1814, with the Potawatamie, 7 Stat. 186; Treaty of December 15, 1814, with the Potawatamie, 7 Stat. 186; Treaty of December 15, 1814, with the Potawatamie, 7 Stat. 186.

¹⁴⁶Treaty of December 15, 1814, with the Potawatamie, 7 Stat. 186; Treaty of December 15, 1814, with the Potawatamie, 7 Stat. 186; Treaty of December 15, 1814, with the Potawatamie, 7 Stat. 186; Treaty of December 15, 1814, with the Potawatamie, 7 Stat. 186.

¹⁴⁷Treaty of December 15, 1814, with the Potawatamie, 7 Stat. 186; Treaty of December 15, 1814, with the Potawatamie, 7 Stat. 186; Treaty of December 15, 1814, with the Potawatamie, 7 Stat. 186; Treaty of December 15, 1814, with the Potawatamie, 7 Stat. 186.

¹⁴⁸Treaty of December 15, 1814, with the Potawatamie, 7 Stat. 186; Treaty of December 15, 1814, with the Potawatamie, 7 Stat. 186; Treaty of December 15, 1814, with the Potawatamie, 7 Stat. 186; Treaty of December 15, 1814, with the Potawatamie, 7 Stat. 186.

Great and Little Osage Indians,"⁶¹ providing for a considerable restriction of their ancient domains. A series of treaties were also negotiated about 1825 by Brig. Gen. Henry Atkinson of the United States Army and Benjamin C. Fulton Indian agent, which dealt only with problems of trade and friendship.⁶²

F. TRIBES OF THE FAR WEST: 1816-51

In the late summer of 1846, war having been declared with Mexico,⁶³ General Philip Kearney in command, the Army of the West advanced into New Mexico.

Without delay battle New Mexico's governor fled, leaving Kearney in control of the province.⁶⁴ Following the cession of the province to the United States by the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, of February 2, 1848,⁶⁵ a treaty of peace with the Navaho Indians which inhabited that region was concluded in 1849.⁶⁶

Two months later, December 30, 1840, another far western tribe, the Ute, signed a treaty,⁶⁷ and the period of negotiating with the Indians who remained through the area required from Mexico and the Oregon Territory may be said to have opened.⁶⁸

To Fort Laramie in the early autumn of 1851 came a great number of Sioux, Cheyenne, Arapaho, Crow, Assiniboin, Gros Ventre, Mandan, and Arikara. After several days of conference, Indian agent Thomas Hightwick secured their signatures to a treaty in which the natives promised peace, acknowledged certain boundaries and agreed to recognize the right of the United States to erect posts and maintain roads within their territory.⁶⁹

This treaty was never formally proclaimed by the President and because of this its validity was challenged in *Roy v. United States and Ogallala Tribe of Sioux Indians*.⁷⁰ The Court of Claims examined the circumstances, found that the treaty had been acted upon by Congress, and referred to in subsequent agreements, and held that proclamation was not necessary to give it effect and that both parties were bound by the covenant from the date of its signature.

In the meantime the discovery of gold in California had caused the migration westward to assume the proportions of a

stampede. Soon this newly admitted state was faced with the familiar problem of keeping available for preemption purposes an ample supply of public land. An equally familiar solution was quickly decided upon. Congress appropriated \$25,000 and dispatched commissioners to treat with the California Indians residing the territory they occupied.⁷¹

Some 18 treaties with 28 California tribes were negotiated by these federal agents in 1851. All of them provided for a surrender of native holdings in return for small reservations of land elsewhere. Other stipulations made the Indians subject to state law.⁷²

When the terms of these various agreements became known the California State Legislature formally protested the granting of any lands to the Indians. The reasons for this opposition were reviewed by the President and the Secretary of the Interior, and finally a number of months after the agreements had been negotiated they were submitted to the Senate of the United States for ratification. This was refused on July 8, 1852.⁷³

The Indians, however, had already begun performance of their part of the agreement. Urged by government officials to anticipate the approval of the treaties they had started on the journey to the proposed reservations. Now they found themselves in the unfortunate position of having surrendered their homes to lands which were already occupied by settlers and regarding which the Federal Government showed no willingness to take action. This situation was never remedied unless the creation in the 1920's of several small reservations for the use of those Indians can be said to have done so.⁷⁴

In 1852 the Apaches, occupying portions of the territory relinquished by Mexico, were invited to a Treaty Council at Santa Fe, New Mexico. They came and duly promised perpetual peace (Art. 2) with the United States.⁷⁵ They also engaged (Art. 5) to refrain from warlike incursions into Mexico.

The following year the Comanches, Kiowas, and Apaches met at Fort Atkinson. An agreement very similar in substance to the Santa Fe Treaty was concluded July 27, 1853.⁷⁶

Although the number of families traveling the Oregon trail had increased steadily during the 40's, no agreements were made with the Indians of the territory until 1853. Then, in September of that year, the Rogue River Indians signed a treaty with the United States providing for a substantial cession of land (Art. 1) from which a certain portion was to be reserved for a temporary house until such time as a permanent residence should be designated by the President of the United States (Art. 2).⁷⁷ A similar arrangement was made with another Oregon tribe, the Cow Creek Band, on September 19, 1853.⁷⁸

While these first treaties were being signed with the Indian tribes of the Far West, agreements with other tribes were being negotiated. Eight treaties⁷⁹ providing for territorial cessions

⁶¹ Treaty of January 11, 1826, 7 Stat. 576.

⁶² Treaty of June 6, 1825, with Pawnee Tribe, 7 Stat. 247; Treaty of June 22, 1825 with the Yankton and Sisseton Bands of Dakota, 7 Stat. 250; Treaty of June 3, 1825, with Kiowa and Ogallala Tribes, 7 Stat. 252; Treaty of July 6, 1825, with Cheyenne Tribe, 7 Stat. 263; Treaty of July 10, 1825, with Hunkpapa Band of Sioux, 7 Stat. 267; Treaty of July 16, 1825, with Kiowa Tribe, 7 Stat. 250; Treaty of July 30, 1825, with Belknapston of Minnesota Tribe, 7 Stat. 261; Treaty of July 30, 1825, with Mandan Tribe, 7 Stat. 264; Treaty of September 20, 1825, with Ottoo and Missouri Tribe, 7 Stat. 277; Treaty of September 20, 1825, with Iktewa Tribe, 7 Stat. 279; Treaty of October 6, 1825 with Maha Tribe, 7 Stat. 282.

⁶³ Act of May 15, 1810, 9 Stat. 9, and Presidential Proclamation, Appendix No. 2, 9 Stat. 910.

⁶⁴ The province was taken in the name of the United States on August 22, 1846, and Kearney was made governor. West, *The Red Man in the New World Drama* (1931), p. 408.

⁶⁵ 9 Stat. 922. See Chapter 20, sec. 3.

⁶⁶ Treaty of September 6, 1849, 9 Stat. 974. Article 2 states: "That from and after the signing of this treaty, hostilities between the contracting nations shall cease, and perpetual peace and friendship shall exist."

⁶⁷ Treaty of December 30, 1840, 9 Stat. 984.

⁶⁸ An agreement with the Comanche, Kiowa, Arapaho, Caddo, etc. on May 15, 1840, 9 Stat. 844, negotiated in Texas shortly after the Republic had become a member of the Union actually antedates them. The last articles of all these agreements acknowledge the jurisdiction of the United States.

⁶⁹ Treaty of September 17, 1851, 11 Stat. 749. Three of these tribes—the Assiniboin, the Arapahoe, and the Crow Ventres—were treating with the United States for the first time. See Rept. Comm. Ind. Aff. 1852), pp. 290-300.

⁷⁰ 45 C. Cl. 177 (1910).

⁷¹ Act of September 30, 1850, 9 Stat. 544, 558.

⁷² West, *op. cit.* p. 419.

⁷³ *Ibid.*, pp. 421-423.

⁷⁴ *Ibid.*, p. 426. Cf. Act of May 18, 1928, 45 Stat. 602, conferring jurisdiction over California Indian claims upon Court of Claims.

⁷⁵ Treaty of July 1, 1852, 10 Stat. 970.

⁷⁶ Treaty of July 27, 1853, 10 Stat. 1023.

⁷⁷ Treaty of September 10, 1853, 10 Stat. 1018. Continued in *Ross, Herby's United States and Rogue River Indians*, 29 C. Cl. 170 (1894). By the treaty of November 15, 1854, 10 Stat. 1119, the Rogue River Indians agreed to permit other tribes and bands, under certain conditions, to reside on their reservation (Art. 1).

⁷⁸ Treaty of September 19, 1853, 10 Stat. 1027.

⁷⁹ Treaty of January 14, 1840, with Kiowa Tribe, 9 Stat. 849; Treaty of August 2, 1847, with Chippewa of the Mississippi and Lake Superior, 9 Stat. 904; Treaty of August 31, 1847, with Pillager Band of Chippewa Indians, 9 Stat. 908; Treaty of August 6, 1848, with Pawnee, 9 Stat. 949; Treaty of April 1, 1850, with Wyandot Nation of Indians, 9 Stat. 987; Treaty of July 28, 1851, with Sioux-Sisseton and Wahpeton Bands, 10 Stat. 949.

and 16 treaties "stipulating for removal of the Indians to occupied land were signed during these years.

G EXPERIMENTS IN ALLOTMENT ¹⁰¹ 1851-61

On March 24 1851, George W. Manly, of Ohio became Commissioner of Indian Affairs. The new official was designated by the President to enter into negotiations with the tribes west of the states of Missouri and Iowa for white settlement on their land, and extinguishment of their title.¹⁰²

His first success in this connection was with the Ottawa and Mississauga on March 17, 1851.¹⁰³ Article 6 of the instrument signed on that occasion provides:

The President may, from time to time, at his discretion, cause the whole of the land herein reserved * * * to be surveyed off into lots, and assign to such Indian or Indians of said confederate tribes, as are willing to avail themselves of the privilege, and who will locate on the same his a permanent home, if a single person over twenty-one years of age, one eighth of a section, to each family of two, one quarter section, to each family of three and not exceeding five, one half section, to each family of six and not exceeding ten, one section, and to each family exceeding ten in number, one quarter section for every additional five members. And he may prescribe such rules and regulations as will secure to the family, in case of the death of the head thereof, the possession and enjoyment of such permanent home and the improvements thereon. And the President may, at any time in his discretion, after such person or family has made a location on the land assigned for a permanent home, issue a patent to such person or family for such assigned land, conditioned that the tract shall not be aliened or leased for a longer term than two years, and shall be exempt from levy, sale, or forfeiture, whose conditions shall continue in force until a State constitution embracing such land within its boundaries shall have been formed, and the legislature of the State shall remove the restrictions. And if any such person or family shall at any time neglect or refuse to occupy and till a portion of the land assigned, and on which they have located, or shall move from place to place, the President may, if the patent shall have been issued, revoke the same, or if not issued, cancel the assignment, and may also withhold from such person or family, their proportion of the annuities or other moneys due them, until they shall have returned to such permanent home, and resumed the pursuit of industry, and in default of their return, the tract may be declared abandoned, and thereafter assigned to some other person or family of such confederate tribes as he may choose, or to be disposed of at the disposal of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs. And the residue of the land hereby reserved, after all the Indian persons or families of such confederate tribes shall have had assigned to them permanent homes, may be sold for their benefit, under such laws, rules, or regulations as may hereafter be prescribed by the Congress or President of the United States. No State legislature shall remove the restriction herein provided for without the consent of Congress.

This treaty, like many other treaties negotiated during the administration of Commissioner Manly, included a clause

(Art. 3) by which the Indians relinquished all claims to money due under earlier treaties. The policy of paying Indians for lands by means of permanent annuities, which had involved the conservation of the Indian estate, was thrown into disrepute, and there was substituted a policy of quick distribution of tribal funds, parallel to the quick distribution of tribal lands which allotment entailed. Underlying this policy of quick distribution was the assumption that tribal existence was to be brought to an end within a short time.

On March 16, 1851, an agreement similar in its details regarding allotments was concluded with the Omahas.¹⁰⁴

A third treaty providing for the individualization of land holdings was signed by the Shawnee Indians on May 10, 1851.¹⁰⁵ The terminology used in this instrument varies somewhat from that of the preceding treaties. Instead of the provision that—

"The President may, from time to time * * * cause * * * to be surveyed off into lots, and to assign,"

article 2 holds that

all Shawnees * * * shall be entitled to * * * two hundred acres, and if the head of a family, a quantity equal to two hundred acres for each member of his or her family * * *

Detailed provisions are also included for the assignment of individual holdings to unmarried persons, minors, orphans, adopted persons and incompetents, the latter to have the selection made by some disinterested person or persons appointed by the Shawnee Council and approved by the United States Commissioner. Further, article 8 provides that "incompetent" Shawnees shall receive their share of the annuity in money, but that that of the "incompetent" Indians "shall be disposed of by the President" in the manner best calculated to promote their interests, the Shawnee Council being first consulted with respect to such persons.

Six treaties,¹⁰⁶ stipulating allotment of land in severalty were

¹⁰¹Treaty of March 18, 1854, 10 Stat. 1048. Concluded in *United States v. Celestine*, 218 U. S. 278 (1909), *United States v. Rutton*, 215 U. S. 291 (1907), *United States v. Payne*, 204 U. S. 446 (1902). By the terms of this agreement the United States undertook certain conditions agreed to by the Indians: \$80,000 for land ceded (Arts. 4 and 5). Later it was contended by the Omaha Tribe in a case argued before the Court in *Claims to 1915* that although the cession had been made, the Government failed to pay anything. This the Government admitted but contended that the Omaha Indians did not own and did not have the right to make a cession thereof. In finding for the plaintiff the court said "At the time the treaty was made the United States recognized the Omahas as having title to this land north of the due-west line, and specifically promised to pay for it. * * * The defendants could not be heard to say that the Indians did not own the land when the treaty was made and had no right to make a cession of it." *Omaha Tribe v. United States*, 33 C. Cls. 640, 660 (1918), mod. 253 U. S. 276, 65 C. Cl. 921.

¹⁰²Treaty of May 10, 1851, 10 Stat. 1053. Concluded in *Walker v. Henshaw*, 10 Wall. 436 (1872), *United States v. Blackfeather*, 155 U. S. 100, 146-147 (1894), *Jones v. Michas*, 175 U. S. 1 (1900), *Blackfeather v. United States*, 240 U. S. 468 (1908), and *Duncan v. Greene*, 198 U. S. 196 (1907). Commenting on this treaty, the Supreme Court declared "The treaty of 1851 left the Shawnee people in a united tribe, with a declaration of their dependence on the National Government for protection and the vindication of their rights. Ever since then their tribal organization has continued as it was before. * * * While the general government has a superintending care over their interests, and continues to treat with them as a nation, the State of Kansas is excluded from denying that title to it. She accepted this status when she accepted the act admitting her into the Union. Considering rights and public convenience, such disposition, as a voluntary abandonment of their tribal organization. As long as the United States recognizes their national character, they are under the protection of treaties and the laws of Congress, and their property is withdrawn from the operation of State laws."

¹⁰³The Kansas Indians, 5 Wall. 757, 750-757 (1860).

¹⁰⁴Delaware, Treaty of May 1, 1854, 10 Stat. 1049; Toway, Treaty of May 17, 1854, 10 Stat. 1060; Sac and Fox of the Missouri, Treaty of May 18, 1854, 10 Stat. 1074; Kickapoo, Treaty of May 18, 1854, 10 Stat. 1078; Kickapoo, Peoria, etc., Treaty of May 30, 1854, 10 Stat. 1082; Miami, Treaty of June 6, 1854, 10 Stat. 1093.

¹⁰³Treaty of November 28, 1840, with Miami, 7 Stat. 582; Treaty of March 17, 1851, with Wyandot, 11 Stat. 581; Treaty of October 4, 1851, with Chippewa Indians, of the Mississippi and Lake Superior, 7 Stat. 591; Treaty of October 11, 1851, with Sac and Foxes, 7 Stat. 596; Treaty of June 6 and 17, 1849, with Potawatomi, 9 Stat. 868; Treaty of October 18, 1848, with Menominee, 9 Stat. 902; Treaty of November 24, 1848, with Stockbridge, 10 Stat. 908; Treaty of March 18, 1854, with Ottawa and Mississauga, 10 Stat. 1058.

¹⁰⁴Prior to 1854, several treaties were signed which provided for the allotment of land to individuals. See, e.g., Chapter 1, sec. 241. Several early treaties used the words "allotted" and "allotted" but they referred to the assignment of lands to groups of Indians. Kuney, *A Continent Lost—A Civilization Won* (1897), pp. 82-83.

¹⁰⁵Rept. of the Comm. of Ind. Aff. (1853), p. 249.

¹⁰⁶Treaty of March 18, 1854, 10 Stat. 1068.

concluded by Commissioner Manypenny in the next 2 months. In one of these, provision is made for the setting up of a permanent fund with the proceeds from the sale of the lands ceded by the Indians. The United States is charged with the duty of administering this fund. The extent of this obligation was determined in the Court of Claims which held in the *Delaware Tribe's Case*.¹⁰ The United States that the extended trust related to the preservation of the principal received from the sale of the lands and could not be expended by the Delaware Tribe claimed, an obligation to maintain unimpaired the face value of the securities in which the principal had been trust invested.¹¹

In the autumn of 1871 the Chippewa of Lake Superior became a party to a treaty providing for the allotment of land to individual Indians by the President at his discretion, and with the power to make:

. . . rules and regulations, respecting the disposition of the lands in case of the death of the head of a family, or single person occupying the same, or in case of its abandonment by them.¹²

Article 2 also provides for the patenting of 80 acres to each mixed blood over 21 years of age.

The Wyan-dot treaty concluded January 31, 1855¹³ is particularly interesting. The first article stipulates that tribal lands are dissolved, declares the Indians to be citizens of the United States and subject to the laws thereof and of the territory of Kansas, although those who wish to be exempted from the immediate operation of such provisions shall have continued to them the assistance and protection of the United States. Article 2 provides for the cession of their holdings to the United States stipulating the "object of which cession is, that the said lands shall be subdivided, assigned, and recovered, by patent, in fee simple, in the manner hereinafter provided for, to the individuals and members of the Wyan-dot nation, in severalty."¹⁴ Articles 4 and 5 provide for the most detailed method of allotment yet encountered, in which three communities, one from the United States and two from the Wyan-dot nation, were to make a distribution of lands to certain specified classes of individuals. Patents are then to issue containing an absolute and unconditional grant of fee simple to those individuals listed as "competent" by the commissioners, but for those not so listed the patents will contain certain restrictions and may be withheld by the

¹⁰ 72 U. C. 488 (1081).

¹¹ For opinion that a patent under Art. 21 should issue to Christian Indians but it may be withheld by act of Congress after war unless the effect would be to invalidate title of bona fide purchasers, that title of Christian Indians will not be vested in the Indians comprising the tribe called by that name as tenants in common, but in the tribe itself or the nation, see 9 Op. A. U. 24 (1867). And see Chapter 15, sec. 1A.

¹² Treaty of September 30, 1854, Art. 9, 10 Stat. 1160. (Concluded in *Frederick v. Brown*, 102 U. S. 802 (1880). *Winnipeg v. Hatchcock*, 201 U. S. 202 (1906). *Chippewa Indians of Minnesota v. United States*, 301 U. S. 358 (1937); and *Minnesota v. United States*, 305 U. S. 882 (1938).

The President is empowered by Art. 2 to issue patents with "such restrictions of the power of alienation as he may see fit to impose." A stipulation that the patentee and his heirs shall not sell, lease, or in any manner alienate said tract without the consent of the President of the United States is within the meaning of this article. *United States v. Rucke*, 51 F. 446, 3 C. W. D. Wm., 1828. Moreover such restrictions extend to the timber on the land as well as the land itself. *Starr v. Campbell*, 208 U. S. 827 (1908).

The court in holding that state fish and game laws have no application to the Bad River Reservation because federal laws are exclusive also called attention to Art. 11 of the above treaty which gave the right to hunt and fish on lands ceded until otherwise ordered by the President. *In re Blackbird*, 100 Fed. 189 (D. C. W. D. Wis., 1901).

¹³ Treaty of January 31, 1855, 10 Stat. 1160. Construed in *Goudy v. Marsh*, 203 U. S. 146, 3 C. W. D. Wm. (1906) (power of voluntary sale granted; land withheld from taxation or forced alienation); *Wilder v. Henshaw*, 10 Wall. 436, 441 (1872); *Schlimpke v. Stockton*, 138 U. S. 8, 200 (1902); *Couley v. Balmiger*, 219 U. S. 84 (1910).

Commissioner of Indian Affairs. None of the land thus assigned and patented is subject to taxation for a period of 5 years.

In February of 1853 the Chippewa of Minnesota and the Winnebago signed treaties¹⁵ ceding their territorial holdings but out of which there is "reserved" and "set apart" for the Chippewa and "granted" for the Winnebago land for a permanent home. Further, the President is authorized whenever he deems it advisable to allot their lands in severalty.

The tribes of the Far West were not overlooked in this burst of treaty-making activity. In the closing months of 1854 and the opening days of the following year six treaties¹⁶ were negotiated with the Indians of Oregon, the various tribes of the Puget Sound region, etc. All of these provided for the allotment of land in severalty and for reservations of territory described by such phrases as "such portions . . . as may be assigned to them," "shall be held . . . as an Indian reservation," and "district which shall be designated for permanent occupancy."

Seven more treaties providing for the assignment of land to individual Indians were negotiated during Commissioner Manypenny's administration, which ended in 1857. All of these feature extensive land cessions with certain areas either "set apart as a residence . . . or" "held and reserved as an Indian reservation" or "reserved . . . for the use and occupation."¹⁷

James W. Denver, Charles B. Mix, and Alfred B. Greenwood, who successively held the position of Commissioner of Indian Affairs until the outbreak of the Civil War, were likewise committed to a treaty policy providing for allotment in severalty. Under their auspices seven such agreements¹⁸ were negotiated. These instruments in form and substance differ little from those of the Manypenny administration.

H. THE CIVIL WAR: 1861-65

The four years of conflict between the states had its effect on the various Indian tribes. Violence and bloodshed had become commonplace and several Indian tribes, seized the occasion to accompany demands upon the Federal Government with a display of force.¹⁹ This was particularly the case in Minnesota,

¹⁵ Treaty of February 22, 1855, 10 Stat. 1165. (Concluded in *United States v. Miller Lee Band of Chippewa Indians*, 229 U. S. 498, 600, 501 (1913). *United States v. Post National Bank*, 184 U. S. 281 (1904). (Dealing with rights of mixed blood Chippewas). *Johnson v. Grinnell*, 234 U. S. 422, 437 (1914) (discussing liquor provisions). *United States v. Minnesota*, 270 U. S. 181 (1926), and *Chippewa Indians of Minnesota v. United States*, 301 U. S. 358 (1937). Treaty of February 27, 1855, 10 Stat. 1172.

¹⁶ Treaty with the Timpania, etc. of November 29, 1854, 10 Stat. 1125; Treaty with the Cheyenne, etc. of November 18, 1854, 10 Stat. 1122; Treaty with the Williamette, of January 22, 1855, 10 Stat. 1143; Treaty with the Wandall, January 31, 1855, 10 Stat. 1168; Treaty with the Napanah, etc., December 26, 1854, 10 Stat. 1132; Treaty with the Alibamook Chippewa, February 22, 1855, 10 Stat. 1167.

¹⁷ Treaty of June 9, 1855, with Walla-Walla, Cayenne, and Umatilla Tribes, 12 Stat. 845; Treaty of June 25, 1855, with Indians in middle Oregon, 12 Stat. 608; Treaty of June 9, 1855, with Yakamas, 12 Stat. 861; Treaty of June 11, 1855, with Nez Percés, 12 Stat. 857; Treaty of July 16, 1855, with Flatheads, etc., 12 Stat. 975; Treaty of July 31, 1855, with Ottawas and Chippewas, 11 Stat. 621; Treaty of August 2, 1855, with Chippewas, 11 Stat. 633.

¹⁸ Mendocutian and Walpukoota Bands of Sioux, Treaty of June 10, 1855, 12 Stat. 1031; Shoshone and Wapshak Bands of Sioux, Treaty of June 10, 1855, 12 Stat. 1037; Winnebago, Treaty of April 15, 1856, 12 Stat. 1201; Swan Creek Chippewa and Christian Indians, Treaty of July 16, 1856, 12 Stat. 1166; Sacs and Foxes, Treaty of October 1, 1856, 12 Stat. 407; Kansas Indians, Treaty of October 5, 1856, 12 Stat. 1131; Delaware, Treaty of May 30, 1860, 12 Stat. 1159.

¹⁹ However several treaties of allotment were negotiated during this period. Treaty of March 18, 1863, with Kansas Indians, 12 Stat. 1221; Treaty of June 24, 1863, with Ottawas, 12 Stat. 1237; Treaty of June 28, 1862, with Kickapoo, 12 Stat. 629; Treaty of June 9, 1863, with the Nez Percé, 14 Stat. 647; Treaty of October 14, 1864, with the

where in the summer of 1862, the Sioux of the Mississippi participated in a general unsuccessful uprising against the whites.⁴⁷

While no treaty negotiations were attempted with the Sioux of that state, the Chippewas were called to a series of treaty councils in 1868 and 1869. Here their signatures were secured to treaties providing for removal and allotment of land in severalty.⁴⁸

In the Far West the United States succeeded in making treaties at Fort Bridge,⁴⁹ Box Elder,⁵⁰ and Timba Valley⁵¹ in the Utah Territory and at Ruby Valley⁵² in the Nevada Territory with the Shoshones, at Lapwai in the Territory of Washington with the Nez Percé,⁵³ at Cosnepos in the Colorado Territory with the Ute,⁵⁴ and at Klamath Lake in Oregon with the Klamath Indians.⁵⁵ The last mentioned were negotiating with the United States for the first time and Article 9 of the agreement signed by them included the very broad stipulation then being inserted in many treaties that

They will submit to and obey all laws and regulations which the United States may prescribe for their government and conduct.

I. POST CIVIL WAR TREATIES 1865-71

The years immediately after the close of the Civil War were filled with Indian councils and conferences. Usually these councils resulted in the signing of treaties in which mutual pledges of amity and friendship were prominent and frequent.

In October of 1865 the Cheyenne and Arapaho,⁵⁶ the Apache, Cheyenne, and Arapaho,⁵⁷ the Comanche and Kiowa⁵⁸ met with Army officers Hambour and Hantey and signed treaties promising that peace would hereafter be maintained. A few days later eight tribes of Sioux at Fort Sully made the same promise.⁵⁹

Klamath, 18 Stat 707. In addition, an agreement on behalf of the Treaty of October 5, 1870, 12 Stat 1113 was entered into with the Klamath Indians, Treaty of March 11, 1862, 12 Stat 1221. Also see Chapter 8 see 11.

⁴⁷ Seymour, *Story of the Red Man* (1929) 269-287.
⁴⁸ Treaty of March 11, 1865, with Chippewas of the Mississippi and the Pigeon and Lake Winnebago Bands, 12 Stat 1249, Treaty of October 2, 1865, with Red Lake and Pembina Bands of Chippewas, 13 Stat 667, Treaty of April 12, 1864, with Red Lake and Pembina Bands of Chippewas, 13 Stat 689, Treaty of May 7, 1864, with Chippewas of the Mississippi and the Pigeon and Winnebago Bands, 13 Stat 693, Treaty of October 18, 1864, with Chippewas of Saginaw, Swan Creek, and Black River, 14 Stat 607.
⁴⁹ Treaty of July 2, 1863, with Snake Bands of Shoshone Indians, 18 Stat 688.
⁵⁰ Treaty of July 8, 1864, with Northwestern Bands of Shoshone Indians, 18 Stat 698.
⁵¹ Treaty of October 12, 1863, with Shoshone Goshute Bands, 18 Stat 691.
⁵² Treaty of October 1, 1868, with Western Bands of Shoshone Indians, 18 Stat 689. Art. 6 of the treaty recites:

The said bands agree that whenever the President of the United States shall deem it expedient for them to abandon the roaming life, which they now lead, and become husbandmen or agriculturists, he is hereby authorized to make such reservations for their use as he may deem necessary within the country above described, and they do also hereby agree to remove their camps to such reservations as he may indicate, and to reside and remain therein.

Art. 6 of the treaty with the Shoshone-Goshute Bands (see in 621, *supra*) is similar.
⁵³ Treaty of June 9, 1865, with the Nez Percé, 14 Stat 647.
⁵⁴ Treaty of October 7, 1864, with Tobacco Bands of Ute, 18 Stat 671.
⁵⁵ Treaty of October 14, 1864, with Klamath and Modoc tribes and Yahookin Band of Snake Indians, 18 Stat 707.
⁵⁶ Treaty of October 14, 1865, 14 Stat 703.
⁵⁷ Treaty of October 17, 1865, 14 Stat 718.
⁵⁸ Treaty of October 18, 1865, 14 Stat 717.
⁵⁹ Two Kottles Band of Sioux Indians, Treaty of October 19, 1865, 14 Stat 728, Blackfeet Band of Sioux, Treaty of October 19, 1865, 14

Immediately after the close of war, commissioners representing the President of the United States, appointed among the Five Civilized Tribes. Some of these Indians had been openly sympathetic with the rebel cause, even entering into treaties with the Confederacy. This action was seized upon by the commissioners as an indication of disloyalty, and a treaty negotiated in 1865 with the Cheeks, Cherokee, Choctaw, Chickasaw, Osage, Seminoles, Seneca, Shawnee, and Quapaw tribes opens with the statement that the Indians by their defection had become liable to a forfeiture of all the guarantees which the United States had previously made to them.⁶⁰

While this treaty was never ratified, the principle announced undoubtedly colored subsequent negotiations and is reflected in the treaties of 1866 with the Seminoles,⁶¹ Choctaw and Chickasaw,⁶² Cheeks,⁶³ and Cherokee.⁶⁴ These agreements provided, among other things, for the surrender of a considerable portion of the territory occupied by the Indians, they pledge peace, general amnesty, the abolition of slavery, and the assurance of civil and property rights to freedmen, and a knowledge of a large measure of control by the Federal Government over the affairs of the tribes.

The summer of 1867 found the Plains still in the grip of the Sioux War. Moreover, the Cheyenne and Arapaho, the Comanche and Kiowa had joined the belligerents, causing hostilities over a wide area.

The Indian Peace Commission,⁶⁵ composed of civilians and Army officers appointed to investigate the cause of the war and to arrange for peace,⁶⁶ was successful in part. At Medicine Lodge Creek in Kansas, the Kiowa, Comanche, and Apache,⁶⁷ and the Arapaho and Cheyenne⁶⁸ promised peace, the abandonment of the chase, and the pursuit of the habits of civilized living.

In the summer of 1868, many Sioux, together with a scattering of Cheyenne and Arapaho warriors, renewed hostilities, which were terminated by the treaty of April 29, 1868.⁶⁹ A month later the Kiowa,⁷⁰ and the Northern Arapaho and Cheyenne⁷¹ put an end to hostilities in two agreements concluded May 7, 1868, and

Stat 727, Bear, Ar. Band of Sioux, Treaty of October 20, 1865, 14 Stat 731, Onkapabanda Band of Sioux, Treaty of October 20, 1865, 14 Stat 719, Yanktona Band of Sioux, Treaty of October 20, 1865, 14 Stat 735, Upper Sisseton Band of Sioux, Treaty of October 20, 1865, 14 Stat 745, O'Gallala Band of Sioux, Treaty of October 20, 1865, 14 Stat 747, Lower Sisseton Band of Sioux, Treaty of October 14, 1865, 14 Stat 690.

The peace established by these agreements was a fleeting one. War continued with the Sioux save for a brief interruption for 2 years thereafter.

⁶⁰ Kinney, *op cit*, p. 157.
⁶¹ Treaty of March 21, 1866, 14 Stat 755.
⁶² Treaty of April 25, 1866, 14 Stat 768.
⁶³ Treaty of June 14, 1866, 14 Stat 785.
⁶⁴ Treaty of July 10, 1866, 14 Stat 790.
⁶⁵ Established by Act of July 20, 1867, 15 Stat 17.
⁶⁶ Report of the Commissioners of Indian Affairs, 1868, p. 4.
⁶⁷ Treaty of October 21, 1867, 15 Stat 781, Treaty of October 21, 1867, 15 Stat 589.
⁶⁸ Treaty of October 26, 1867, 15 Stat 598.
⁶⁹ Treaty of April 29, 1868, 15 Stat 643. By the Sioux treaty, the United States agreed that for every 30 children (of the adult Sioux tribe who can be induced or compelled to attend school) a house should be provided and a teacher competent to teach the elementary branches of our English education should be furnished (*Quick Bear v. Leupp*, 210 U. S. 80, 80 (1908)).
⁷⁰ Treaty of May 7, 1868, 15 Stat 649. Continued in *Diagne v. United States*, 194 U. S. 240 (1899), *United States v. Fournier*, 306 U. S. 527, 529 (1938).
⁷¹ Treaty of May 20, 1868, 15 Stat 655.

May 10, 1868. By summer the Navajo,¹² the eastern band of Shoshone and the Bannock,¹³ and the Nez Percé¹⁴ had also

¹²Treaty of June 1, 1868, 15 Stat. 607. Provision for allotment of land in severalty to individuals, wishing to farm is found in Art. 5 of this treaty. This agreement also contains in Art. 2 this famous racial

It had no among the Indians shall commit a wrong in despite of the law of the people of property of any one white, black, or Indian, subject to the authority of the United States, and that in case they with the Navajo tribe agree that they will, on good will to them accept and on notice by him, deliver up the wrong done to the United States, to be tried and punished according to law.

In 1869, the Supreme Court of Arizona in holding the district court in error in depriving to several Indians who had been imprisoned by the War Department a writ of habeas corpus, called attention to this racial saying

* * * This stipulation amounts to a covenant that had Indians, who will not be punished by the United States, except pursuant to laws

become signatories to treaties of peace. Those were the last treaties made by the United States with Indian tribes

defining their offenses, and prescribing the punishments therefor. What Congress by its legislation may disregard treaties, the executive branch of the government may not do so. The district court was in error in denying them of habeas corpus.

In re Hy-Lal Le, 12 Civ. 120, 157 (1909)

¹³Treaty of July 8, 1868, 15 Stat. 673. Contained in *Reynolds v. Hyde*, 98 U. S. 478 (1878). *Malak v. United States*, 161 U. S. 207 (1906), and *Ward v. Moore Estate*, 168 U. S. 604 (1898)

In *United States v. Rhoshone Tribe of Indians*, 301 U. S. 111 (1938), it was held that the right of the Shoshone Tribe in the lands set apart to it, under the treaty of July 8, 1868, with the United States, included the mineral and timber resources of the reservation, and the value of these was properly included in fixing the amount of compensation due for so much of the lands as was taken by the United States

¹⁴Treaty of July 13, 1868, 15 Stat. 608

SECTION 5. THE END OF TREATY-MAKING

The advancing tide of settlement in the years following the close of the Civil War dispelled the belief that it would ever be possible to separate the Indians from the whites and thus give them an opportunity to work out their salvation alone. Assimilation, allotment, and citizenship became the watchwords of Indian administration¹⁵ and attacks on the making of treaties grew in force.¹⁶

The termination of the treaty-making period was prescribed by section 2 of the Act of March 23, 1897,¹⁷ which provided

And all laws allowing the President, the Secretary of the Interior, or the Commissioner of Indian Affairs to enter into treaties with any Indian tribes are hereby repealed, and no expense shall hereafter be incurred in negotiating a treaty with any Indian tribe until the next appropriation authorizing such expense shall be first made by law.

This provision marked the growing opposition of the House of Representatives to the practical extinction of that House from control over Indian affairs. The provision in question was repealed a few months later.¹⁸ But the House continued its struggle against the Indian treaty system. Schmeckelneer records the incidents of that struggle in these terms:

While the Indian Peace Commission succeeded in ending the Indian wars, the treaties negotiated by it and ratified by the Senate were not acceptable to the House of Representatives. As the Senate alone ratified the treaties, the House had no opportunity of expressing its opinion regarding them until the appropriation bill for the fiscal year 1870, making appropriations for carrying out the treaties, came before it for approval during the third session of the Fortieth Congress. The House providing funds for fulfilling the treaties were inserted by the Senate, but the House refused to agree to them, and the session expired on March 4, 1869, without any appropriations being made for the Indian Office for the fiscal year beginning July 1. When the first session of the thirty-first Congress convened in March, 1869, a bill was passed by the House in the same form as that of the previous session. The Senate promptly assented to it to include the sums needed to carry out the treaties negotiated by the Peace Commission. The House again refused to agree but a compromise was

finally reached by which there was voted in addition to the land appropriation a lump sum of two million dollars "to enable the President to maintain peace among and with the various tribes, bands, and parties of Indians, and to promote civilization among said Indians, bring them, where practicable, upon reservations, relieve their necessities, and encourage their efforts at self-support" (16 Stat. L., 10).

The House also insisted on the insertion of a section providing "That nothing in this act contained, or in any of the provisions thereof, shall be so construed as to authorize or approve any treaty made with any tribe, band, or parties of Indians since the twentieth day of July, 1867." This was rather a remarkable piece of legislation in that while it did not abrogate the treaties, it withheld its approval although the treaties had already been formally ratified and proclaimed. It was, however, but merely a vote into the act the feeling of the House of Representatives. At the next session of Congress a similar section was added to the Indian appropriation act for the fiscal year 1871, with the additional provision that nothing in the act should authorize, approve, or sanction any treaty made since July 20, 1867, "on affirm or otherwise any of the powers of the Executive and Senate over the subject." The entire section, however, was immediately omitted in the enrollment of the bill and was not formally enacted until the passage of the appropriation act for the fiscal year 1872 (16 Stat. L., 570).

Probably one of the reasons for the refusal of the House to agree to the treaty provisions was its distrust of the administration of the Office of Indian Affairs, for it was during the debate on this bill that Charles A. Fairbank made his scathing indictment of that Office.¹⁹ (Pp. 55-56)

Discontinuance of treaty making, 1871—When the appropriation bill for the fiscal year 1871 came up in the second session of the Forty-first Congress the fight of the previous year was renewed, the Senate insisting on appropriations for carrying out the new treaties and the House refusing to grant any funds for that purpose. As the end of the session approached it appeared as if the bill would fail entirely, but after the President had called the attention of Congress to the necessity of making the appropriations, the two houses finally reconciled their differences.

The strong fight made by the House and expressions of many members of the Senate made it evident that the treaty system had reached its end, and the Indian appropriation act for the fiscal year 1872, approved on March 3, 1871 (16 Stat. L., 590), contained the following clause, tacked on to a sentence making an appropriation for the Yankton Indians: "Provided, That hereafter no Indian nation or tribe within the territory of the United States shall be acknowledged or recognized as an independent nation, tribe, or power with whom the United States may contract by treaty. Provided further, That nothing herein

¹²See Chapter 2, sec. 2, for excerpts from Commissioner's report and containing termination of the treaty system.

¹³Ibid.

¹⁴15 Stat. 7, 0. Also see Act of April 10, 1869, sec. 5, 16 Stat. 15, 40. The final annual report of the Board of Indian Commissioners submitted June 1, 1869, and the annual report of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs for the same year recommended the abolition of the treaty system of dealing with the tribes. *Kimmer, A Continent Lost—A Civilization Won* (1897), pp. 148, 150, 160.

¹⁵Act of July 20, 1867, 15 Stat. 18.

contained shall be construed to invalidate or impair the obligation of any treaty heretofore lawfully made and ratified with any such Indian nation or tribe." (P. 78) ⁶⁹

⁶⁹ Schmeckeborn, Office of Indian Affairs, 1927, pp. 59-60. Act of March 3, 1873, 16 Stat. 544, 566, R. S. § 2070, 25 U. S. C. 71. See also the statement of former Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Francis A. Walker, who wrote in 1874:

In 1871, however, the impotence of censures alone, and the growing influence of the House of Representatives towards the prerogative—entrusted by the Senate—of determining, in concert

tion with the executive, all questions of Indian right and title, and of committing the United States, indirectly to pecuniary obligations limited only by its own discretion, for which the House should be bound to make provision without inquiry as to the propriety, after several severe and unimportant successes, of the declaration . . . (pp. 11-12), that "hitherto no Indian nation or tribe within the territory of the United States shall be acknowledged or recognized as an independent nation, tribe, or power, with whom the United States may contract by treaty." (P. 5.) (Walker, *The Indian Question*, 1874.)

Following this enactment, a congressional committee was appointed to prepare a compilation of treaties still in force. Act of March 4, 1874, 17 Stat. 570.

SECTION 6. INDIAN AGREEMENTS

The substance of treaty-making was destined, however, to continue for many decades. For in substance a treaty was an agreement between the Federal Government and an Indian tribe. And so long as the Federal Government and the tribes continue to have common dealings, occasions for agreements are likely to recur. Thus the period of Indian land cessions was marked by the "agreements" through which such cessions were made.⁷⁰ These agreements differed from formal treaties only in that they were ratified by both houses of Congress instead of by the Senate alone.⁷¹ Like treaties, these agreements can be modified,⁷² ex-

⁷⁰ Such statements are exemplified by the Act of April 29, 1974, with the Utes, 18 Stat. 109, Act of July 16, 1882, with the Cheyenne, 22 Stat. 137, Act of March 1, 1901, with the Cheyenne, 31 Stat. 845. The propriety of legislation dependent upon Indian consent was questioned at a time but apparently doubts were set at rest, and the practice of legislating on the basis of Indian consent became solidly established. See F. P. Cushman, *Legal Position of the Indian* (1881), 15 Am. L. Rev. 21, 22.

⁷¹ Thus in *Diok v. United States*, 208 U. S. 340, 859 (1908), the Supreme Court upheld the constitutionality of a prohibition against introduction of liquor into certain ceded lands, which was contained in an agreement of 1891 with the Nez Perce Tribe, as "a valid regulation based upon the treaty-making power of the United States and upon the power of Congress to regulate commerce with these Indians."

Even the wording of statutes providing for the negotiation of agreements sometimes declares their kinship with treaties. For example, the Act of May 1, 1870, 19 Stat. 41, 45, provides for the payment of a consideration "to treat with the Sioux Indians for the relinquishment of the Black Hills country in Dakota Territory."

⁷² The Supreme Court in the case of *United States v. Sisseton Nation*, 205 U. S. 417, 428 (1917), said:

" . . . That Congress, had the power to change the terms of the agreement, and authorize these payments, is well established. . . . *Long Wolf v. Hitchcock*, 187 U. S. 653, 661-667."

The Attorney General has said, 26 Op. A. G. 840, 847 (1907):

" . . . Certainly if, as has been often adjudged, Congress may negotiate a formal treaty with a sovereign nation (*Cherokee Nation case*, 130 U. S. 581, *Horne v. United States*, 145 U. S. 578, *Pong Yue Ting v. United States*, 149 U. S. 706, *La Abra Silver Mining Co. v. United States*, 175 U. S. 460), it may after or repeal an agreement of this kind with an Indian tribe."

In considering whether it has been superseded by a general law, an agreement has been accorded the same status as a special law. *Marion v. Lovell*, 270 U. S. 88, 87 (1926). Accord *Longest v. Langford*, 270 U. S. 90 (1926).

cept that rights created by carrying the agreement into effect cannot be impaired.⁷³ In referring to such an agreement, Justice Van Devanter said:⁷⁴

But it is said that the act of 1902 contemplated that they alone should receive allotments and be the participants in the distribution of the remaining lands, and also of the funds of the tribe. No doubt such was the intent of the act. But that, in our opinion, did not confer upon them any vested right such as would disable Congress from thereafter making provision for admitting newly born members of the tribe to the allotment and distribution. The difficulty with the appellants' contention is that it treats the act of 1902 as a contract, when "it is only an act of Congress and can have no greater effect." *Ojibwa Intertribal Cases*, 203 U. S. 76, 81. It was but an exertion of the administrative control at the Government over the tribal property of tribal Indians, and was subject to change by Congress at any time before it was carried into effect and while the tribal relations continued. *Stephens v. Cherokee Nation*, 174 U. S. 445, 488, *Cherokee Nation v. Hitchcock*, 187 U. S. 284, *Wallace v. Adams*, 204 U. S. 415, 423. (P. 648.)

Legislation based upon Indian consent does not come to an end with the close of the period of Indian land cessions and the stoppage of Indian land losses in 1904. For in that very year the underlying assumption of the treaty period that the Federal Government's relations with the Indian tribes should rest upon a basis of mutual consent was given new life in the mechanism of federally approved tribal constitutions and federally approved federal charters established by the Act of June 18, 1904.⁷⁵ Thus, while the form of treaty-making no longer obtains, the fact that Indian tribes are governed primarily on a basis established by common agreement remains, and is likely to remain so long as the Indian tribes maintain their existence and the Federal Government maintains the traditional democratic faith that all Government derives its just powers from the consent of the governed.

⁷³ *Choate v. Trapp*, 224 U. S. 655, 671 (1912).

⁷⁴ *Griffis v. Fisher*, 221 U. S. 640, 648 (1912), quoted with approval in *Buonore v. Brady*, 235 U. S. 441, 460 (1914).

⁷⁵ 18 Stat. 384, 28 U. S. C. 401, et seq., discussed in Chapter 4 sec. 16.

CHAPTER 4

FEDERAL INDIAN LEGISLATION

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While federal Indian legislation forms the basic material of all the substantive chapters that follow, it may serve a useful purpose to present at this point a brief panorama of the more important general statutes in the field that have been enacted during the century and a half which this book covers. Such a panorama may convey some sense of the dynamic development of Indian legislation, and throw some light upon the basic purposes that have dominated Indian legislation at different periods in our history. Such historical perspective is of particular usefulness in the field of Indian law. Solon M. Margold, in his introduction to the *Statutory Compilation of the Indian Law Survey*,¹ comments on "the importance of the factor of history in this field of law" in the following terms:

During the century and a half that this compilation covers, the groups of human beings with whom this law deals have undergone changes in living habits, institutions, needs, and aspirations far greater than the changes that separate from our own age the ages for which Hammurabi, Moses, Lycurgus, or Justinian legislated. Teleported into a century and a half, one may find changes in social, political, and property relations which stretch over more than thirty centuries of European civilization. The toughness of law which keeps it from changing as rapidly as social conditions change in our national life is, of course, much more serious where the rate of social change is twenty times as rapid. Thus, if the laws governing Indian affairs are viewed as lawyers generally view existing law, without

reference to the varying times in which particular provisions were enacted, the body of the law thus viewed is a mystifying collection of inconsistencies and anachronisms. To recognize the different dates at which various provisions were enacted is the first step towards order and sanity in this field.

Not only is it important to recognize the temporal "depth" of existing legislation, it is also important to appreciate the past existence of legislation which has, technically, ceased to exist. For there is a very real sense in which it can be said that no provision of law is ever completely wiped out. This is particularly true in the field of Indian law. At every session of the Supreme Court, there arise cases in which the validity of a present claim depends upon the question: "What was the law on such and such a point in some earlier period?" Laws long repealed have served to create legal rights which endure and which can be understood only by reference to the repealed legislation. Thus, in seeking a complete answer to various questions of Indian law, one finds that he cannot rest with a collection of laws "still in force," but must constantly recur to legislation that has been repealed, amended, or superseded.

Let this serve at the same time as an apology for including in this work a chronicle of Indian legislation and as an explanation of the rudimentary character of this chronicle. To analyze the legal problems raised by each of the statutes noted is, after all, the main task of the rest of the book. For our present purposes, it suffices simply to note what legislative problems in the field of Indian law have been faced in each decade of our national existence.²

¹ U. S. Dept. of the Interior, Office of the Solicitor, *Statutory Compilation of the Indian Law Survey. A Compendium of Federal Laws and Treaties Relating to Indians*, edited by Felix S. Cohen, Chief, Indian Law Survey, with a Foreword by Nathan R. Margold, Solicitor, Department of the Interior (1940), 46 vols.

² On the interpretation of Indian statutes, see Chapter 8, see 91.

SECTION 1. THE BEGINNINGS: 1789

During the first year of the first Congress, and indeed in the space of some 5 weeks, there were enacted four statutes which established the outlines of our Indian legislation for many years to come. The first of these was the Act of August 7, 1789,¹ establishing the Department of War, which provided that that Department should handle, in addition to its primary military af-

fairs "such other matters . . . as the President of the United States shall assign to the said department . . ." relative to Indian affairs.² We have elsewhere noted how the authority thus conferred was later transferred to the Department of the Interior.³ While the days have long passed when our military relations with the Indian tribes were the most

¹ Stat. 49.

² See Chapter 2, sec. 1B, and Chapter 8, sec. 10A(3).

important aspect of Indian affairs to the Federal Government the types of administrative control established under the Act of August 7, 1780, still play a large part in Indian law.

The second statute referring to Indians enacted by the new Congress provided for the government of the Northwest Territory and in effect recombined, with minor amendments, the Northwest Ordinance of 1787 containing the following article on Indian affairs:

ART. 3 . . . The utmost good faith shall always be observed towards the Indians; their land and property shall never be taken from them without their consent, and in their property, rights, and liberty, they never shall be invaded or disturbed, unless in just and lawful wars authorized by Congress, but laws founded in justice and humanity shall from time to time be made, for preventing wrongs being done to them, and for preserving peace and friendship with them.

This represented the first of many measures by which Congress, in administering the government of the territories, legislated over Indian affairs with "plenary" authority. Congress legislated for the territories with the same latitude that the states enacted legislation to govern human conduct within state boundaries.¹

The statute dealing with the Northwest Territory was followed by statutes establishing territorial or state governments for 85 states admitted to the Union after the adoption of the Constitution. In these 85 states were located nearly all the Indians with whom the federal law on Indian affairs now deals. Here

¹ Act of August 7, 1780, 1 Stat. 50. For a discussion of colonial dealings with the Indians concerning land, see Chapter 15, sec. 9.

² See Chapter 5, sec. 5.

perhaps is our clue to the frequent use of the concept of "plenary power" vested in the Federal Government over Indian affairs.

The third act of Congress dealing with Indian affairs was the Act of August 20, 1780,³ which appropriated a sum not exceeding \$20,000 to defray "the expense of negotiating and treating with the Indian tribes" and provided for the appointment of commissioners to manage such negotiations and treaties. This statute thus marks the beginning of a mode of dealing with Indian affairs that was to remain the primary mode of governmental action in this field for many decades to come.⁴

The fourth and last of the statutes enacted by Congress at its first session which dealt with Indian affairs was the Act of September 11, 1780,⁵ which specified salaries to be paid to the "superintendent of Indian affairs in the northern department," a position held *ex officio* by the governor of the western territory.

Noteworthy is the fact that of the first 13 statutes enacted by the first Congress of the United States, four dealt primarily or partially with Indian affairs. In these four statutes we find the essential administrative machinery for dealing with Indian affairs established, and its expenses provided for. And we find four important sources of federal authority in dealing with Indian matters invoked. The power to make war (and, presumably, peace), the power to govern territories, the power to make treaties, and the power to spend money.⁶

³ 1 Stat. 54.

⁴ See Chapter 8.

⁵ 1 Stat. 67.

⁶ Also see Chapter 5, sec. 1.

SECTION 2. LEGISLATION FROM 1790 TO 1799

The first act of Congress specifically defining substantive rights and duties in the field of Indian affairs was the Act of July 22, 1790,⁷ significantly titled, "An Act to regulate trade and intercourse with the Indian tribes." The significance of the title becomes clear when one notes that the act deals not only with the conduct of licensed traders, but also with the sale of Indian lands, the commission of crimes and trespasses against Indians and the procedure for punishing white men committing offenses against Indians. It seems fair to infer that the legislators who adopted this statute thereby gave a practical and contemporaneous construction to the clause of the Federal Constitution which gives to Congress:

. . . the power to regulate commerce . . . with the Indian tribes . . .

The Act of July 22, 1790, contained seven sections. The first three provided that trade or intercourse with the Indian tribes should be limited to persons licensed by the Federal Government, that such licenses might be revoked for violations of regulations governing such trade, prescribed by the President, and that persons trading without licenses should forfeit all merchandise in their possession.⁸

Section 4 declared:

* * * That no sale of lands made by any Indians, or any nation or tribe of Indians within the United States, shall be valid to any person or persons, or to any state, whether having the right of pre-emption to such lands or not, unless the same shall be made and duly executed at some public treaty, held under the authority of the United States.⁹

Sections 5 and 6 dealt with crimes and trespasses committed by non-Indians against Indians within "any town, settlement or territory belonging to any nation or tribe of Indians." * * * Such offenders were to be subject to the same punishment to which they would be subject if the offenses had been committed against a non-Indian within the jurisdiction of the state or district from which the offender came, and the procedure applicable in cases involving crimes against the United States was made applicable to such offenders.¹⁰

The final section declared that the act should "be in force for the term of two years, and from thence to the end of the next session of Congress, and no longer."

It may be noted that each of the substantive provisions of the first Indian trade and intercourse act fulfilled some obligation assumed by the United States in treaties with various Indian tribes. In its first treaty with an Indian tribe, the Treaty of September 17, 1773, with the Delaware Nation,¹¹ the United States had undertaken to provide for the accommodation of the Delawares—

* * * a well-regulated trade, under the conduct of an intelligent, candid agent, with an adequate salary, one more influenced by the love of his country, and a constant attention to the duties of his department by promoting the common interest, than the sinister purposes of converting and binding all the duties of his office to his private emolument . . . (Art. 5)

Similar undertakings, providing for congressional action in the regulation of traders, had been undertaken in various other

⁷ C. 33, 1 Stat. 187.

⁸ Art. 1, sec. 8, cl. 8. Also see Chapter 5, sec. 8.

⁹ See Chapter 16, sec. 1.

¹⁰ See Chapter 15, sec. 18C.

¹¹ See Chapter 18, sec. 5.

¹² 7 Stat. 18.

ties which, by 1790, had been concluded with most of the tribes then within the boundaries of the United States.¹⁷

Section 4, limiting land sales to the United States, also supplemented provisions contained in various treaties.¹⁸

The provisions with reference to the punishment of non-Indian committing crimes or trespasses, within the territory of the Indian tribes, likewise carried out obligations which had been assumed as early as September 17, 1778, in the treaty of that date with the Delaware Nation,¹⁹ providing for fair and impartial trials of offenders against Indians.

"The mode of such trials to be hereafter fixed by the wisdom of the United States in Congress assembled, with the assistance of such deputies of the Delaware nation, as may be appointed to act in concert with them in adjusting this matter to their mutual liking."

Similar provisions promising punishment of white offenders as a substitute for other methods of redress employed by Indian tribes had been included in practically all the treaties which were in force when the first Indian trade and intercourse act was adopted.²⁰

The foregoing analysis of statutes as fulfillments of treaty obligations would probably apply equally to each of the later Indian trade and intercourse acts, culminating in the permanent Act of June 30, 1894.²¹

Despite the caution of Congress in making the first Indian trade and intercourse act a temporary measure, the substance of each of the provisions contained in this act remains law to this day.

Minor amendments were made in the language of these provisions by the second Indian trade and intercourse act, that of March 1, 1798.²² This act also introduced a number of new provisions which have for the most part found their way into existing law. A prohibition against settlement on Indian lands and authority to the President to remove such settlers are contained in section 5 of this act. Section 6 deals with horse thieves and horse traders. Section 7 prohibits employees in Indian affairs from having "any interest or concern in any trade with

the Indians."²³ Section 8 provides for the furnishing of various goods and services to the Indian tribes. Section 13 specifies that Indians within the jurisdiction of any of the individual States shall not be subject to trade restrictions.

This act, like the preceding act, was declared a temporary measure.²⁴

The Act of May 19, 1790²⁵ constitutes the third in a series of trade and intercourse acts. Generally it follows the 1793 act, with minor modifications. It adds a detailed definition of Indian country.²⁶ It adds a prohibition against the driving of livestock on Indian lands.²⁷ It requires passports for persons travelling into the Indian country.²⁸

The 1796 act continued, for the first time, a provision (sec. 14) for the punishment of any Indian belonging to a tribe in amity with the United States who shall cross into any state or territory and there commit any one of the various listed offenses.²⁹ In the first instance, application for "satisfaction" was to be made to the nation or tribe to which the Indian offender belonged; if such application proved fruitless, after a reasonable waiting period fixed at 18 months, the President of the United States was authorized to take such measures as might be proper to obtain satisfaction for the injury. In the meantime, the injured party was guaranteed "an eventual indemnification" if he refrained from "attempting to obtain private satisfaction or revenge."³⁰ The only specific measure of redress which the President was authorized to take under this act was the withholding of annuities due to the tribe in question.

The fourth and last of the temporary Indian trade and intercourse acts was the Act of March 3, 1799.³¹ This act made only minor changes in the provisions of the 1796 act.

Apart from the four temporary Indian trade and intercourse acts passed during the decade from 1790 to 1799, the only statute of special importance was the Act of April 18, 1796,³² which established Government trading houses with the Indians, under the control of the President of the United States. While the institution of the Government trading house was abolished in 1822,³³ some of the provisions designed to assure the honesty of employees of these establishments have been carried over into the law which now governs Indian Service employees.³⁴ Control of the Government trading houses became the most important administrative function of the Federal Government in the field of Indian affairs, and when the Government trading houses were finally abolished it was only natural that the superintendent of Indian trade in charge of these establishments became the first head of the Bureau of Indian Affairs.³⁵

¹⁷ 9, Article 9 of Treaty of November 28, 1785, with the Cherokees, 7 Stat. 18, 20; Art. 8 of Treaty of January 3, 1786, with the Choctaw Nation, 7 Stat. 21, 22; Art. 8 of Treaty of January 10, 1786, with the Chickasaws, 7 Stat. 24, 25; Art. 7 of Treaty of January 8, 1789, with the Wampanoag, Delaware, Ottawa, Chippewa, Pottawatamie, and Sac Nations, 7 Stat. 28, 30. See Chapter 8, sec. 8B(2).

¹⁸ Art. 8 of Treaty of January 9, 1789, with the Wampanoag and others had provided

"... But the said nations, or either of them, shall not be at liberty to sell or dispose the same, or any part thereof, to any sovereign power, except the United States, nor to the subjects or citizens of any other sovereign power, nor to the subjects or citizens of the United States."

The following treaties contained specific guarantees against settlement on Indian lands by citizens of the United States: Art. 5 of Treaty of January 21, 1785, with the Wampanoag, Delaware, Chippewa and Ottawa Nations, 7 Stat. 10, 17; Art. 5 of Treaty of November 28, 1785, with the Cherokees, 7 Stat. 18, 19; Art. 4 of Treaty of January 3, 1786, with the Choctaw Nation, 7 Stat. 21, 22; Art. 4 of Treaty of January 10, 1786, with the Chickasaws, 7 Stat. 24, 25; Art. 7 of Treaty of January 31, 1789, with the Shawanese Nation, 7 Stat. 26, 27. Other treaties provided generally for the protection of Indian lands.

¹⁹ Art. 4, 7 Stat. 18, 14.

²⁰ See treaties cited in nos 17 and 18, *supra*.

²¹ 4 Stat. 780. See Chapter 8, sec. 8.

²² 1 Stat. 820.

²³ See Chapter 2, sec. 3B.

²⁴ Sec. 15, 1 Stat. 829, 832.

²⁵ 1 Stat. 469.

²⁶ Sec. 1. See Chapter 1, sec. 3.

²⁷ Sec. 2. See Chapter 15, sec. 10.

²⁸ Sec. 8. See Chapter 2, sec. 8A(5); Chapter 8, sec. 10A(8).

²⁹ See Chapter 18, sec. 4.

³⁰ C. 46, 1 Stat. 748.

³¹ 1 Stat. 452.

³² Act of May 6, 1822, 9 Stat. 679.

³³ See Act of April 18, 1796, sec. 3; 1 Stat. 462, followed in Act of June 30, 1894, sec. 14, 4 Stat. 785, 788, R. 9 § 2078, 26 U. S. C. 68. And see Chapter 2, sec. 6B.

³⁴ See Chapter 2, sec. 1A.

SECTION 3. LEGISLATION FROM 1800 TO 1809

The most important legislation enacted by Congress during the first decade of the nineteenth century was the permanent trade and intercourse act of March 30, 1802.¹ The four temporary Indian trade and intercourse acts adopted in 1790, 1793, 1796, and 1799 had, by a process of trial and error, marked out the main outlines of federal Indian law, and the Act of 1802 made few substantial changes in reducing to permanent form the provisions of the Act of March 3, 1790.² The only significant addition made by the 1802 act appears in section 21 of that act, which dealt with the liquor problem in these terms:

That the President of the United States be authorized to take such measures, from time to time, as to him may appear expedient to prevent or restrain the vending of distilling or spirituous liquors among all or any of the said Indian tribes, any thing herein contained to the contrary thereof notwithstanding.

The circumstances under which this provision, urged by various Indian chiefs, was recommended by President Jefferson and enacted by Congress are elsewhere noted.³

Apart from the permanent Indian trade and intercourse act, two legislative enactments during the decade from 1800 to 1800 deserve notice. Both of them imposed upon the Indian Service marks of its military origin which endured for more than a century.

The first of these statutes was the Act of January 17, 1800,⁴ entitled "An Act for the preservation of peace with the Indian tribes." This act was apparently designed to prevent the European belligerents of that time from inciting the Indian tribes on the western frontier to attacks against the United States. The first section of this act provides:

* * * That if any citizen or other person residing within the United States, or the territory thereof, shall send any talk, speech, message or letter to any Indian nation, tribe, or chief, with an intent to produce a contravention or infraction of any treaty or other law of the United States, or to disturb the peace and tranquillity of the United States, he shall forfeit a sum not exceeding two thousand dollars, and be imprisoned not exceeding two years.

After a long and checkered career, this provision of law⁵ was repealed by the Act of May 31, 1934.⁶

¹ 2 Stat. 139.

² Act 46, 1 Stat. 748. See sec. 2, *supra*.

³ See Chapter 17, see 1.

⁴ 2 Stat. 6.

⁵ The provision in question was incorporated in the Act of June 30, 1834, sec. 18, 4 Stat. 729, 731, and became U. S. C. 4111 and 25 U. S. C. 171.

⁶ 48 Stat. 787. See 25 U. S. C. A. 171 (Supp.).

Section 2 of this act prescribed penalties for the carrying or delivering of messages of the character prescribed by section 1 "to or from any Indian nation, tribe, or chief."

The third section of this act⁷ dealt with seditious correspondence with foreign nations respecting Indian affairs, and also contained the following language which, considered apart from the circumstances of its enactment, imposed severe limits upon criticism of the Indian Service:

* * * or in case any citizen or other person shall alienate, or attempt to alienate the confidence of the Indians from the government of the United States, or from any such person or persons as are, or may be employed and entrusted by the President of the United States, as a commissioner or commissioners, agent or agents, in any capacity whatever, for facilitating or preserving a friendly intercourse with the Indians, or for managing the concerns of the United States with them, he shall forfeit a sum not exceeding one thousand dollars, and be imprisoned not exceeding twelve months.

Another statute enacted by Congress during this decade which left a mark upon the Indian Service for many years was the Act of May 13, 1806,⁸ which provided for the issuance of patents of office to army provisions to Indians visiting the military posts of the United States. This is the first congressional statute supporting the system of inducing peace by paying tribute which characterized Indian Service policy for many years.⁹

The same statute likewise provided for repaying to Indian delegates the expense of their visits to Washington.¹⁰

During the decade from 1800 to 1800, there was no further Indian legislation of general and permanent significance. Appropriation acts, acts extending Indian trading house legislation, legislation for the establishing of new states and territories, measures for erecting treaty provisions, and laws dealing with the disposition of lands acquired from the Indians by treaty make up the bulk of the legislation enacted during this decade in the field of Indian affairs.

⁷ Sec. 2, incorporated in Act of June 30, 1834, sec. 14, 4 Stat. 729, 731, R. S. § 2112, 25 U. S. C. 172, repealed by Act of May 31, 1934, 48 Stat. 787.

⁸ Incorporated in Act of June 30, 1834, sec. 15, 4 Stat. 729, 731, R. S. § 2113, 25 U. S. C. 173, repealed by Act of May 31, 1934, 48 Stat. 787. On recent uses of this statute, prior to its repeal, see Chapter 8 sec. 104 (2).

⁹ C. 68, 2 Stat. 85, incorporated in Act of June 30, 1834, sec. 16, 4 Stat. 729, 731, R. S. § 2110, 25 U. S. C. 141.

¹⁰ See Chapter 2, sec. 2C, Chapter 12, sec. 1, 4.

¹¹ See 2.

SECTION 4. LEGISLATION FROM 1810 TO 1819

Congressional legislation on Indian affairs in the decade from 1810 to 1819 continues the trends noted in the preceding decade. Two statutes of special significance deserve to be noted.

The Act of March 3, 1817,¹ established for the first time a system of criminal justice applicable to Indians as well as to non-Indians within the Indian country. The act provided that Indians or other persons committing offenses within the Indian country should be subject to the same punishment that would be applicable if the offense had been committed in any place under the exclusive jurisdiction of the United States. Federal courts were given jurisdiction in try such cases. The statute

contained an important proviso (sec. 2), safeguarding the criminal jurisdiction of the Indian tribes:

* * * nothing in this act shall be so construed as to affect any treaty now in force between the United States and any Indian nation, or to extend to any offence committed by one Indian against another, within any Indian boundary.

The proviso, as well as the main provision of the statute, have found their way, with some modifications, into existing law.²

¹ See 25 U. S. C. 217, 218. Note, however, that the historical notes to these sections in the U. S. Code and the U. S. Code Annotated fail to show their actual origin. For further discussion of the significance of these sections, see Chapter 4, sec. 1, Chapter 7, sec. D, Chapter 18, sec. 8, 4.

² C. 92, 8 Stat. 888.

A second important statute adopted during this decade was the Act of March 3, 1810,¹¹ entitled "An Act making provision for the civilization of the Indian tribes adjoining the frontier settlements."

Section 1 of this act, which is law to this day,¹² provides:

"* * * That for the purpose of providing against the further decline and final extinction of the Indian tribes, adjoining the frontier settlements of the United States, and for introducing among them the habits and arts of civilization the President of the United States shall be, and he is hereby authorized, in every case where he shall

¹¹ C. 85, 3 Stat. 538
¹² R. S. § 2071, 25 U. S. C. 271

SECTION 5. LEGISLATION FROM 1820 TO 1829

By the Act of May 6, 1822,¹³ the United States trading houses with the Indian tribes were abolished. On the same day a law was enacted specifying the conditions under which licensed Indian traders were to operate.¹⁴ The act imposed various conditions upon the activities of licensed traders and conferred broad authority over such traders upon administrative officials. The act also provided (sec. 3) for the regular settlement of accounts of Indian agents. Section 4 of this act established a rule, which is still law, which in its present code form declares:

¹³ 3 Stat. 670
¹⁴ Act of May 6, 1822, c. 58, 3 Stat. 682

SECTION 6. LEGISLATION FROM 1830 TO 1839

The decade of the 1830's is marked by five statutes of great importance, the Act of May 28, 1830, governing Indian removal, the Act of July 9, 1832, establishing the post of Commissioner of Indian Affairs, the Indian Trade and Intercourse Act of June 30, 1834, the act of the same date providing for the organization of the Department of Indian Affairs, and the Act of January 9, 1837, regulating the disposition made of proceeds of ceded Indian lands.

The first of these acts¹⁵ established in general terms the policy, which had therefore been worked out in several specific cases,¹⁶ of exchanging Federal lands west of the Mississippi for other lands then held by Indian tribes. "The act provided that such exchanges should be voluntary; that payment should be made to individuals, for improvements relinquished, and that suitable guarantees should be given to the Indians as to the permanent character of the new homes to which they were migrating."

Section 3 provided:

"* * * That in the making of any such exchange or exchanges, it shall and may be lawful for the President solemnly to assure the tribe or nation with which the exchange is made, that the United States will forever secure and guaranty to them, and their heirs or successors, the country so exchanged with them; and if they prefer it, that the United States will cause a patent or grant to be made and executed to them for the same: *Provided always*, That such lands shall revert to the United States, if the Indians become extinct, or abandon the same."

Sections 6 and 7 defined the administrative authority of the President and the duty of protection owing to migrating tribes in the following terms:

"Sec. 6 * * * That it shall and may be lawful for the President to cause such tribe or nation to be protected,

judge improvement in the habits and condition of such Indians practicable, and that the means of instruction can be introduced with their own consent, to employ capable persons of good moral character, to instruct them in the mode of agriculture suited to their situation, and for teaching their children in reading, writing, and arithmetic, and performing such other duties as may be required, according to such instructions and rules as the President may give and prescribe for the regulation of their conduct, in the discharge of their duties."

Section 2 of this act established a permanent annual appropriation of \$10,000 for carrying out the provisions of section 1.¹⁷

¹⁵ See Chapter 12, sec. 2 for a discussion of the use made of these appropriations.

In all trials about the right of property in which an Indian may be a party on one side, and a white person on the other, the burden of proof shall rest upon the white person, whenever the Indian shall make out a presumption of title in himself from the fact of previous possession or ownership.¹⁸

Apart from the foregoing general acts, treaties and legislation providing for the enforcement of treaty provisions continued to represent the main growing point of Indian law.

¹⁶ 25 U. S. C. 104, derived from Act of June 30, 1834, sec. 22, 4 Stat. 720, 738, R. S. § 2126.

at their new residence, against all interruption or disturbance from any other tribe or nation of Indians, or from any other person or persons whatever."

"Sec. 7 * * * That it shall and may be lawful for the President to have the same superintendence and care over any tribe or nation in the country to which they may remove, as contemplated by this act, that he is now authorized to have over them at their present places of residence. *Provided*, That nothing in this act contained shall be construed as authorizing or directing the violation of any existing treaty between the United States and any of the Indian tribes."

The Act of July 9, 1832,¹⁹ entitled "An Act to provide for the appointment of a commissioner of Indian Affairs, and for other purposes," represents the first legislative authorization for the post of Commissioner of Indian Affairs. Its significance in the development of Indian administration has been discussed elsewhere.²⁰

Section 1 of this act,²¹ which is still invoked as a basis for the administrative authority of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, declared:

"* * * That the President shall appoint, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, a commissioner of Indian Affairs, who shall, under the direction of the Secretary of War, and agreeably to such regulations as the President may, from time to time, prescribe, have the direction and management of all Indian affairs, and of all matters arising out of Indian relations, and shall receive a salary of three thousand dollars per annum."

Other sections of the act dealt with the appointment of clerks to the office of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, the supervision of accounts by the Commissioner, and the discontinuance of

¹⁶ Act of May 28, 1830, 4 Stat. 411. Secs. 7 and 8 were later incorporated in R. S. § 2114, 25 U. S. C. 174.
¹⁷ See Chapter 2, sec. 2A; Chapter 3, sec. 4B.

¹⁸ R. S. § 2114, 25 U. S. C. 174.

¹⁹ C. 174, 4 Stat. 264.

²⁰ See Chapter 2, sec. 1B.

²¹ R. S. §§ 462-468, 25 U. S. C. 1-2. See Chapter 5, sec. 8.

"the services of such agents, subagents, interpreters, and mechanics, as may from time to time become necessary, in consequence of the emigration of the Indians, or other causes;"—an illuminating commentary upon the aim of superintendence which even then surrounded the treatment of the Indian problem.

Included in this act was a general prohibition against the introduction of ardent spirits into the Indian country,¹⁰ which is part of the law to this day.

June 30, 1834, is perhaps the most significant date in the history of Indian legislation. On this day there were enacted two comprehensive statutes which, in large part, form the fabric of our law on Indian affairs to this day. Of these two statutes one stands as the final act in a series of acts "to regulate trade and intercourse with the Indian tribes."¹¹ The other, approved on the same day, is entitled "An Act to provide for the organization of the department of Indian Affairs."¹² The two statutes "were dealt with in a single report of the House Committee on Indian Affairs," which contains an illuminating analysis of the entire legislative situation with respect to Indian affairs.

The difficulties and the general objectives in terms of which this legislation of 1834 was drafted are suggested in the following statements of the Committee report:

The committee are aware of the intrinsic difficulties of the subject—of providing a system of laws, and of administration, simple and economical, and, at the same time, efficient and liberal—that shall be suited to the various conditions and relations of those for whose benefit it is intended, and that shall, with a due regard to the rights of our own citizens, meet the just expectations of the country in the fulfilment of its proper and assumed obligations to the Indian tribes. Yet, so manifestly defective and inadequate is our present system, that an immediate revision seems to be imperiously demanded. What is now proposed is only an approximation to a perfect system. Much is necessarily left to the present to Executive discretion, and still more to future legislation.¹³

The Indians, for whose protection these laws are proposed, consist of numerous tribes, scattered over an immense extent of country of different languages, and partaking of all the forms of society in the progression from the savage to an approximation to the civilized. With the emigrant tribes we have treaties, imposing duties of a mixed character, recognizing them in some sort as dependent tribes, and yet obliging ourselves to protect them, even against domestic strife, and necessarily retaining the power so to do. With other tribes we have general treaties of amity, and with a considerable number we have no treaties whatever. To most of the tribes with whom we have treaties, we have stipulated to pay annuities in various forms. The annexed tables (A, B, 1, J, K, L) exhibit a condensed view of those relations, and will assist in determining the nature and extent of the legislation necessary for the Indian Department. They, though a part of the consideration of the cessions of land, are intended to promote their improvement and civilization, and which may now be considered as the leading principle of this branch of our legislation.¹⁴

The Indian Trade and Intercourse Act of 1834 followed in many respects the similar act of March 30, 1802,¹⁵ and incorporated provisions of other acts which have already been noted.

¹⁰ Sec. 6, R. S. § 3078, 25 U. S. C. 55.

¹¹ Sec. 4, R. S. § 2180, 25 U. S. C. 241. See Chapter 17, sec. 3, fn. 85.

¹² 4 Stat. 739.

¹³ 4 Stat. 739.

¹⁴ This report also dealt with a third proposed bill, relating to the tribes of the proposed "western territory," which was never enacted.

¹⁵ II Rep. No. 474, 23d Cong., 1st sess. (May 20, 1834).

¹⁶ *Ibid.*, p. 1.

¹⁷ *Ibid.*, p. 2.

¹⁸ 2 Stat. 138. See sec. 8, *supra*.

¹⁹ See sec. 183, 46, 51, *supra*.

By its first section it substituted a general definition of Indian country for the definition by metes and bounds that had been contained in the 1802 act and that had become largely obsolete as a result of treaty cessions.¹⁶

Sections 2 to 5 of the act dealt with licensed traders and imposed a more detailed system of control over such traders than had been previous in force. These controls constituted, in large part, the present law on the subject and are elsewhere analyzed.¹⁷ The purpose of the legislation with respect to control of traders is set forth in the following terms in the House Committee report:

The Indian trade, as heretofore, will continue to be carried on by licensed traders. The Indians do not meet the traders on equal terms, and no doubt have much reason to complain of fraud and imposition. Some further provision seems necessary for their protection. Hereafter, it has been considered that every person (whatever might be his character) was entitled to a license on offering his bond. It has been the source of much complaint with the Indians. Power is now given to refuse licenses to persons of bad character, and for a more general reason, "that it would be improper to permit such persons to trade in the Indian country," and to revoke licenses for the same reasons. The committee are aware that this is granting an extensive power to the agents, and which may be liable to abuse; yet, when it is considered that the distance from the Government at which the traders reside, will prevent a previous consultation with the head of the department, that what is necessary to be done should be done promptly, that the agents act under an official responsibility, that they are required to assign the reasons of their conduct to the War Department, that an appeal is given to the party injured, and that the dismissal of the agent would be the consequence of a warrant act of injustice, the rights of the traders will be found as well secured as is compatible with the security of the Indians.

The report of the commissioners, appended to this report, contains a detailed statement of the exorbitant prices demanded by the Indian traders. As a remedy in part, they recommend, first, a substitution of goods for money in the payment of annuities. This suggestion has been adopted so far as to authorize it to be done by the consent of the tribe. In addition to the direct benefit, it will furnish them with something like a standard of the value of goods, and enable them to deal on more equal terms with the Indian traders.¹⁸

Section 6 of the act relaxes the prior requirement that all persons going into the Indian country must first pass a passport, so as to make the requirement applicable only to foreigners.¹⁹

Sections 7 to 12 of the 1834 Trade and Intercourse Act reenact with minor modifications provisions of the 1802 Trade and Intercourse Act.²⁰

Sections 13 to 15 of the act reenact provisions of the Act of January 17, 1800,²¹ relating to subversive activities among Indian

¹⁶ Act of June 30, 1834, 4 Stat. 720. For a discussion of the significance of the 1834 definition see Chapter 1, sec. 8.

¹⁷ See Chapter 16.

¹⁸ II Rep., op. cit., p. 11.

¹⁹ "Other nations have excluded foreigners from trade and intercourse with the Indians within their territories, and it has been the same policy as the only one safe for us, or beneficial to the Indians. The provision is therefore continued, that no foreigner shall enter the Indian country without a passport. But it is not deemed necessary that all the restrictions of the former laws as to our own citizens should be retained. Of them, as more traveling is to be through the Indian country, we ought not to have the same, or even any jealousy. And so frequent and necessary are the occasions of our citizens to pass into the Indian country, that of them no passports will be required for such objects. Such has been the inconvenience of obtaining passports, that, for years, the provision in the act of 1802, requiring them, has been a dead letter. It, however, our citizens desire to trade or to reside in the Indian country for any purpose whatever, a license for that particular purpose is required." II Rep., op. cit., p. 11.

²⁰ See 85, *supra*.

²¹ 2 Stat. 8, discussed in sec. 8, *supra*. See 25 U. S. C. 171, 172, 173.

tribes. On the question of allowing the executive power to remove undesirable non-Indians the Committee declared:

To facilitate the negotiations of treaties, it is deemed absolutely necessary that the commissioners should have power to control or remove all white persons who may attempt to pervert or impede the negotiations, and that they should have, if necessary, the aid of a military force.¹¹

Section 17 re-enacts and amplifies provisions of the 1802 act relating to Indian depredations:

The remaining provisions of the Statute deal primarily with the prosecution of crimes. Officials of the Indian Department are empowered to make arrests.¹² The liquor prohibition provisions of the 1882 act¹³ are re-enacted and amplified.¹⁴ The provision in the Act of May 6, 1882¹⁵ relating to Indian witnesses is likewise re-enacted (Section 22).¹⁶

Provisions on criminal jurisdiction are thus summarized in the House Committee report:

In consequence of the change in our Indian relations, the laws relative to crimes committed in the Indian country, and in the tribunals before whom offenders are to be tried, require revision. By the act of 8d March, 1847, the criminal laws of the United States were extended to *off persons* in the Indian country, without exception, and by that act, as well as that of 30th March, 1852, they might be tried wherever apprehended. It will be seen that we cannot, consistently with the provisions of some of our treaties, and of the territorial law, extend our criminal laws to offences committed by or against Indians, of which the tribes have exclusive jurisdiction; and it is rather of courtesy than of right that we undertake to punish crimes committed in that territory by and against our own citizens. And this provision is retained principally on the ground that it may be unsafe to trust to Indian law in the early stages of their Government. It is not perceived that we can with any justice or propriety extend our laws to offences committed by Indians against Indians, at any place within their own limits.

Somewhat have been suggested as to the constitutionality of so much of these acts as provides for the trial of offenders wherever apprehended, without expressing any opinion on that subject, it is thought that provisions more convenient to all parties, and at the same time free from all constitutional doubts, might be adopted. And for this end it is proposed, *for the sole purpose of executing this act*, to annex the Indian country to the judicial districts of the adjoining Territories and States. This is done principally with a view to offences that are to be prosecuted by indictment. In all cases of offences, when the punishment, by former laws, was fine or imprisonment, the punishment is now omitted, leaving the penalty to be recovered in an action of debt, presented in any district where the offender may be found.¹⁷

The second¹⁸ of the basic 1884 acts was intended to deal comprehensively with the organization and functions of the Indian Department. This purpose is developed in the sponsoring House Committee's report in the following terms:

The present organization of this department is of doubtful origin and authority. Its administration is expensive, inefficient, and irresponsible.

The committee have sought, in vain, for any lawful authority for the appointment of a majority of the agents and subagents of Indian affairs now in office. For years, usage, rendered colorably lawful only by reference to indirect and equivocal legislation, has been the only sanction for their appointment. Our Indian relations commenced at an early period of the revolutionary war. What was

necessary to be done, either for defence or consolidation, was done, and being necessary, no inquiry seems to have been made as to the authority under which it was done. This undisturbed state of things continued for nearly twenty years. Though some general regulations were enacted, the government of the department was chiefly left to Executive discretion. In the subsequent legislation, what was, in fact, mere usage, seems to have been taken as having been established by law. It does not appear that the origin or history of the department has ever attracted the attention of Congress. No report of its organization is found in its records. In ascertaining the authority of the appointment of the officers in the department, the committee have referred to the acts of the Government, of which they will now present a brief history, and which, it is believed, will fully sustain the position that a majority of the agents and subagents of Indian affairs have been appointed without lawful authority. This position is not taken with a view to put any particular administration in fault, for it applies to every administration for the last thirty years.¹⁹

The conclusion as to the lack of legal authority for various positions actually maintained in the office of Indian Affairs was borne out by a detailed review of the legislation of Congress beginning with ordinances enacted prior to the Declaration of Independence. The statute substitutes for the patchwork theretofore existing, a comprehensive schedule of departmental officers and makes all such officers responsible to the President of the United States and to regulations promulgated by him.²⁰

Other sections of the 1884 act providing for the organization of the department of Indian Affairs seek to restore and guarantee tribal rights upon which administrative arrangements had apparently been made, and to encourage Indians to take over an increased measure of responsibility for the administration of the Indian Service. In matters of annuity payments, the 1884 act establishes the principle that all such payments are to be made to the chiefs of the respective tribes or to such other representatives as the tribes themselves may appoint. In explanation of this provision (see 11), the Committee declared:

In the course of their investigations, the committee have become satisfied that much injustice has been done to the Indians in the payment of their annuities. The payments are required, by the terms of the treaties, to be paid to the tribe as a political body capable of acting as a nation, and it would seem, as a necessary consequence, that the payments should be made to the constituted authorities of the tribe. If these authorities distribute the annuities thus paid with a partial hand, they alone are responsible. If justice shall be done, we are not the instrument; we are discharged our obligation. What propriety can our Government undertake to apportion the annuities among the individuals of the tribes? And in what manner can it be done, with safety or convenience? If distributed to heads of families in proportion to the number of each family, it would require an annual enumeration, or a register of the changes. If paid to the individuals at their residences, it would be troublesome and expensive; if the individuals were required to travel to the agency, to receive the payment of their share, to many it would not be worth going for. What security can be given against the frauds of the agents? What vouchers shall be produced to account for the payments? The payment to the chiefs is a mode simple and certain, and the only mode that will render the annuities beneficial to the tribe, by enabling it to apply them to the expenses of their Government, to the purpose of education, or to some object of general concern. When distributed to individuals, the amount is too small to be relied on as a support, yet sufficiently large to induce them to forego the labor necessary to procure their supplies. And it is found that those are the most indolent and thifty who have no such aid.

Individual payments were introduced probably with a view to induce emigration, by paying those who choose to

¹¹ *II Rept*, op cit, p. 14.

¹² See 10.

¹³ See Ch. 61, *supra*.

¹⁴ See 20 and 21.

¹⁵ See Ch. 53, *supra*.

¹⁶ 4 Stat. 728, 738.

¹⁷ *II Rept*, op cit, pp. 18, 14.

¹⁸ Act of June 80, 1884, 4 Stat. 785.

¹⁹ *II Rept*, op cit, p. 23. 3 See Chapter 2, sec. 1B.

²⁰ Secs. 1, 2, 8.

emigrate their supposed share of the annuity. Whatever may have been the policy which gave rise to it, neither policy nor justice requires its continuance.

With a view to prevent frauds of another kind, in reference principally to the payment of goods, the President is authorized to appoint an officer of rank to superintend the payment of annuities. Thus, and the provision relating to the purchase of goods for the Indians, will place sufficient guards to prevent fraudulent payments.

The committee have reason to believe abuses have existed in relation to the supply of goods for presents at the making of treaties, or to fulfil treaty stipulations. Those for presents are at the loss of the Government. Those under treaty stipulations are at the loss of the Indians. The goods for presents have been usually furnished by the Indian traders, and at an advance of from 60 to 100 per cent. This the Government has been obliged to submit to, or the trader will make use of his influence to prevent a treaty. Should this in future be attempted, the Government will now have a sufficient remedy by revoking the license. The goods furnished under treaties have been charged at (what has been represented as a moderate rate) an advance of 50 per cent, and at that rate delivered to the Indians. It is now provided that the goods in both cases are to be purchased by an agent of the Government, and where there is time (as in case of goods purchased under treaties) they are to be purchased on proposals based on previous notice.¹¹

The objective of staffing the Indian Service itself with Indians was embodied in a provision of section 9 of this act reading:

And in all cases, of the appointments of interpreters or other persons employed for the benefit of the Indians, a preference shall be given to persons of Indian descent, if such can be found, who are properly qualified for the execution of the duties.¹²

A related objective was to be achieved by the following provision in section 9, which is law to this day (except that the Secretary of the Interior has succeeded to the powers of the Secretary of War):

And where any of the tribes are, in the opinion of the Secretary of War, competent to direct the employment of their blacksmiths, mechanics, teachers, farmers, or other persons engaged for them, the direction of such persons may be given to the proper authority of the tribe.¹³

The purpose behind these provisions is illuminated by a passage in the Committee report which declares:

The education of the Indians is a subject of deep interest to them and to us. It is now proposed to allow them some direction in it, with the assent of the President, under the superintendence of the Governor, so far as their annuities (\$5) are concerned, and that a preference should be given to educated youth, in all the employments of which they are capable, as traders, interpreters, schoolmasters, farmers, mechanics, &c., and that the course of their education should be so directed as to render them capable of those employments. Why educate the Indians unless their education can be turned to some practical use? and why educate them even for a practical use, and yet refuse to employ them?¹⁴

Other provisions of the act in question prohibit employees of the Indian Department from having "any interest or concern in any trade with the Indians, except for, and on account of, the United States."¹⁵

¹¹ H. Rept., op. cit., pp. 9, 10.

¹² Sec. 9, 4 Stat. 735, 737, R. S. § 2086, 25 U. S. C. 45. See Chapter 8, sec. 43.

¹³ *Ibid.* See Chapter 7, sec. 10.

¹⁴ H. Rept., op. cit., p. 20.

¹⁵ Sec. 14, 4 Stat. 735, 738. See Chapter 2, sec. 3B, fn. 336.

Provisions of earlier acts with respect to supplies and rations are reenacted (secs. 15 and 16). The latter provision is a reenactment of section 2 of the Act of May 13, 1800, authorizing issuance of rations to Indians at military posts.¹⁶

Section 17 centralizes responsibility for regulations authorized by law in the following terms:

That the President of the United States shall be, and he is hereby, authorized to prescribe such rules and regulations as he may think fit, for carrying into effect the various provisions of this act, and of any other act relating to Indian affairs, and for the settlement of the accounts of the Indian department.¹⁷

The purpose of this section is set forth in the following language of the Committee report:

The President is authorized to make the necessary regulations for carrying into effect the several acts relating to Indian affairs. In 1823, such regulations having reference to the laws then in force, were reported to the House by Messrs. Clark and Cary, commissioners appointed for that purpose. They appear to have been drawn with great care, and, with such alterations as the bills reported require, would, in the opinion of the committee, be proper and efficient, and should the acts reported pass, it would be proper to have the regulations reported to Congress at the next session, when they can be adopted by an act of Congress, or go into operation under the general provision related to.¹⁸

The fifth important segment of the existing law on Indian affairs that took shape under legislation of the 1830's is that relating to payments made to tribes, by reason of treaty provisions, by the Federal Government from proceeds derived from the disposition of ceded Indian lands. The Act of January 9, 1837,¹⁹ comprises three sections containing provisions of substantive law. The first section²⁰ requires the deposit in the United States Treasury of moneys received from the sale of lands ceded to the United States by treaties providing either for the investment or for the payment of such proceeds to the Indians.

Section 2 of the act²¹ provides:

That all sums that are or may be required to be paid, and all moneys that are or may be required to be invested by and treaties, are hereby appropriated in conformity to them, and shall be drawn from the Treasury as other public moneys are drawn therefrom, under such instructions as may from time to time be given by the President.

Section 3²² declares:

That all investments of stock, that are or may be required by said treaties, shall be made under the direction of the President, and special accounts of the funds under said treaties shall be kept at the Treasury, and statements thereof be annually laid before Congress.

These provisions of law established what was for a long time the basis of handling Indian tribal funds derived from sales of ceded land. As the sums involved increased year by year the handling of them became more and more important as providing the substance upon which the activities of the Indian Service were based.

¹⁶ See fn. 43-45, supra.

¹⁷ R. S. § 403, 25 U. S. C. 9. See Chapters 5, sec. 8.

¹⁸ H. Rept., op. cit., pp. 22, 23.

¹⁹ C. 1, 5 Stat. 135.

²⁰ R. S. § 2003, 25 U. S. C. 153.

²¹ R. S. § 2004, 25 U. S. C. 154.

²² R. S. § 2005, 25 U. S. C. 157.

SECTION 7. LEGISLATION FROM 1840 TO 1849

During the decade of the 1840's two statutes were enacted which have impressed a lasting mark upon federal Indian law. The first of these was the Act of March 3, 1847,¹²² which amended in various respects the comprehensive legislation of June 30, 1834.¹²³ These amendments included a broadening of the language of the Indian liquor legislation.¹²⁴ Section 3 of the 1847 act relaxed the requirement that had been established by the 1834 legislation to the effect that moneys due tribes should be paid to tribal officers, and authorized payment of such moneys "to the heads of families, and other individuals entitled to participate therein." Thus, in effect, substituted the judgment of federal officials for that of tribal governments on the question of tribal membership, so far as the disposition of funds was concerned. This provision was the first in a long series of statutes designed to individualize tribal property.¹²⁵

¹²² 9 Stat. 209.

¹²³ See § 4, supra.

¹²⁴ See 2 of the 1847 act amended see 20 Act of June 30, 1834, 4 Stat. 720.

¹²⁵ Amending see 11, Act of June 30, 1834, 4 Stat. 728.

¹²⁶ See Chapter 2, supra, 21, 22, for a discussion of official policy on that point.

The same section of the 1847 act contains a prohibition against the payment of annuities to Indians while there is liquor in the vicinity.¹²⁶

A second statute of the 1840's which has had an important bearing upon Indian administration is the Act of March 3, 1840,¹²⁷ establishing "a new executive department of the government of the United States, to be called the Department of the Interior, the head of which department shall be called the Secretary of the Interior." Section 5 of this act declared:

That the Secretary of the Interior shall exercise the supervisory and appellate powers now exercised by the Secretary of the War Department, in relation to all the acts of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, and shall sign all regulations for the advance or payment of money out of the treasury, on estimates or accounts, subject to the same adjustment or control now exercised on similar estimates or accounts by the Second Auditor and Second Comptroller of the Treasury.

This marked the termination of direct War Department control over the Indian problem.

¹²⁷ See Chapter 15, sec. 22B.

¹²⁸ 9 Stat. 405. See Chapter 2, sec. 1B.

¹²⁹ See 1.

SECTION 8. LEGISLATION FROM 1850 TO 1859

Throughout the decade of the 1850's treaties rather than legislation formed the growing point of Indian law, and little legislation of a general and permanent character was enacted. Three minor statutory provisions which date from this period deserve note.

Section 3 of the Appropriation Act of March 3, 1853¹³⁰ prohibits the payment to attorneys or agents of sums due to Indians or Indian tribes and prohibits the executive branch of the Government from recognizing any contract between Indians and their attorneys or agents for the prosecution of claims against the United States.

The Act of March 27, 1854,¹³¹ contained an important amendment of sections 20 and 26 of the Act of June 30, 1834¹³² which had the effect of removing from the jurisdiction of the federal courts Indians committing various offenses against non-Indians in the Indian country who have "been punished by the local law of the tribe." *

Sections 4 and 5 of this act mark the beginnings of a rudimentary criminal code for the Indian country. It covered arson¹³³ and assault by a white man against an Indian or by an Indian against a white man, with a deadly weapon and with intent to kill or maim.¹³⁴

A third statutory provision enacted in this decade was section 2 of the Appropriation Act of June 12, 1853.¹³⁵ This section,

¹³⁰ 10 Stat. 226, 229.

¹³¹ C. 23, sec. 3, 10 Stat. 269.

¹³² 4 Stat. 729. See sec. 6, supra.

¹³³ See Chapter 18, sec. 4.

¹³⁴ See 4, 10 Stat. 269, 270, R. S. § 2142, 25 U. S. C. 212.

¹³⁵ See 5, R. S. § 2142, 25 U. S. C. 218.

¹³⁶ 11 Stat. 820, 832, R. S. § 2149, 25 U. S. C. 222, repealed by Act of May 21, 1934, 48 Stat. 787.

symbolic of the growing concentration of power in the hands of the Commissioner, declared that that officer might

* . . . remove from any tribal reservation any person found therein without authority of law, or whose presence within the limits of the reservation may, in his judgment, be detrimental to the peace and welfare of the Indians.

That aggrandizement of power by the administrative authorities was feared by Congress even at the time extreme powers were being conferred upon such administrative authorities, is indicated by section 7 of the Act of February 28, 1850¹³⁷ authorizing the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, under the direction of the Secretary of the Interior,

to prepare rules and regulations for the government of the Indian service, and for trade and intercourse with the Indian tribes and the regulations of their affairs; and when approved by the President shall be submitted to the Congress of the United States for its approval. *Provided*, That such laws, rules, and regulations proposed shall not be in force until enacted by Congress.

It does not appear that this mandate was ever executed.

The same statute which carried the foregoing direction also contained a provision repealing prior legislation under which the United States had undertaken to indemnify whites suffering from Indian trespasses.¹³⁸

Important legislation enacted during this decade relating to the problem is elsewhere discussed.¹³⁹

¹³⁷ C. 68, 11 Stat. 883, 401.

¹³⁸ See 4, R. S. § 2150, 25 U. S. C. 229, repealing sec. 17 of Act of June 30, 1834, 4 Stat. 729, 731-732.

¹³⁹ See discussion of Act of December 22, 1856, 11 Stat. 874, in Chapter 20, sec. 8A.

SECTION 9 LEGISLATION FROM 1860 TO 1869

The decade of the 1860's is marked by an increasing volume of general Indian legislation, consistent with a decline in the use of Indian treaties as an instrument of national policy. These statutes for the most part strengthened or modified earlier provisions affecting Indian trade and intercourse. To a certain extent they mark new advances along the path of individualization of Indian property.¹²¹

The Act of February 13, 1862,¹²² contains a comprehensive re-statement of the Indian liquor law.

The Act of June 14, 1862,¹²³ entitled "An act to protect the property of Indians who have adopted the habits of civilized life," included those sections which have remained law to this day. The first section provides that when a member of a tribe has had a portion of tribal land allotted to him in severalty the superintendent "shall take such measures, not inconsistent with law, as may be necessary to protect such Indian in the quiet enjoyment of the land so allotted to him."¹²⁴ The second section of the act provides for punishment of any unallotted Indian who trespasses upon an allotment, through a deduction of damages from future annuities and payment thereof to the injured party.¹²⁵ The third section provides that if the trespasser is a chief or headman he shall be removed from office for 3 months.¹²⁶ This legislation is evidence of the resistance which the new allotment system was already encountering from tribal Indians who did not wish to see tribal lands checker-boarded with private boundary lines.¹²⁷

A proviso in the first section of the Appropriation Act of July 5, 1862,¹²⁸ authorizes the President,

" * * * in cases where the tribal organization of any Indian tribe shall be in actual hostility to the United States, * * * to declare all treaties with such tribe to be abrogated by such tribe, if, in his opinion, the same can be done consistently with good faith and legal and national obligations."

Section 6 of the same act deprives guardians appointed by the several Indian tribes of the right to receive "moneys due to incompetent or orphan Indians."¹²⁹

The Appropriation Act of March 3, 1865,¹³⁰ contains, as do most of the appropriation acts enacted in this period, a number of provisions of substantive law which have little or no relation to appropriations. Sections 8 and 9, emanating no doubt from the disturbed conditions attending the conclusion of the Civil War and the re-uniting of the sadly divided tribes of the Indian Territory, provide:¹³¹

Sec 8 That any person who may drive or remove, except as hereinafter provided, any cattle, horses, or other stock from the Indian Territory for the purposes of trade or commerce, shall be guilty of a felony, and on conviction be punished by fine not exceeding five thousand dollars, or by imprisonment not exceeding three years, or by both such fine and imprisonment.

Sec 9 That the agent of each tribe of Indians, lawfully residing in the said Indian Territory, be, and he is hereby, authorized to sell for the benefit of said Indians, any cattle, horses, or other live stock belonging to said Indians, and not required for their use and subsistence, under such regulations as shall be established by the Secretary of the Interior. *Provided*, That nothing in this and the preceding section shall interfere with the execution of any order lawfully issued by the Secretary of War, connected with the movement or subsistence of the troops of the United States.

Both these provisions are still law.

The Joint Resolution of March 3, 1865,¹³² marked a step in the fulfillment of a promise made by President Lincoln that upon the conclusion of the Civil War, if he survived, the Indian system should be reformed.¹³³ This resolution directed a thoroughgoing inquiry into the treatment of the Indian tribes by the civil and military authorities. "The result of this investigation are elsewhere discussed."¹³⁴

The Act of July 27, 1868,¹³⁵ marks a final step in the consolidation of administrative control over Indian affairs in the Department of the Interior. Section 1 of this act¹³⁶ transfers to the Secretary of the Interior all "supervisory and appellate powers and duties in regard to Indian affairs, which may now by law be vested in the said Secretary of the Treasury * * *"

¹²¹ For history of allotment policy, see Chapter 11, sec 1. On treaty provisions on allotments see Chapter 3, sec 4G.

¹²² C 24, 12 Stat 888

¹²³ 12 Stat 427

¹²⁴ R S § 2113, 25 U S C § 186

¹²⁵ R S § 2120, 25 U S C § 186

¹²⁶ R S § 2121, 25 U S C § 187

¹²⁷ See Chapter 2, sec 2 B, C, and D

¹²⁸ 12 Stat 512, 528, R S § 2080, 25 U S C § 72

¹²⁹ R S § 2108, 25 U S C § 189

¹³⁰ 18 Stat 511, 569

¹³¹ See 8, R S § 2135, amended by Act of June 30, 1919, sec 1, 41 Stat 9, 25 U S C 214, see 9, R S § 2127, 25 U S C § 192

¹³² 36 Stat 84, 13 Stat 872

¹³³ See W. B. Wipple, *Light and Shadow of a Long Emancipation* (1896) p 137

¹³⁴ See Chapter 2, sec 1B, fn 42 and sec 2C

¹³⁵ 15 Stat 228

¹³⁶ Embodied in part in R S § 468, 25 U S C 2

SECTION 10. LEGISLATION FROM 1870 TO 1879

The 1870's mark the first decade in which the growth of federal Indian law was entirely a matter of legislation rather than of treaty. The decade is marked by a steady increase in the statutory powers vested in the officials of the Indian Service and by a steady narrowing of the rights of individual Indians and Indian tribes.¹³⁷ Nevertheless, as we have elsewhere noted, the termination of treaty-making did not stop the process of treating with the Indians by agreement.¹³⁸

The Appropriation Act of March 3, 1871, provided not only for the termination of treaty-making with Indian tribes,¹³⁹ but also,

(see 3), for the withdrawal from noncitizen Indians and from Indian tribes of power to make contracts involving the payment of money for services relative to Indian lands or claims against the United States, unless such contracts should be approved by the Commissioner of Indian Affairs and the Secretary of the Interior. Since many of the grievances of the Indians were grievances against those officers, the Indians were effectively deprived by this statute of one of the most basic rights known to the common law, the right to free choice of counsel for the redress of injuries. These prohibitions were amplified by the Act of May 21, 1872.¹⁴⁰

¹³⁷ See Chapter 2, sec 2C

¹³⁸ Chapter 2, sec 5 and 6, Chapters 2, sec 2C

¹³⁹ 16 Stat 544, 550, R S § 2079, 25 U S C § 71. See Chapter 8, sec 5

¹⁴⁰ 17 Stat 186, sec 1, R S § 2103, 25 U S C 81, sec 2, R S § 2104, 25 U S C 82, and R S § 2106, 25 U S C 84, sec 3, R S § 2103, 25 U S C 88

The effect of this legislation upon the rights of Indians¹⁴ and Indian tribes,¹⁵ is elsewhere discussed.

A remarkable enactment of this period was that requiring Indian creditors of the United States to perform useful labor as a condition of receiving payments of money or goods which the United States was pledged to make. Such a provision, constituting permanent legislation, appears in section 3 of the Appropriation Act of June 22, 1874,¹⁶ and again in section 3 of the Appropriation Act of March 3, 1875.¹⁷

An appropriation act of the following year consolidates power over Indian traders in the hands of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, in the following terms:

And hereafter the Commissioner of Indian Affairs shall have the sole power and authority to appoint Traders to the Indian tribes, and to make such rules and regulations as he may deem just and proper, specifying the kind and quantity of goods, and the prices at which such goods shall be sold to the Indians.¹⁸

¹⁴ See Chapter 8, sec. 7.

¹⁵ See Chapter 11, sec. 5.

¹⁶ 18 Stat. 140, 178. See Chapter 14, sec. 1, Chapter 16, sec. 23A.

¹⁷ 18 Stat. 420, 440.

¹⁸ Sec. 5 Act of August 17, 1866, 19 Stat. 176, 200, 25 U. S. C. 261.

During this period legislation was enacted requiring each agent having supplies to distribute:

to make out, at the commencement of each fiscal year, rolls of the Indians entitled to supplies at the agency, with the names of the Indians and of the heads of families or lodges, with the number in each family or lodge, and to give out supplies to the heads of families, and not to the heads of tribes or bands, and not to give out supplies for a greater length of time than one week in advance.¹⁹

While these successive grants of power were being made to the administrative officers of the Indian department, a series of complaints against the abuses of power was leading to the multiplication of specific prohibitions against various administrative practices. Most of these prohibitions are comparatively unimportant, but mention should be made of provisions prohibiting Government employees from buying any personal interest in various types of Indian trade and commercial activities relating thereto.²⁰

¹⁹ Sec. 4, Act of March 3, 1875, 18 Stat. 420, 140, 25 U. S. C. 133.

²⁰ Sec. 10, Act of June 22, 1874, 18 Stat. 140, 177, 25 U. S. C. 87; 19 in 90 *supra*. And see Chapter 2, sec. 2B, in 111 and sec. 8B, in 335.

SECTION 11. LEGISLATION FROM 1880 TO 1889

The decade of the 1880's was marked by the rapid settlement and development of the West. As an incident to this process, legislation providing for acquisition of lands and resources from the Indians was demanded. Ethical justification for this was found in the theory of assimilation. If the Indian would only adopt the habits of civilized life he would not need so much land, and the surplus would be available for white settlers. The process of allotment and civilization was deemed as important for Indian welfare as for the welfare of non-Indians.

The first general statutory provision relating to disposition of Indian resources, other than land itself, is found in a paragraph of section 2 of the Act of March 3, 1883,²¹ which declares:

The proceeds of all pasturage and sales of timber, coal, or other product of any Indian reservation, except those of the five civilized tribes, and not the result of the labor of any member of such tribe, shall be covered into the Treasury for the benefit of such tribe under such regulations as the Secretary of the Interior shall prescribe, and the Secretary shall report his action in detail to Congress at its next session.

For some peculiar reason, this fund came to be known as "Indian moneys, proceeds of labor." The present status of funds so classified is dealt with elsewhere.²²

A few years later this provision was supplemented by the Act of February 16, 1889,²³ authorizing the sale of dead timber on Indian reservations under such regulations as the President might prescribe.

Meanwhile the process of assimilation, on its moral side, was demanding congressional attention. Shocked by the *Crow Dog* case,²⁴ Congress appended to the Appropriation Act of March 3, 1885, a section²⁵ specifying seven major crimes over which the federal courts were henceforth to exercise jurisdiction, even though both the offender and the victim were Indians and therefore subject only to tribal jurisdiction in the absence of congressional statute.²⁶

The same act that contained the "seven crimes" provision embodied a comprehensive attempt to deal with the problem of Indian depredations by providing for a general investigation by the Secretary of the Interior into depredation claims where treaties with Indian tribes authorized the United States to pay damages out of moneys due to the tribes.²⁷

The most important statute of the decade is, of course, the General Allotment Act,²⁸ frequently referred to as the Dawes Act. The objectives of this legislation and the legal problems which it raised are elsewhere discussed.²⁹ For the sake of the general historical picture, a brief summary of the provisions of this act may be offered.

The first section authorizes the President to allot tribal lands in designated quantities to reservation Indians.³⁰ The second section provides that the Indian allottees shall, so far as practicable, make their own selections of land so as to embrace improvements already made.³¹ Section 3 provides that allotments shall be made by agents, regular or special.³² Section 4 allows "any Indian not residing upon a reservation, or for whose tribe no reservation has been provided" to secure an allotment upon the public domain.³³

Section 5 provides that title in trust to allotments shall be held by the United States for 25 years, or longer if the President deems an extension desirable. During this trust period encumbrances or conveyances are void. In general, the laws of descent and partition in the state or territory where the lands are situate apply after patents have been executed and delivered. If any surplus lands remain after the allotments have been made, the Secretary is authorized to negotiate with the tribe for the purchase of such land by the United States, purchase money to be

²¹ Act of March 3, 1883, 23 Stat. 862, 876. Authorization to continue this investigation is found in the Appropriation Act of May 15, 1888, 24 Stat. 26, 44.

²² Act of February 8, 1887, 24 Stat. 988.

²³ See Chapter 11, sec. 1, and Chapter 16, sec. 2B.

²⁴ See 25 U. S. C. 381.

²⁵ 24 Stat. 988, 25 U. S. C. 382.

²⁶ 24 Stat. 968, 980. See 25 U. S. C. 388.

²⁷ 24 Stat. 988, 880, 25 U. S. C. 884.

²⁴ 22 Stat. 582, 590, 25 U. S. C. 155.

²⁵ See Chapter 5, sec. 10, Chapter 15, sec. 28.

²⁶ 25 Stat. 674, 25 U. S. C. 196. See Chapter 16, sec. 15.

²⁷ See Chapter 7, sec. 2.

²⁸ Sec. 0, 23 Stat. 982, 385, later incorporated, with amendments, in 18 U. S. C. 648.

²⁹ See Chapter 7, sec. 0.

held in trust for the sole use of the tribes to whom the reservation belonged but subject to appropriation by Congress for the education and civilization of such tribe or its members. This section also contains an important provision for the preference of Indians in employment in the Federal Government.¹⁹

Section 6 of the act sets forth the nonpecuniary benefits which the Indians are to receive in view of the destruction of tribal property and tribal existence which the act contemplates.²⁰

Section 7 of the act provides the basic law upon which water rights to allotments have been invested.²¹

The remainder of the act contains sections which exempt from the allotment legislation various tribes of the Indian Territory, the reservations of the Seneca Nation in New York, and an Executive order reservation in the State of Nebraska, and which authorize appropriations for surveys. In addition, the act contains various saving clauses for the maintenance of their existing congressional and administrative powers.

¹⁹ 24 Stat. 889, 389, 27 U. S. C. 148. See Chapter 6, sec. 2A, and Chapter 8, sec. 411 (f) (h).

²⁰ 24 Stat. 489, 800. See 25 U. S. C. 819. And see Chapter 8, sec. 1A (j).

²¹ 24 Stat. 488, 800, 25 U. S. C. 891. See Chapter 11, sec. 3.

SECTION 12. LEGISLATION FROM 1890 TO 1899

The decade of the 1890's shows no sweeping legislation comparable in scope to the General Allotment Act, but rather embodies piecemeal development of earlier statutes. This development proceeds along two main lines: (1) Amendments to the Allotment Act, particularly for the purpose of permitting leases of allotments, (2) the development of a body of law governing Indian education. (3) increased protection for individual Indian rights, and (4) the clearing up of Indian depredation claims.

Under the first heading may be listed the Act of February 28, 1891.²² The first two sections modified those provisions of the General Allotment Act relating to the amounts of land to be allotted. Section 3 of the act²³ permits the leasing of individual allotments, under rules prescribed by the Secretary of the Interior, whenever the Secretary finds that the allottee, "by reason of age or other disability," cannot "personally and with benefit to himself occupy or improve his allotment or any part thereof."

A proviso of this section permits leasing of tribal lands, where such lands are occupied by Indians who have bought and paid for them, "by authority of the Council speaking for such Indians," but "subject to the approval of the Secretary of the Interior."

Section 4 of the act supplements previous legislation on homestead allotments.²⁴ Section 5 of the act provides that for purposes of descent, cohabitation "according to the custom and manner of Indian life" shall be considered valid marriage.²⁵

Further amendments to the allotment system adopted during this decade include provisions extending leasing privileges,²⁶ conferring jurisdiction upon the federal courts to adjudicate suits for allotments,²⁷ and authorizing the Secretary of the Interior to correct errors in patents, and particularly in cases of "double allotment."²⁸

Of the numerous statutes on Indian education enacted during the decade of the 1890's the earliest confer a large measure of

In the following year the process of amending the Allotment Act began. Section 2 of the Act of October 10, 1888,²⁹ authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to accept surrenders of patents by Indian allottees. A proviso permits the Indian allottee, if he so chooses, to make a free selection.

A critical point in the process of assimilation arose in the intermarriage of white men and Indian women. The so-called "squawmen" were in many cases individuals who took unto themselves at least a proportionate share of tribal property and tribal control. Section 1 of the Act of August 9, 1888,³⁰ provided that, with the exception of the Five Civilized Tribes, intermarried whites should not by such marriage acquire "any right to any tribal property, privilege, or interest whatever to which any member of such tribe is entitled." Section 2 provided that an Indian woman married to a white man shall by such marriage become a citizen of the United States, without detriment to her rights of participation in tribal property.³¹ The third section of the act³² dealt with evidence required to show marriage.

²⁹ 25 Stat. 611, 612, 25 U. S. C. 530.

³⁰ 25 Stat. 792, 27 U. S. C. 181.

³¹ 25 U. S. C. 182.

³² 25 U. S. C. 183.

authority upon the administrative officials, and the later statutes proceed to limit that authority. The Appropriation Act of July 13, 1892,³³ includes a provision³⁴ authorizing the Commissioner of Indian Affairs to make and enforce regulations to secure the attendance of Indian children "at schools established and maintained by their bureau."

The Appropriation Act of March 3, 1893,³⁵ continues a provision³⁶ authorizing the Secretary of the Interior to

prevent the issuing of rations or the furnishing of subsistence either in money or in kind to the head of any Indian family for or on account of any Indian child or children between the ages of eight and twenty-one years who shall not have attended school during the preceding year in accordance with such regulations.

This latter apparently created considerable Indian and public excitement, as did the parallel practice of taking children from their parents and sending them to distant nonreservation boarding schools.³⁷ Section 11 of the Appropriation Act of August 15, 1894,³⁸ prohibits the sending of children to schools outside the state or territory of their residence without the consent of their parents or natural guardians, and forbids the withholding of rations as a technique for securing such consent. This provision is repeated in the Appropriation Act of March 2, 1895,³⁹ and, again, the Appropriation Act of June 10, 1896,⁴⁰ provides "That hereafter no Indian child shall be taken from any school in any State or Territory to a school in any other State against its will or without the written consent of its parents."⁴¹

A further limitation upon the broad authority of administrative officers over Indian education is found in a provision of the Appropriation Act of June 7, 1897,⁴² declaring it to be the

³³ 27 Stat. 120.

³⁴ 27 Stat. 120, 143, 25 U. S. C. 284.

³⁵ 27 Stat. 613.

³⁶ 27 Stat. 612, 628, 25 U. S. C. 288.

³⁷ See "Tukusi, Alleviating the Indians, 1927, American Indian Life (October-November 1927 Supplement) 6, 9.

³⁸ 28 Stat. 286, 313-314.

³⁹ 28 Stat. 270, 305, 25 U. S. C. 286.

⁴⁰ 29 Stat. 321, 348.

⁴¹ 25 U. S. C. 287.

⁴² 30 Stat. 63, 70, 25 U. S. C. 278. See Chapter 12, sec. 2D.

²² 26 Stat. 704.

²³ See 25 U. S. C. 936.

²⁴ See 25 U. S. C. 889.

²⁵ 25 U. S. C. 871.

²⁶ Act of August 15, 1894, 28 Stat. 286, 305, 25 U. S. C. 402.

²⁷ Act of August 15, 1894, 28 Stat. 286, 305, 25 U. S. C. 345.

²⁸ Act of January 20, 1895, 28 Stat. 641, 25 U. S. C. 848.

policy of Congress to "make no appropriation whatever for education in any sectarian school."

The role which these various statutes on Indian education have had in the development of the present law governing that subject is elsewhere discussed.¹²⁰

Concern for the protection of individual Indian rights was one of the more constructive consequences of the allotment legislation. The Appropriation Act of March 3, 1883,¹²¹ contains a provision, elsewhere discussed,¹²² requiring United States district

attorneys to render legal services to Indians. Further concern for individual Indian rights is indicated by section 10 of the Appropriation Act of August 15, 1894,¹²³ requiring the Interior Department to employ Indians in all employments in the Indian Service wherever practicable.

The final subject of importance covered in the legislation of the 1880's is the subject of Indian depredations. The Act of March 3, 1891,¹²⁴ established a comprehensive basis upon which all pending depredation claims were, in a comparatively short time, disposed of by the Court of Claims.¹²⁵

¹²⁰ See Chapter 12, sec. 2.

¹²¹ 27 Stat. 612, 681, 25 U. S. C. 176.

¹²² See Chapter 12, sec. 8.

¹²³ 28 Stat. 286, 813, 23 U. S. C. 44. See Chapter 8, sec. 18.

¹²⁴ 26 Stat. 851.

¹²⁵ See Chapter 14, sec. 1.

SECTION 13. LEGISLATION FROM 1900 TO 1909

Legislation of the decade from 1900 through 1908, like that of the preceding decade, consists almost entirely of piecemeal additions to and modifications of past legislation. The center of gravity is throughout the decade almost entirely in the problem of how Indian lands or interests therein may be transferred from Indian tribe to individual Indian or from individual Indian to individual white man.

Authorization for individual leasing of allotments is contained in the Appropriation Act of May 31, 1900.¹²⁶

The Act of February 6, 1901,¹²⁷ amplifies prior legislation allowing the Indian a day in court to prove his right to an allotment. The Appropriation Act of March 3, 1901, contains a provision authorizing the Secretary of the Interior to grant rights-of-way in the nature of easements across tribal and allotted lands for telephone and telegraph lines and offices.¹²⁸ The same section contains a provision subjecting allotted lands to condemnation under the laws of the state or territory in which they are located.¹²⁹

The Appropriation Act of May 27, 1902, established a procedure whereby the adult heirs of a deceased allottee may convey lands in heirship status with the approval of the Secretary of the Interior.¹³⁰

The Appropriation Act of June 21, 1903, contains three important provisions of substantive law.¹³¹ In the first place it permits the President to continue the trust period or period of restriction during which allotted land is inalienable.¹³² Another provision of this statute provides that:

No lands acquired under the provisions of this Act shall, in any event, become liable to the satisfaction of any debt contracted prior to the issuing of the final patent in fee therefor.¹³³

A third item of general legislation in this appropriation act declares:

That no money accruing from any lease or sale of lands held in trust by the United States for any Indian shall become liable for the payment of any debt of, or claim against, such Indian contracted or arising during such trust period, or, in case of a minor, during his minority, except with the approval and consent of the Secretary of the Interior.¹³⁴

While a provision in the foregoing act had established an administrative powers to continue restrictions on Indian land beyond

the point at which they were to have ceased, a provision in the Appropriation Act of March 1, 1907,¹³⁵ extended administrative discretion and flexibility in the opposite direction. Under this legislation sale of restricted land was to be permitted prior to the time when such restriction was to have expired "under such rules and regulations as the Secretary of the Interior may prescribe" and the proceeds might be used for the benefit of the vendor "under the supervision of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs."¹³⁶

The Act of March 2, 1907,¹³⁷ entitled "An Act Providing for the allotment and distribution of Indian tribal funds," applies to the realm of funds the principles applied to land in the General Allotment Act. Under section 1 of this act,¹³⁸ the Secretary of the Interior was authorized to designate Indians deemed capable of managing their own affairs and to allot to such Indians a pro rata share of tribal funds, upon the application of the Indian. Section 2 of this act,¹³⁹ authorized payment, under direction of the Secretary of the Interior, of their pro rata share of tribal funds to Indians mentally or physically disabled.¹⁴⁰

The Act of May 26, 1908, extended the authority to sell allotted lands, permitting the Secretary to make such sales upon the death of the original allottee and permitting and authorizing the issuance of a patent to the vendee of such Indian heirship lands.¹⁴¹

The Appropriation Act of March 8, 1909, authorizes the grant of Indian lands to railroads for various designated purposes.¹⁴²

The same statute authorizes leasing of allotted lands for mining purposes¹⁴³ under terms approved by the Secretary of the Interior.

A third substantive item contained in this appropriation act authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to make such arrangements as he deems to be "for the best interest of the Indians" in connection with irrigation projects affecting Indian reservation lands.¹⁴⁴

In general it may be said that these provisions introduce an element of administrative discretion and flexibility into a system which when originally proposed had been considered a means of releasing the Indian from dependence upon administrative authorities.

¹²⁶ 31 Stat. 221, 229. See fn. 163, *supra*.

¹²⁷ 31 Stat. 760.

¹²⁸ Sec. 8, 31 Stat. 1058, 1083, 25 U. S. C. 819.

¹²⁹ Sec. 8, 31 Stat. 1058, 1084, 25 U. S. C. 857.

¹³⁰ See 7, 32 Stat. 245, 275, 25 U. S. C. 870. And see Chapter 11, *supra*.

¹³¹ 34 Stat. 325.

¹³² 34 Stat. 325, 326, 25 U. S. C. 391.

¹³³ 34 Stat. 325, 327, 25 U. S. C. 384.

¹³⁴ 34 Stat. 326, 327, 25 U. S. C. 410.

¹³⁵ 34 Stat. 1015.

¹³⁶ 34 Stat. 1015, 1016, 25 U. S. C. 405.

¹³⁷ 34 Stat. 1221.

¹³⁸ 25 U. S. C. 119. See Chapter 10, sec. 4.

¹³⁹ See 25 U. S. C. 121.

¹⁴⁰ See Chapter 10, sec. 4.

¹⁴¹ 35 Stat. 444, 25 U. S. C. 404. Also see Chapter 5, sec. 11.

¹⁴² 35 Stat. 731, 25 U. S. C. 320.

¹⁴³ 35 Stat. 731, 732, 25 U. S. C. 386. See Chapter 11, sec. 5.

¹⁴⁴ 35 Stat. 731, 732, 25 U. S. C. 382.

SECTION 14. LEGISLATION FROM 1910 TO 1919

During the decade from 1910 through 1919, two trends dominated Indian legislation. In the first place, the allotment system is rendered more flexible and administrative powers in connection with the allotment system are greatly expanded. In the second place, the attempt to wind up tribal existence reaches a new high point and various powers formerly vested in the tribes are transferred by Congress to administrative officials.

Except for the single act of June 25, 1910,¹ which constitutes a comprehensive revision of the allotment law,² all the significant general legislation of this period is tucked away in provisions of appropriation acts.

The first such measure is found in a proviso of the Appropriation Act of April 4, 1910,³ which makes specific the powers conferred upon the Secretary of the Interior the year before⁴ with regard to irrigation projects on Indian reservations.⁵

The Act of June 25, 1910,⁶ constitutes what is probably the most important revision of the General Allotment Act that has been made. Based on 33 years of experience in the administration of the act, it seeks to fill gaps and deficiencies brought to light in the course of that period. These relate particularly (a) to the administration of estates of allottees, (b) to the making of leases and timber contracts for allotted lands, and (c) to the cancellation or relinquishment of trust patents.

Section 1 of this act⁷ sets forth a comprehensive plan for the administration of allottees' estates, conferring plenary authority upon the Secretary of the Interior to administer such estates and to sell heirship lands. Section 2⁸ authorizes testamentary disposition of allotments with the approval of the Secretary of the Interior and the Commissioner of Indian Affairs. Section 3⁹ permits relinquishment of allotments by allottees in favor of unallotted children, who had been completely ignored in the original scheme of allotment to living Indians, and sale of surplus lands to whites.

Section 4 of the act¹⁰ permits leasing of Indian allotments held by trust patent for periods not to exceed 5 years in accordance with regulations of the Secretary of the Interior, and confers upon the Secretary power to supervise or expound for the Indians' benefit the rentals thereby received. Section 5¹¹ makes it unlawful to induce an Indian to execute any conveyance of land held in trust, or interests therein, thus taking account of a practice which had resulted in large losses of Indian land through fraudulent or semiautonomous means. Section 6¹² contains various provisions for the protection of Indian timber against trespass and fire. Section 7¹³ contains a general authorization for the sale of timber on unallotted lands under regulations prescribed by the Secretary of the Interior. Section 8¹⁴ contains a similar authorization for timber sales on restricted allotted lands.

Section 13 of the act¹⁵ authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to reserve from entry Indian power and reservoir sites,

and the following section¹⁶ authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to cancel patents covering such sites upon making allotment of other lands of equal value and reimbursing the Indian for improvements on the cancelled allotment. Other sections contain minor amendments to the General Allotment Act and related legislation.¹⁷

The provision of this act relating to testamentary disposition of allotments was amended and amplified by the Act of February 14, 1911.¹⁸ As amplified, the privilege of testamentary disposition subject to departmental approval is extended not only to Indians possessed of allotments, but also to Indians having individual Indian moneys or other property held in trust by the United States.¹⁹

The Appropriation Act of June 30, 1913, declares²⁰

No contract made with any Indian, where such contract relates to the tribal funds or property in the hands of the United States, shall be valid, nor shall any payment for services rendered in relation thereto be made unless the consent of the United States has previously been given.

The Appropriation Act of August 1, 1914, contains provisions of substantive law authorizing quarantine of Indians afflicted with contagious diseases,²¹ and gives recognition to the existence of agency jails by requiring reports of confinements therein.²²

Contained in the Appropriation Act of May 18, 1916, is a provision authorizing the leasing of allotted lands susceptible of irrigation where the Indian owner, by reason of age or disability, cannot personally occupy or improve the land.²³

The same appropriation act includes a mandate to the Secretary of the Interior to make a comprehensive report of the use to which tribal funds have been put by administrative authorities. A proviso to this mandate which has become an important part of existing Indian law declares that following the submission of such report, in December 1917—

no money shall be expended from Indian tribal funds without specific appropriation by Congress except as follows: Equalization of allotments, education of Indian children in accordance with existing law, per capita and other payments, all of which are hereby continued in full force and effect. *Provided further*, That this shall not change existing law with reference to the Five Civilized Tribes.²⁴

The Appropriation Act of May 25, 1918, contains a number of "economy" provisions, the most important of which is that prohibiting the use of appropriations, other than those made pursuant to treaties—

to educate children of less than one-fourth Indian blood whose parents are citizens of the United States and of the State wherein they live and where there are adequate free school facilities provided.²⁵

Another provision of this appropriation act contains a reminder of the recent admission of the states of New Mexico and Arizona

¹ 36 Stat. 855.

² See H. Rept. No. 1, 1915, 61st Cong., 2d sess., April 24, 1910, for a comprehensive outline of the purposes of the act (H. R. 24992).

³ Act of March 3, 1910, 35 Stat. 731, 738.

⁴ 30 Stat. 269, 270, 271, 25 U. S. C. 383-385. See Chapter 13, sec. 7.

⁵ 30 Stat. 885.

⁶ 36 Stat. 855, 25 U. S. C. 372.

⁷ 36 Stat. 855, 365, 25 U. S. C. 373.

⁸ 36 Stat. 855, 856, 25 U. S. C. 408.

⁹ 36 Stat. 855, 856, 25 U. S. C. 408.

¹⁰ 36 Stat. 855, 857, 18 U. S. C. 115.

¹¹ 36 Stat. 855, 857, 18 U. S. C. 104, 107.

¹² 36 Stat. 855, 857, 25 U. S. C. 407.

¹³ 36 Stat. 855, 857, 25 U. S. C. 406.

¹⁴ 36 Stat. 855, 858, 48 U. S. C. 148.

¹⁵ 36 Stat. 855, 856, 25 U. S. C. 853.

¹⁶ See sec. 18, 36 Stat. 855, 856 (incorporated in 25 U. S. C. 812).

¹⁷ (rights-of-way), sec. 17, 36 Stat. 855, 856 (incorporated in 25 U. S. C. 841) (amending sec. 1 and 4 of the original allotment act); sec. 31,

36 Stat. 855, 856, 25 U. S. C. 847 (allotments within national forests).

¹⁸ 37 Stat. 678.

¹⁹ See Chapter 10, sec. 10, Chapter 11, sec. 8. See also San Rept.

No. 720, 62d Cong. 2d sess., May 9, 1912, on H. R. 1582.

²⁰ 38 Stat. 77, 97, 25 U. S. C. 85. See Chapter 8, Sec. 7.

²¹ 38 Stat. 624, 554, 25 U. S. C. 108.

²² 38 Stat. 624, 554, 25 U. S. C. 300.

²³ 38 Stat. 124, 158, 25 U. S. C. 394. See Chapter 11, sec. 5.

²⁴ 38 Stat. 124, 158-159, 25 U. S. C. 128.

²⁵ 40 Stat. 261, 554, 25 U. S. C. 297.

to the Union, in the form of a prohibition against the executive cession of further Indian reservations in those two states.¹²⁰

Section 28 of this act represents what is perhaps the culmination of the tendency to break up Indian tribes and tribal property. This section "authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to withdraw from the United States Treasury and segregate all tribal funds held in trust by the United States, upon demand in proportionate of such funds to each member of the tribe. This provision for the dividing up of tribal funds required a dual bill

¹²⁰ 40 Stat. 661, 670, 25 U. S. C. 213.

¹²¹ 19 Stat. 661, 671, 25 U. S. C. 162, repealed by act of June 24, 1838, sec. 2, 52 Stat. 1047, so that the former statute authorized distribution of tribal funds. See Chapter 9, sec. 6, Chapter 10, sec. 4, Chapter 16, sec. 21.

SECTION 15. LEGISLATION FROM 1920 TO 1929

The decade from 1920 through 1929 is singularly devoid of basic Indian legislation. In fact, the decade marks a lull between the legislative activity in which the development of the allotment system was realized and the new trends towards corporate activity and the protection of Indian rights which were to take form in the following decade.

Seven statutes embodying permanent general legislation adopted during this decade deserve notice.

The Appropriation Act of February 14, 1920, contains a direction to the Secretary of the Interior to require owners of taxable land under Indian migration projects to make payments for costs of construction.¹²² The same statute contains a proviso authorizing the Secretary of the Interior to make and enforce regulations to secure regular attendance of "eligible Indian children who are wards of the government" in federal or state schools.¹²³

The Appropriation Act of March 3, 1921, contains general authorization by the leasing of restricted allotments for farming and grazing purposes, subject to departmental regulations.¹²⁴

By the Act of May 20, 1924,¹²⁵ Congress authorized the execution of oil and gas leases "at public auction by the Secretary of the Interior, with the consent of the council governing for such Indians," whenever such lands were subject to mining leases under the Act of February 25, 1891.¹²⁶

Perhaps the most significant legislation of the decade is the Act of June 2, 1924, which made "all non-citizen Indians born within the territorial limits of the United States" citizens of the United States.¹²⁷ The title of this act as given in the Statutes at Large, "An Act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to issue certificates of citizenship to Indians" is the result of a clerical error which has been a source of considerable misunderstanding. The bill as originally introduced contemplated a procedure whereby the Secretary of the Interior was to issue such certificates.¹²⁸ The act as finally passed, however, acted of its own force to confer citizenship upon the Indian and in fact as passed by both houses the title of the bill reads "A bill granting citizenship to Indians, and for other purposes."¹²⁹ This act

¹²² 41 Stat. 408, 409, 25 U. S. C. 889. See Chapter 12, sec. 7.

¹²³ 41 Stat. 408, 410. See Chapter 12, sec. 2.

¹²⁴ 41 Stat. 1226, 1312, 25 U. S. C. 898. See Chapter 11, sec. 6.

¹²⁵ 43 Stat. 244, 245, 25 U. S. C. 895.

¹²⁶ 28 Stat. 764, 765, 25 U. S. C. 897.

¹²⁷ 43 Stat. 254, 8 U. S. C. 8. See Chapter 8, sec. 2.

¹²⁸ See II Rept. No. 323, 68th Cong., 1st sess., February 22, 1904, on H. R. 3855, when the Committee on Indian Affairs said:

At the present time it is very difficult for an Indian to obtain citizenship without either being allotted and getting a patent in fee simple, or leaving the reservation and taking up his residence apart from any tribe of Indians. This legislation will

of persons entitled to participate in the division. Such authorization was embodied in the Appropriation Act of June 30, 1910.¹³⁰

This same act included a comprehensive scheme for the granting of leases and prospecting permits on tribal lands at time the western states by the Secretary of the Interior, under such regulations as he might prescribe.¹³¹ This statute, probably stimulated by wartime demand for minerals, completely disregarded any tribal voice in the disposition of tribal property. It is of a piece with legislation, already noted, looking to the complete dissolution of the Indian tribes and the division of tribal funds, as well as tribal lands, among the members thereof.

¹³⁰ 41 Stat. 3, 9, 25 U. S. C. 138.

¹³¹ See 26, 41 Stat. 4, 31, 25 U. S. C. 390 amended by Act of December 10, 1926, 44 Stat. 622, and Act of May 11, 1933, 52 Stat. 847, 25 U. S. C. 390-1-106P. See Chapter 13, sec. 14 and 19.

brought to completion a process whereby various classes of Indians had successively been granted the status of citizenship.¹³²

By the Act of May 17, 1925¹³³ Congress acted to regularize the handling of "Indian moneys, proceeds of labor," making such moneys

available for expenditure in the discretion of the Secretary of the Interior, for the benefit of the Indian tribes, agencies, and schools on whose behalf they are collected, subject, however, to the limitations as to tribal funds, imposed by section 27 of the Act of May 18, 1916 (Thirty-ninth Statutes at Large, page 171).¹³⁴

The status of these funds is elsewhere discussed.¹³⁵

A comprehensive statute on oil and gas mining upon unallotted lands within Executive order reservations is the Act of March 3, 1927.¹³⁶ Section 1 of this act¹³⁷ extends to Executive order reservations the leasing privileges already applicable to other reservations under the Act of May 20, 1924, noted above.¹³⁸

Section 2 of this act¹³⁹ provides for the deposit of rentals, royalties, and bonuses in the Treasury of the United States to the credit of the Indian tribe concerned, such funds to be available for appropriation by Congress. This section contains a significant proviso indicating a new trend in Indian legislation:

Provided, That said Indians, or their tribal council, shall be consulted in regard to the expenditure of such money, but no per capita payment shall be made except by act of Congress.

Section 3 of the act¹⁴⁰ subjects proceeds and operations under the act to state taxation.¹⁴¹ Section 4 contains general legislation not restricted to the matter of oil and gas leases:

... heretofore changes in the boundaries of reservations created by Executive order, proclamation, or otherwise for the use and occupation of Indians shall not be

bridge the present gap and provide means whereby an Indian may be given citizenship without reference to the question of land tenure on the place of his residence. ...

The Senate amended this bill so as to eliminate all departmental discretion in its application. See Sen. Rept. No. 441, 68th Cong., 1st sess., April 21, 1924, and see 92 Cong. Rec. 8923-8922, 8931-8934.

¹³² See Chapter 8, sec. 2.

¹³³ 44 Stat. 690. See 25 U. S. C. 161b.

¹³⁴ See II Rept. No. 897, 60th Cong., 1st sess., April 15, 1903, on H. R. 1177.

¹³⁵ Chapter 8, sec. 10.

¹³⁶ 44 Stat. 1347.

¹³⁷ 44 Stat. 1347, 25 U. S. C. 803a.

¹³⁸ 43 Stat. 244. See 28, supra.

¹³⁹ 44 Stat. 1347, 25 U. S. C. 803b.

¹⁴⁰ 44 Stat. 1347, 25 U. S. C. 803c.

¹⁴¹ See Chapter 13, sec. 2.

made except by Act of Congress. *Provided*, That this shall not apply to temporary withdrawals by the Secretary of the Interior.⁴⁴

This limitation of a basic executive power in the field of Indian affairs is the precursor of a series of limitations upon executive authority enacted in the following decade.

The unfavorable comparisons drawn by the Meriam report⁴⁵ in 1928 between the service standards of the Indian Bureau and those of state agencies⁴⁶ led to a series of statutes looking

to the transfer of power over Indian affairs from the Interior Department to the states. A first step in this devolution of power was taken by the Act of February 15, 1929,⁴⁷ which directs the Secretary of the Interior to permit the agents and employees of any state to enter upon Indian lands⁴⁸

* * * for the purpose of making inspection of health and educational conditions and enforcing sanitation and quarantine regulations or to enforce compulsory school attendance of Indian pupils, as provided by the law of the State, under such rules, regulations, and conditions as the Secretary of the Interior may prescribe.

⁴⁴ 44 Stat. 1947, 25 U. S. C. 394d.

⁴⁵ 44 Stat. 2d sess., January 11, 1927, on S. 4598.

⁴⁶ Meriam, *Problem of Indian Administration* (1928).

⁴⁷ See Chapter 2, sec. 2F, *supra*.

⁴⁸ 45 Stat. 1185, 25 U. S. C. 251.

⁴⁹ See II Rept. 2183, 70th Cong., 2d sess., January 17, 1929, on H. R. 10554.

SECTION 16. LEGISLATION FROM 1930 TO 1939

The decade from 1930 to 1939 is as notable in the history of Indian legislation as that of the 1840's or the 1890's. Through the series of general and permanent laws enacted in the field of Indian affairs during this decade there runs the motive of righting past wrongs inflicted upon a nearly helpless minority. The sense of these wrongs owed much to the labor that went into the Meriam report,⁴⁹ much to the investigations conducted by the Senate,⁵⁰ and much to the volunteer labors of individuals and organizations willing to assume the thankless task of criticizing the workings of our governmental institutions.⁵¹

The first of these attempts to remedy past wrongs was the so-called Leavitt Act of July 1, 1932.⁵² Both the Meriam report and the special subcommittee of the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs had made it clear that in the development of irrigation projects on Indian reservations, Indians had been charged with tremendous costs for construction work which they had never requested and which brought them little or no benefit. The Leavitt Act authorized the Secretary of the Interior

to adjust or eliminate unreasonable charges of the Government of the United States existing as debts against individual Indians or tribes of Indians in such a way as shall be equitable and just in consideration of all the circumstances under which such charges were made.

Such action was to be subject to congressional reconsideration by concurrent resolution.

A further provision of this act deferred the collection of construction charges against Indian-owned lands until the Indian title thereto should have been extinguished. The place of the Leavitt Act in current Indian irrigation work is elsewhere discussed.⁵³ Legislation along similar lines was later extended to white users of water on Indian irrigation projects.⁵⁴

The first legislative result of the depression in the field of Indian affairs was an act designed to meet the problem of the failure on timber contracts. The Act of March 4, 1933, permitted the Secretary of the Interior, with the consent of the Indians involved, expressed through a regularly called general council, and of the purchaser, to modify the terms of uncompleted contracts of sale of Indian timber tracts.⁵⁵ Similar provision was made with respect to allotted timber.⁵⁶ In all such modified contracts, Indian labor was to be given preference.⁵⁷ The instant

ence upon Indian contract marks a trend that was to continue through the remainder of the decade.⁵⁸

General emergency legislation, such as the National Industrial Recovery Act,⁵⁹ with its public work programs, and the Emergency Appropriation Act of June 10, 1934,⁶⁰ under which the Indian Division of the Civilian Conservation Corps was established, made a very significant impression upon the economic situation of the Indian reservations.

An important item of general and permanent legislation was the so-called Johnson-O'Malley Act⁶¹ of April 16, 1934,⁶² authorizing (sec. 1) the Secretary of the Interior to enter into contracts with states or territories—

* * * for the education, medical attention, agricultural assistance, and social welfare, including relief of distress, of Indians in such States, Territory, through the qualified agencies of such State or Territory.

Federal moneys and federal facilities might be turned over to such state or territorial agencies.⁶³ This legislation constituted a response to the criticism made by the Meriam report that the standards of social service in the Indian Bureau were in large part inferior to those of parallel state agencies.⁶⁴

Next in the list of Indian grievances to be corrected was the provision in the law governing sales of Indian homestead lands requiring the Indian to refund moneys paid by a defaulting purchaser. Full of real-estate values and widespread defaults on uncompleted contracts made this provision particularly onerous to the Indians. By the Act of April 30, 1934,⁶⁵ the usual rule of law that instruments on a defaulted contract issue to the benefit of the vendor was applied to the Indians.⁶⁶

The next attempt to right old wrongs was embodied in the Act of May 21, 1934,⁶⁷ an act which repealed 12 sections of the United States Code that had peculiar restrictions upon civil liberties in the Indian country.⁶⁸ This statute marked the first step in a process of freeing the Indians and the Indian Service from the burden of obsolete laws enacted to fit long-outgrown

⁴⁴ See Chapter 2, sec. 2F.

⁴⁵ See Chapter 1, sec. 1. See also H. Rept. No. 951, 72d Cong., 1st sess.

⁴⁶ See particularly American Indian Life, *Bulletins* 10 (1927) to 24 (1934).

⁴⁷ 47 Stat. 594, 25 U. S. C. 889a.

⁴⁸ See Chapter 12, sec. 7.

⁴⁹ Act of June 22, 1928, 49 Stat. 1808, 25 U. S. C. 889 *et seq.*

⁵⁰ Act of March 4, 1933, sec. 1, 48 Stat. 1598, 25 U. S. C. 407a.

⁵¹ See 2, 47 Stat. 1568, 25 U. S. C. 407b.

⁵² See 8, 47 Stat. 1568, 1569, 25 U. S. C. 407c.

⁵³ See H. Rept. No. 1302, 72d Cong., 1st sess., May 13, 1932, Sen. Rept. No. 1281, 72d Cong., 2d sess., February 21, 1933, on H. R. 6084.

⁵⁴ Act of June 16, 1934, 48 Stat. 1906.

⁵⁵ Act of June 16, 1934, 48 Stat. 1921, 1006. For a continuous account of these activities see the publication of the Office of Indian Affairs, "Indian at Work."

⁵⁶ When originally introduced it was known as the Swing-Johnson bill.

⁵⁷ 48 Stat. 890, 25 U. S. C. 452.

⁵⁸ See Sen. Rept. No. 611, 73d Cong., 2d sess., March 20, 1934, on S. 2971.

⁵⁹ See Chapter 2, sec. 2F, and Chapter 12, sec. 2 and 3.

⁶⁰ 48 Stat. 647, 25 U. S. C. 872 (Supp.).

⁶¹ See II Rept. No. 825, 73d Cong., 2d sess., February 21, 1934, on H. R. 6093.

⁶² 48 Stat. 787.

⁶³ For a discussion of the sections repealed see Chapter 8, sec. 10A(2).

conditions.³⁰⁰ The statutes repealed constitute only a small part of the mass of such obsolete laws.

The most comprehensive measure of the decade, probably equalled in scope and significance only by the legislation of June 30, 1834,³⁰¹ and the General Allotment Act of February 8, 1887,³⁰² is the Act of June 18, 1934.³⁰³ Although the various provisions of this act are discussed in other chapters, an outline sketch of the entire act may show the context and perspective in which each of these provisions has to be viewed.

The general purposes of the legislation are set forth at length in Hearings before the House Indian Affairs Committee³⁰⁴ and in briefs³⁰⁵ in Hearings before the Senate Indian Affairs Committee.³⁰⁶ In a series of conferences held throughout the Indian country the purposes of the proposed legislation as envisioned by officials of the Interior Department and the views voiced by Indians which were embodied in the act as finally passed are set forth in some detail.³⁰⁷

More briefly the objectives of the legislation are summed up in the report presented by Senator Wheeler, one of the co-sponsors of the measure, on behalf of the Committee on Indian Affairs, of which he was chairman. The report recommending enactment of the measure³⁰⁸ declared:

The purposes of the bill, briefly stated, are as follows:

- (1) To stop the alienation, through action by the Government or the Indians, of such lands, belonging to ward Indians, as are needed for the present and future support of these Indians.
- (2) To provide for the acquisition, through purchase, of land for Indians, now landless, who are anxious and fitted to make a living on such land.
- (3) To emphasize the tribal organization of Indian tribes by vesting such tribal organizations with land, though limited, authority, and by prescribing conditions which must be met by such tribal organizations.
- (4) To permit Indian tribes to equip themselves with the devices of modern business organization, through forming themselves into business corporations.
- (5) To establish a system of financial credit for Indians.
- (6) To supply Indians with means for collegiate and technical training in the best schools.
- (7) To open the way for qualified Indians to hold positions in the Federal Indian Service.

Section 1³⁰⁹ prohibits further allotment of Indian lands. This provision embodied a considered judgment that the allotment system was incapable of contributing to the economic advancement of the Indians. As was stated in the House report,³¹⁰

The bill now under consideration definitely puts an end to the allotment system through the operation of which the Indians have parted with 90,000,000 acres of their land in the last 50 years. (P. 6.)

³⁰⁰ See Sen. Rept. No. 684, 78d Cong., 2d sess., March 28, 1934, on S. 2071, wherein it is stated: " * * * It appears that the only use now made of these obsolete sections is as an excuse for arbitrary abuses by bureaucratic officials."

³⁰¹ See sec. 6, supra.

³⁰² See sec. 11, supra.

³⁰³ 48 Stat. 964, 28 U. S. C. 461, et seq.

³⁰⁴ Reorganization of Indian Affairs, Hearings, H. Comm. on Ind. Aff., on H. R. 7002, 78d Cong., 2d sess. (1934).

³⁰⁵ Hearings, Sen. Comm. on Ind. Aff., on S. 2755 and S. 8846, 73d Cong., 2d sess. (1934).

³⁰⁶ See, for example, Minutes of the Plains Congress, March 2-5, 1934 (Hagley-City Indian School); Minutes of All-Pueblo Council, Santa Domingo Pueblo, March 15, 1934, Report of Southern Arizona Indian Conference, Phoenix, Arizona, March 15-16, 1934 (Phoenix Indian School); Proceedings of the Conference for the Indians of the Five Civilized Tribes of Oklahoma, Muskogee, Oklahoma, March 23, 1934.

³⁰⁷ Sen. Rept. No. 1080, 78d Cong., 2d sess. (May 10 (calendar day, May 23), 1934).

³⁰⁸ 48 Stat. 964, 28 U. S. C. 451. See Chapter 11, sec. 1.

³⁰⁹ H. Rept. No. 1804, 78d Cong., 2d sess., on H. R. 7002 (May 28, 1934).

Section 2³¹¹ extends, until otherwise directed by Congress, existing periods of trust and restrictions on alienation placed on Indian lands.

Section 3,³¹² apart from the lengthy provisions relating to the Pangu Reservation,³¹³ authorized the Secretary of the Interior "to restore to tribal ownership the remaining surplus lands of any Indian reservation heretofore opened, or authorized to be opened, to sale, at any other form or disposal" Commenting on this section, the Senate Committee Report declares:

When allotment was carried out on various reservations, tracts of surplus or ceded land remained unallotted and were placed with the Land Office of the Department of the Interior for sale, the proceeds to be paid to the Indians. Some of these tracts remain unsold and by section 3 of the bill they are restored to tribal use. (P. 2.)

Section 4 of the act³¹⁴ constitutes a rather complicated amalgam of differing Senate and House drafts on the subject of alienation of Indian land. The scope and effect of this section are elsewhere explained.³¹⁵ In general, it may be said that the section prohibits *inter vivos* transfers of restricted Indian land except to an Indian tribe and limits testamentary disposition of such land to the heirs of the decedent, to members of the tribe having jurisdiction over the land, or the tribe itself.

Section 5³¹⁶ authorizes the acquisition of lands for Indians³¹⁷ and declares that such lands shall be tax exempt.

Section 6³¹⁸ directs the promulgation of various conservation regulations.

Section 7³¹⁹ gives the Secretary authority to add newly acquired land to existing reservations and extends federal jurisdiction over such lands.

Section 8³²⁰ leaves selected Indian homesteads on the public domain out of the scope of this measure.

The first eight sections of the law as finally enacted correspond to the provisions of the bills considered and reported by the House and Senate Committees. In the remaining sections of the measure as finally enacted, various combinations and compromises were made between two different drafts which passed the two houses and, therefore, the House and Senate debates and committee reports must be read with caution.

Section 9³²¹ authorizes an appropriation for the expenses of organizing Indian chartered corporations and other organizations created under the act.

Section 10³²² authorizes the establishment of a \$10,000,000 revolving credit fund from which loans may be made to incorporated tribes. Loans had been made by the Indian Service for many years to individual Indians but the experience with such loans had not been satisfactory. The individual Indian receiving money or goods from a federal official was apt to place the trans-

³¹¹ 48 Stat. 964, 28 U. S. C. 462.

³¹² 48 Stat. 964, 28 U. S. C. 468.

³¹³ Later amended by Act of August 28, 1937, 50 Stat. 862.

³¹⁴ See Chapter 16, Secs. 1, 7, 21.

³¹⁵ 48 Stat. 964, 965, 28 U. S. C. 464.

³¹⁶ See Chapter 11, sec. 4, Chapter 15, sec. 18.

³¹⁷ 48 Stat. 964, 965, 28 U. S. C. 465.

³¹⁸ "The title to land thus acquired will remain in the United States. The Secretary may permit the use and occupancy of this newly acquired land by Indian Indians, he may loan them money for improvements and cultivation, but the continued occupancy of this land will depend on its beneficial use by the Indian occupant and his heirs." (H. Rept. No. 1804, 78d Cong., 2d sess. (May 28, 1934), p. 7.)

³¹⁹ 48 Stat. 964, 966, 28 U. S. C. 466.

³²⁰ *Ibid.*, 28 U. S. C. 467.

³²¹ 48 Stat. 964, 968, 28 U. S. C. 468.

³²² 48 Stat. 964, 968, 28 U. S. C. 469.

³²³ 48 Stat. 964, 966, 28 U. S. C. 470.

action in the context of goods received under treaty or agreement or by way of charity, and the wage to repayment was slight. The new legislation precluded loans from the Federal Government to individual Indians. Henceforth the individual Indian was to be responsible in the matter of repayment to his own tribe.¹⁰

Section 11¹⁰ authorized "loans to Indians for the payment of tuition and other expenses in recognized vocational and trade schools," and "loans to Indian students in high schools and colleges."

Section 12¹⁰ reviewed a promise of Indian employment which had been made in several earlier statutes during the preceding century.¹¹ Specifically, it directed the Secretary of the Interior to establish standards for appointment "without regard to civil-service laws, to the various positions maintained, now or heretofore, by the Indian Office, in the administration of functions or services affecting any Indian tribe," and provided that Indians meeting such non-civil-service standards "shall hereafter have the preference to appointment to vacancies in any such positions." The administration of this provision is elsewhere discussed.¹²

Sections 13,¹³ 14,¹⁴ and 15¹⁵ of the act dealt with the exemption of various tribes from all or some of the provisions of the act, provided for the continuance of "Sioux benefits,"¹⁶ and put forward a promise

that no expenditures for the benefit of Indians made out of appropriations authorized by this Act shall be considered as offsets in any way brought to account upon any claim of such Indians against the United States.

Sections 16¹⁶ and 17¹⁷ deal with the problem of tribal organization and tribal incorporation. Since these sections were the work of a conference committee which took phrases from the bill that had passed the House and other phrases from the bill that had passed the Senate, the House and Senate committee reports and legislative history prior to the conference report must be used with extreme circumspection, in aiding the interpretation of these two sections. The scope of these two sections and the interrelations placed thereon are elsewhere discussed.¹⁸

Section 18¹⁸ provided that the act as a whole should not apply to any reservation where a majority of the Indians voted against its application.¹⁹

¹⁰ See Chapter 14.

¹¹ 48 Stat. 984, 986, 25 U. S. C. 471.

¹² 48 Stat. 984, 986, 25 U. S. C. 472.

¹³ See Chapter 8, sec. 4B.

¹⁴ See Chapter 8, sec. 4B(3)(b).

¹⁵ 48 Stat. 984, 986, 25 U. S. C. 478.

¹⁶ 48 Stat. 984, 987, 25 U. S. C. 474.

¹⁷ 48 Stat. 984, 987, 25 U. S. C. 475. This provision, insofar as it provided that appropriations authorized by the act should not be considered offsets in Indian claim suits against the United States, was later repudiated in large part by a rider to the Appropriation Act of August 15, 1935, 49 Stat. 971, 500, 25 U. S. C. 476.

¹⁸ See Act of March 2, 1889, sec. 17, 25 Stat. 888, 894, Act of June 10, 1890, 26 Stat. 821, 884.

¹⁹ 48 Stat. 984, 987, 25 U. S. C. 470.

²⁰ 48 Stat. 984, 986, 25 U. S. C. 477.

²¹ See Chapter 7, sec. 5; Chapter 14, sec. 4.

²² 48 Stat. 984, 986, 25 U. S. C. 478.

²³ For a holding that the right to reject the entire act included the right to reject the special provisions dealing with the Papago Reservation, see 32 Op. A. G. 121 (1924). Under the original act, elections had to be called on the act within 1 year after its approval. By the Act of June 15, 1935, 49 Stat. 878, this period was extended another year. Under the original act a majority of all the Indians entitled to vote was required to render the act inapplicable to a particular reservation. Unreported Op. A. G. April 10, 1935. The amendment above referred to modified this rule so as to require only a majority of those voting in an election in which not less than 80 percent of those entitled to vote actually vote.

Section 19²³ of the act includes definitions of "Indians," "tribes," and "admit Indians." Of these definitions the definition of the term "Indian" is of particular importance.

The term "Indian" as used in this Act shall include all persons of Indian descent who are members of any recognized Indian tribe now under Federal jurisdiction, and all persons who are descendants of such members who were, on June 1, 1834, residing within the present boundaries of any Indian reservation, and shall further include all other persons of one-half or more Indian blood.

Although many provisions of the act as originally enacted did not apply to the Territory of Alaska or the State of Oklahoma, which together accounted for approximately one-half of the Indian population of the United States, experience in the administration of the act and intensive discussion of its provisions in the exempted areas led to the adoption of legislation extending the main provisions of the act, with minor modifications, to Alaska²⁴ and to Oklahoma.²⁵

An analysis of the workings of the Act of June 18, 1894, was published in 1938 by a committee of students of Indian affairs.²⁶ The conclusions reached by this committee after an analysis of concrete experiences on typical reservations are worth quoting:

... these concrete experiences point dramatically to the new world of opportunity that has been opened to all Indian tribes by the development of three cardinal principles of present-day Indian administration: Indian self-government, the conservation of Indian lands and resources, and socially directed credit. On almost every reservation today, even on reservations that voted to reject the Indian Reorganization Act, one finds a deep and growing concern for these basic principles, a conscious striving to secure their application to local problems, the beginnings of constructive achievement, and hope for the future where there was once only hopeless regret for the past.

INDIAN SELF-GOVERNMENT

The first major move of the present administration in the direction of Indian self-government was a provision in the Pueblo Relief Act of May 31, 1933, prohibiting the Secretary of the Interior from spending moneys appropriated under that act for the various Pueblos "without first obtaining the approval of the governing authorities of the Pueblo affected."

The same principle was established on a broader scale by the Indian Reorganization Act of June 18, 1934, which gave to all Indian tribes organizing under its terms the final power of approval or veto over the disposition of all tribal assets.

²⁴ 48 Stat. 984, 988, 25 U. S. C. 479. For definition of Indians see Chapter 1, sec. 2.

²⁵ Act of May 1, 1906, 49 Stat. 1250, 48 U. S. C. 393, 398A, discussed in Chapter 21.

²⁶ Act of June 26, 1916, 49 Stat. 1907, 25 U. S. C. 501-509, discussed in Chapter 22.

²⁷ The New Day for the Indians. A survey of the Working of the Indian Reorganization Act of 1934 (1938), edited by Jay B. Nash, Oliver LaFarge, and W. Cannon Ryan, sponsored by Public Affairs, Louis Brandeis, Ruth Benedict, Bruce Hines, Leonard Bloomfield, Plains Park, Ray A. Brown, Fay Cooper Cole, John M. Cooper, George P. Clement, Harold S. Colton, Byron Cummings, William A. Dornan, Ben Dwigat, Hubert R. Edwards, Harlan Emerson, Edwin R. Embree, Howard S. Gans, Robert Gessner, Rev. Philip Gordon, John J. Hannon, John P. Harrington, M. Raymond Harrington, Melville J. Heckscher, Frederick W. Hunsche, J. F. W. Hoopes, Edgar Howard, Alva Eldrich, Albert Ernest Tenks, A. V. Kidder, Charles L. Key, Oliver LaFarge, Robert Larnade, Ralph T. Linton, Charles T. Loran, John Joseph Matthews, William Miles McLeod, Margaret McKibbin, Eliezer Meisel, Jay B. Nash, William F. Ogburn, Nathan Bonn Ventus Olinson, Robert Redfield, W. Cannon Ryan, Lester F. Scott, Elizabeth Roper Sergeant, Robert Thompson Nelson, Guy Shury Shupis, Frank O. Speck, Vilhelmus Stenroos, Fred M. Stein, Ilustion Thompson, George C. Vaillant, Wilson D. Wallis, James P. Washburn, and B. D. Weeks.

The Indian Reorganization Act further authorized the various Indian tribes to take over positive control of their own resources and to carry on tribal enterprises as membership corporations under a gradually diminishing federal supervision.

The law as finally enacted, left to the future many groups of power included in the original bill, for which it was felt that the Indians were not yet ready. Thus the power to remove undesirable employees from a reservation, the power to appropriate tribal lands held in the United States Treasury, and the power to take over services rendered by the War Department to individual Indians—such services, for instance, as are connected with education, health, the probate and sale of allotments, and the handling of individual Indian moneys—all were deleted from the original bill.

What was, perhaps more important than the specific powers which the act, as finally passed, conferred upon organized Indian tribes was the solemn pledge contained in the act that hereafter would the Federal Government tear down the municipal and economic organizations that should establish themselves under the protection of the act, and that powers vested in the tribes under past laws and treaties would not be diminished without tribal consent.

The principle of Indian self-government was carried to a new phase when the Indians themselves were asked to vote as to whether or not the law establishing self-governing powers should apply on the different reservations. The great majority of the Indians voted on the question in favor of the Indian Reorganization Act. In accordance with the expressed desires of tribes originally excluded from the act, its essential principles were extended to Alaska by the act of May 1, 1936, and to Oklahoma by the act of June 26, 1936. Indians numbering 232,271 are now under the act. They are grouped into tribes or bands numbering 206. They represent 68.8 percent of the total Indians in the United States and Alaska.

As of September 1, 1938, 85 tribes, with a population of 99,818, had already adopted constitutions and by-laws under the Indian Reorganization Act. Fifty-nine of these have already received charters of incorporation. No tribe or group which adopted the act, or which was brought within the terms of the act without formal vote, as in Oklahoma and Alaska, has asked by vote or by majority petition to be relieved of the terms of the act. On the other hand, a number of groups in tribes which once rejected the act have petitioned for a second chance to vote on the ground that their original adverse vote was influenced by misinformation. What the adoption of Indian constitutions has meant in the spiritual regeneration of the Indians concerned is illustrated more forcefully by the concrete experiences related in the first part of this report than by any statistical figures.

One significant change in the direction of Indian self-government can be seen by the negative terms. During the century from 1888 to 1933 hundreds of laws affecting Indian tribes were enacted and a great part of these laws, perhaps a majority of them, in some way deprived the Indian tribes of rights or possessions they had once enjoyed. Since 1933 no law has been enacted which took from any Indian tribe, against its will, any of its liberties or any of its possessions.

CONSERVATION OF NATURAL RESOURCES

During the years from the passage of the General Allotment Act of 1887 until the beginning of the present administration, Indian land holdings were reduced from approximately 127,000,000 acres to less than 50,000,000 acres. Of the area that remained in Indian ownership a large part was desert or mountainland. The grazing land and farming land still owned by the Indians had seriously deteriorated as a result of overgrazing, the plowing of soil that should never have been broken, reckless timber-cutting and the emigration of the topsoil by various water and aerial routes to plains east and west.

These figures represented stark tragedy for a people whose economy was based in the soil whose reverence for the soil was so deep that they never fully grasped the white man's concept of buying and selling land. Little groups of Indians for whom the process of land-loss had

gone to its final end, the advance guard of an army moving towards landlessness, could be found in rural deserts and town garbage-dumps, living in the depths of squalor and hopelessness.

Against this background the government's present conservation policies stand out in sharp relief. The loss of Indian lands through sale to whites was stopped, except for a few emergency cases, by an order of Commissioner Collier, approved by Secretary Ickes August 14, 1938, and by the general prohibition against further alienation and against sales of restricted lands which is contained in the Indian Reorganization Act. Guarantees against alienation of tribal lands have been written into every tribal constitution and charter.

Between March 1933 and December 1937 the total of Indian land holdings increased by approximately 2,780,000 acres. The Indian Reorganization Act authorized an appropriation of \$2,000,000 a year for land purchase. In the four years following the passage of the act a total of \$2,650,000 was actually appropriated and contracts involving an additional \$500,000 were authorized. This money was used to acquire 248,110 acres (as of December 1, 1937) for Indian use. During the same period an additional 519,277 acres was added to Indian reservations, under the authority which the Indian Reorganization Act conferred upon the Secretary of the Interior to restore lands which have been taken away from the Indian tribes as "surplus" lands, wherever such lands are still held by the Federal Government. Restoration of a total area of approximately 5,000,000 acres is under consideration. Special legislation enacted under the present administration accounts for the addition of another 1,203,808 acres to the Indian domain. An additional area of approximately 1 million acres has been included in substantial land purchases for Indians made by the Resettlement Administration in consultation with the Interior Department.

Meanwhile, vigorous measures were being taken to stop overgrazing. The soil of the Indian country is being rebuilt through an extensive program of water development and flood control, a program which was carried out by the Indians themselves on the basis of financial aid from the Public Works Administration, the Soil Conservation Service, the Civil Works Administration, and the Indian Division of the Civilian Conservation Corps. All timber-cutting on Indian lands (except in a small problem area in Washington State) was being put upon a perpetual yield basis. Oil development on a scale of reservations where oil has been found was being strictly controlled in the interests of a national conservation policy. In short, the Indian estate that a few years ago was being dissipated and destroyed is today being conserved, augmented, and the economic benefit of the Indian people today and for the unborn Indian generations.

ECONOMIC PLANNING

Economic planning is no new thing on Indian reservations. The Blackfeet adopted a five-year development plan in 1921, and it was later copied on many other reservations. What is new in the economic planning under the present administration is that whereas formerly the Indian Service planned for Indians and dealt with Indians as individuals, the Indian Service now yields to the tribes that have incorporated under the Indian Reorganization Act a large share of responsibility for developing and administering a reservation economic plan. On several reservations new tribal enterprises, suited to the resources of the reservation and the interests of the Indians, form an integral part of the reservation plan. On several reservations cooperative credit associations, cooperative stores, and other forms of cooperative enterprise have been developed. On most reservations economic planning is still entirely in terms of individual programs, and even here the control of credit, upon which economic planning depends, has become a collective responsibility of the tribe.

Under the Reorganization Act \$4,000,000 has already been appropriated for loans to incorporated Indian tribes. These credit funds are being expended almost entirely for capital investment, in the form of agricultural machinery, farm buildings, and other improvements, in-

stock, saw mills, and fishing equipment. This credit program, if it is supplemented by a sound land program, and if it does not become too deeply entangled in departmental red tape and remote control, is likely to establish for the first time a stable basis of economic independence for tribes some of which have lived in the depths of poverty, or at least on the verge of starvation by income from annuities, land sales, and leases of land.

WHAT REMAINS TO BE DONE

One who seeks to achieve a just appraisal of the record in the field of Indian affairs must conclude that substantial progress has been made in the removal of injustices and animosities that have characterized our national Indian policy. The progress achieved is particularly creditable where one realizes the obstacles that were met: the opposition of vested interests, the well-earned suspicion or hostility among the Indians themselves in the face of new promises of better life, the entrenched habits of a civil service trained in disrespect for Indians and Indian ways, and the tremendous inertia which governmental institutions, financial, legal, and procedural, always offer against fundamental reforms.

Taking account of these obstacles and appreciating at the same time the gains achieved, we must nevertheless recognize that the administration of Indian affairs is not yet something of which white Americans can be proud. The achievements of the present policy represent only the beginning of a liberal Indian program.

Progress in the direction of Indian self-government has been striking. Unfortunately this progress remains for the most part in its promissory stages. The vital question is: "Will the promises of self-government embodied in the Indian Reorganization Act and in the tribal constitutions and charters actually be fulfilled or will these promises be treated like so many earlier promises of the United States embodied in solemn treaties with the Indian tribes?"

Already Congress has cut down the appropriations which the Indian Reorganization Act authorized for land purchase, for credit, for loan funds, and for the expense of tribal organization. Already Congress has shown a disposition to ignore the veto power which it conferred upon organized tribes in the expenditure of tribal funds.

Finally, it is important that the measures of self-government already achieved be regarded as a beginning and an end of good faith rather than as a final goal. The organized Indian tribes, in carrying through the program they have begun, will meet situations in which additional powers, legal and financial, are essential to success. They need sympathy and understanding in their struggle to achieve these further powers of self-government.

The problem of land is still the greatest unsolved problem of Indian administration. The condition of allotted lands in hereditary status grows more complicated each year. Commissioners Collier supplied the House Appropriations Committee two years ago with examples showing plots and administrative expenditures upon hereditary lands totaling costs seventy times the value of the land, and under existing law these costs are destined to increase indefinitely. Responsibility lies with Congress and the administration to work out a practical solution to this problem, either in terms of corporate ownership of lands, or through some modification of the existing inheritance system. (Pp. 20-24.)

Following the passage of the Wheeler-Howard or Indian Reorganization Act, Congress made another effort to remedy old wrongs in the Act of August 27, 1935,⁴¹ dealing with the problem of Indian arts and crafts. For decades the Indian Bureau had discouraged the practices and conditions out of which Indian

arts and crafts had emerged. The substitution of store products for native products, outside of the field of agricultural production, had been a continuing strand of Indian Service policy for more than a century. By the act establishing the Indian Arts and Crafts Board, Congress gave encouragement and protection to a movement already started by traders, artists, and Indians for the revival of native forms of artistic and craft production. The board established by this measure was authorized to engage in research and experimentation, to establish market contacts, to aid in securing financial assistance for the production and sale of Indian products, and to create government trade-marks for Indian products. A full measure of control over the use of such trade-marks was conferred upon the Indian Arts and Crafts Board, and criminal penalties were provided for those imitating or counterfeiting such marks, or advertising products as Indian products without justification.⁴²

Another effort by Congress to remedy an established wrong is found in the Act of June 20, 1936.⁴³ This act exempted from taxation restricted Indian lands which had been purchased out of trust or restricted Indian funds on the understanding that such lands would be nontaxable.⁴⁴ "An understanding which came to grief when either court decisions on the subject were reversed."⁴⁵

The Act of May 11, 1938,⁴⁶ superseded earlier legislation which had given the Secretary of the Interior wide powers to dispose of minerals on Indian reservations to prospectors and lessees and established a comprehensive system of mineral leasing on Indian tribal lands, giving primary power to leave to the Indian council or government, subject to departmental approval except where provision has been made, by the terms of tribal charters, for disposing with requirement of departmental approval.⁴⁷

Finally, the legislation already commented upon⁴⁸ looking to the break-up and distribution of tribal funds in the United States Treasury was repealed by section 2 of the Act of June 24, 1938.⁴⁹ Section 1 of this act recodified the laws under which tribal funds may be deposited by administrative officials.⁵⁰

The foregoing summary of legislation enacted during the decade from 1930 to 1939 covers, of course, only the more important measures of general and permanent application. It is fair to say, however, that the principles embodied in these measures were at the same time applied in a much larger mass of legislation dealing with particular tribes and times.

⁴¹ See Sen. Rept., No. 900, 74th Cong., 1st sess., May 18, 1935, and Hopt. Comm. on Indian Affairs and Crafts to Hon. Harold I. Ickes on S. 2201, incorporated therein.

⁴² 49 Stat. 1542, amended by Act of May 19, 1937, 50 Stat. 188, 23 U. S. C. 412a.

⁴³ See H. Rept., No. 2308, 74th Cong., 2d sess., April 14, 1936, on H. R. 7764. See also Sen. Rept., No. 535, 75th Cong., 1st sess., April 12, 1937, on S. 170, amending the Act of June 20, 1936, wherein it is said:

The said act . . . was designed to bring relief and reimbursement to Indians who by failure to pay taxes have lost or now are in danger of losing lands purchased for them under supervision, advice and guidance of the Federal Government, which losses were not the fault of the Indians, but were purchased with the understanding and belief on their part and induced by representations of the Government that the lands be nontaxable after purchase.

⁴⁴ See Chapter 13, sec. 8D.

⁴⁵ 62 Stat. 247, 25 U. S. C. 368 *et seq.* See Chapter 13, sec. 19.

⁴⁶ See Sen. Rept., No. 985, 75th Cong., 1st sess., July 22, 1937, on S. 2689.

⁴⁷ See sec. 14, *supra*.

⁴⁸ 62 Stat. 1037, 25 U. S. C. 103a.

⁴⁹ See Sen. Rept., No. 631, 75th Cong., 1st sess., May 10, 1937, on S. 2163.

⁵⁰ 49 Stat. 891, 25 U. S. C. 305, *et seq.*

SECTION 17. INDIAN APPROPRIATION ACTS: 1789 TO 1939

Appropriation legislation plays a peculiar role in Indian law. Not only does one find a large part of the substantive law governing Indian affairs hidden away in the intricacies of appropriation acts, but frequently the actual appropriations and the conditions prescribed for the expenditure of money are given considerable weight, at least administratively, in determining the rights and powers of administrative officials. Thus, for example, the fact that Congress has for many decades appropriated money for Indian judges and Indian policemen, has commonly been viewed as providing congressional authorization for the activities of these officials, although there is no substantive federal law expressly recognizing or conferring such authority.

We have already noted in the preceding sections of this chapter the more important of the provisions of general and permanent legislation which are found among the sections and provisions of appropriation laws. In other chapters attention is paid to the significance of appropriations in various specific problems of federal Indian law.¹⁰⁰ For the present it will be enough to offer a few suggestions as a guide to those who, in tracking down some problem of federal Indian law, must go through the relevant appropriation acts.

Appropriations affecting Indian affairs are found in appropriation acts for the Interior Department, for the War Department, the Department of Commerce, the Treasury Department, the Department of Agriculture, the Department of State, the Department of Justice, and various other agencies. Among the regular departments, only those of Labor and Navy appear to be immune from provisions affecting Indians. However, the main stream of Indian appropriation legislation has followed a narrower course. It begins with appropriations "for defraying the expenses of the Indian department."¹⁰¹ The first such general appropriation appears in the Appropriation Act of February 28, 1793,¹⁰² entitled "An Act making appropriations for the support of Government for the year one thousand seven hundred and ninety-three." A year later the item reappears in "An Act making appropriations for the support of the Military establishment of the United States for the year one thousand seven hundred and ninety-four."¹⁰³ Thereafter the annual appropriation act for the military establishment, or in some cases, for the military and naval establishments, contains a regular appropriation, increasing year by year, "for the Indian department."

Apart from these appropriations for the Indian department, separate appropriations were made, from time to time, for the expenses of wars against Indians,¹⁰⁴ the expenses of treaties with

Indians¹⁰⁵ (which frequently included considerable gifts), and expenses of carrying into effect treaty provisions.¹⁰⁶

At first these appropriation acts for the carrying out of treaty promises made permanent appropriations, either for a term of years or "forever."¹⁰⁷ Later, the practice of making annual appropriations to carry out the terms of Indian treaties was substituted.¹⁰⁸

In 1826 Congress began to enact special appropriation acts for the Indian department.¹⁰⁹ This practice continued until 1900. After 1826 one finds in the appropriations for the military establishment only incidental references to expenses involved in the management of Indian affairs, such as, for example, the expense of maintaining Indian prisoners, the salaries of Indian scouts and other strictly military matters. The last regular appropriation act for the "Indian department" was the act of March 3, 1900.¹¹⁰ In the following year the appropriation act¹¹¹ refers in its title to the "Bureau of Indian Affairs," a name which had indeed been used for nearly a century. Regular appropriation acts for the Bureau of Indian Affairs continued until the Act of March 3, 1921.¹¹² Since the Appropriation Act of May 24, 1921,¹¹³ appropriations for Indian affairs have been made within the regular Interior Department appropriation act.

Although the practice of inserting the year's crop of Indian legislation at the end of annual Indian appropriation acts was abandoned during the first decade of the century,¹¹⁴ and parliamentary efforts have been made to bar the inclusion of items of substantive permanent legislation in appropriation acts during recent years, such items continue to crop up from time to time.¹¹⁵ Even when completely stripped of provisions of general substantive legislation, the Indian provisions of the current Interior Department appropriation acts present so complicated a picture of layer upon layer of amendments left by the treaties and laws of the past that it is difficult to read one of these statutes intelligently without a comprehensive historical perspective upon the course of Indian legislation. Efforts in recent years to simplify the form of these appropriation acts have been vigorous but unavailing.¹¹⁶

¹⁰⁰ See, for instance, Act of August 20, 1789, 1 Stat. 54, Act of July 22, 1790, 1 Stat. 186, Act of March 2, 1793, 1 Stat. 538.

¹⁰¹ See, for example, Act of March 3, 1805, 2 Stat. 438.

¹⁰² See, for example, Act of March 3, 1805, 2 Stat. 338, Act of April 21, 1806, 2 Stat. 407, Act of March 3, 1817, 3 Stat. 368, Act of March 3, 1819, 3 Stat. 517, Act of May 20, 1896, 4 Stat. 181.

¹⁰³ See, for example, Act of March 3, 1827, 4 Stat. 232; Act of May 24, 1828, 4 Stat. 300; Act of March 2, 1839, 4 Stat. 302.

¹⁰⁴ See, for example, Act of March 28, 1828, 4 Stat. 190, Act of March 2, 1827, 4 Stat. 217, Act of May 9, 1828, 4 Stat. 207.

¹⁰⁵ See Stat. 781.

¹⁰⁶ Act of April 4, 1910, 36 Stat. 209.

¹⁰⁷ 41 Stat. 1225.

¹⁰⁸ 42 Stat. 652.

¹⁰⁹ See, for example, the Act of June 21, 1906, 34 Stat. 325.

¹¹⁰ See, for example, the Act of March 3, 1900, *supra*.

¹¹¹ See the Act of March 2, 1903, 47 Stat. 1422 (providing for "alternate budget").

¹¹² See particularly Chapter 12.

¹¹³ 1 Stat. 325, 326.

¹¹⁴ Act of March 21, 1794, 1 Stat. 346.

¹¹⁵ See, for instance, Act of February 11, 1791, 1 Stat. 190.

CHAPTER 5

THE SCOPE OF FEDERAL POWER OVER INDIAN AFFAIRS

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SECTION 1. SOURCES OF FEDERAL POWER

Since the National Government derives its sovereignty from powers delegated to it by the states, the Constitution of the United States forms the basis of federal control of Indian affairs.

The principal sources of congressional authority over Indian affairs are summarized by a leading authority in these terms:¹

* * * What is the constitutional basis of the national authority over the Indians? The national government is one of powers delegated by the states, yet Indians are mentioned in the U. S. Constitution only twice—once to exclude "Indians not taxed" (a phrase never more explicitly defined, but probably meaning today Indians resident on reservations, that is, on land not taxed by the states) from the count for determining representation in the lower house of Congress, and again to empower Congress to regulate "commerce with foreign nations, among the several states, and with the Indian tribes." This commerce power is an express constitutional basis for Congressional action concerning the Indians, as is also, so far as appropriations for Indians are concerned, the power of Congress to raise and spend money "for the general welfare." But the regulation of Indians from Washington has gone much farther. Much power has been exercised because the whole Indian country, except the few eastern reservations, was formerly part of the national domain, with exclusive title and sovereignty (except to the extent it was recognized to be restricted by Indian occupancy) in the national government. In this respect, the reservations within the bounds of the original thirteen states, having a different history, are probably subject to a different legal regime. * * *

The setting up of states in the territory once governed only from Washington has not affected the title of the nation to these lands. This ownership of the land supports a mass of Congressional and departmental regulations of land tenure on the reservations west of the

Alleghenies, but even this, added to the express powers of Congress already mentioned, does not sustain the full extent of the national control of Indians wherever they are tribally organized. The direct foundation appears to have been the treaty-making power of the President and Senate with its corollary of Congressional power to implement by legislation the treaties made. The colonies before 1776 (and the original states thereafter) often dealt with the Indian tribes through political agreements. When in 1787 the Constitution made exclusive grant of treaty power to the national government, these precedents formed a strong basis for national dealings with Indian tribes, especially those beyond the bounds of any state. Initially for nearly 100 years the nation treated with the Indians pursuant to the constitutional forms that were used in dealing with foreign states. And by a broad reading of these treaties the national government obtained from the Indians themselves authority to legislate for them to carry out the purpose of the treaties.

In view of the express grants of the commerce power and the expenditure for the general welfare power, of the fact that the greater Indian tribes lived on the national domain and not within any state (until the west was piecemeal admitted to statehood) and of the custom of dealing with Indian tribes by treaty, the United States Supreme Court has never found, so far as I can learn, that any Congressional regulation of Indians has been beyond the reach of national power. Indeed the net result is the creation of a new power, a power to regulate Indians. * * * (Pp. 86-87)

In addition to the constitutional sources of authority over commerce² with Indian tribes,³ expenditures for the general

¹ *Id.* 1, sec. 8, c. 1

² This limitation upon federal power to situations involving the release of a tribe is emphasized by the Supreme Court in the case of *United States v. Forty-Three Gallons of Whisky*, 93 U. S. 488 (1876).

As long as these Indians remain a distinct people, with an existing tribal organization, recognized by the political department

³ *Rice, The Position of the American Indian in the Law of the United States* (1884), 16 J. Comp. Leg. 78

welfare, property of the United States, and treaties, noted by Professor Rice, other constitutional grants of power have played a role in Indian legislation. Most important, perhaps, are the power of Congress to admit new states and (interminably) to prescribe the terms of such admission,² and to make what "Congressional powers of lesser importance involved in Indian legislation include the power to establish post roads," to establish tribunals inferior to the Supreme Court,³ and to establish a uniform rule of naturalization.⁴

of the government. Congress has the power to say with whom and on what terms this shall deal. . . . (P 197)

And see cases cited in Chapter 11, see 1 to 4. Note, however, that constitutional objectives based upon federal power over the tribe may involve an exercise of jurisdiction over individual Indians or individual non-Indians, even outside of Indian lands. *Dick v. United States*, 209 U.S. 310 (1908).

In the case of *The Kansas Indians*, 5 Wall. 717 (1866), the Supreme Court said:

While the federal government has a superintending care over their interests, and continues to treat with them as a nation the State of Kansas is engaged from denying their title in it. She accepted this status when she accepted the act admitting her into the Union. . . . (P 717)

"Art. 1, sec. 8, cl. 1. Art. 1, sec. 9, cl. 7 provides that 'No money shall be drawn from the Treasury, but in consequence of appropriations made by law.' . . . Congress has appropriated money in the nature of a compromise of Indian claims, against the Federal Government, and has made this appropriation conditioned on the consent of the tribe concerned. Art. of March 4 1904, at Fed. 682, 976 (Creek Nation). The validity of this provision was sustained in 24 Op. A. G. 622 (1910).

Art. 4, sec. 1, cl. 2

Art. 2, sec. 2, cl. 2

Art. 4, sec. 4, cl. 1. See *Re Poole*, 176 Mo., 223 U.S. 661 (1912).

The Supreme Court in *Crowley v. United States*, 261 U.S. 320 (1923), said:

Congress, itself, in apparent recognition of possible individual Indian possession has, in several of the statutes establishing acts requiring the payment of title to develop all right and title to lands owned or held by any Indian or Indian tribes. . . . (P 228)

See Art. of February 22, 1859, c. 180, sec. 4, par. 2, 25 Stat. 876, 48 U.S.C. § 1400, Art. of July 10, 1864, c. 138, sec. 9, par. 2, 28 Stat. 107. Also see Art. of June 10, 1900, 34 Stat. 267.

Art. 1, sec. 8, cl. 11

Art. 1, sec. 8, cl. 7

Art. 1, sec. 8, cl. 9. Art. 1, sec. 1. The Supreme Court in the case of *Hoff v. Bunker Hunt*, 118 U.S. 218 (1887), said:

" . . . Congress may pass such laws as it sees fit prescribing the rules governing the intercourse of the Indians with one another and with citizens of the United States, and also the courts in which all controversies to which an Indian may be party shall be submitted. (P 221-222)

By virtue of the power to constitute tribunals inferior to the Supreme Court Congress has created territorial district courts with jurisdiction over the crime of murder committed by any person other than an Indian upon an Indian reservation. *In re Wilson*, 140 U.S. 676 (1891). The Supreme Court, after allowing to the "power of Congress to provide for the punishment of all offenses committed" on reservations, "by whomsoever committed" said:

" . . . And this power being a general one, Congress may provide for the punishment of one class of offenses in one court, and another class in a different court. (P 677-678)

See Chapter 14, see 62. Also see Chapter 10, see 2. Pursuant to this power, Congress has passed many jurisdictional statutes empowering Indian tribes to sue the Federal Government in the Court of Claims for claims arising out of Indian treaties, agreements, or statutes. Congress may confer jurisdiction upon this court to decide on the proper amount of recovery for property taken by an Indian tribe in treaty with the United States. See *Embrey v. United States*, 161 U.S. 291 (1900). *United States v. Newberry*, 170 U.S. 77 (1899).

While granting suzerainty to a territory, Congress has also been upheld in transferring the jurisdiction of general crimes committed in districts over which the United States retains exclusive jurisdiction from territorial to federal courts. *Pickett v. United States*, 216 U.S. 450 (1910).

Art. 1, sec. 8, cl. 4. See Chapter 8, see 2

While the decisions of the courts may be explained on the basis of express constitutional powers, the language used in some cases seems to indicate that decisions were influenced by a consideration of the peculiar relationship between Indians and the Federal Government.¹²

"Thus in *United States v. Kagana*" the Supreme Court found that the protection of the Indians constituted a national problem and referred to the practical necessity of protecting the Indians and the non-existence of such a power in the States.

Reference to the so-called "plenary" power of Congress over the Indians, or, more qualitatively over "Indian tribes" or "tribal Indians," becomes so frequent in recent cases that it may seem superfluous to point out that there is excellent authority for the view that Congress has an constitutional power over Indians except what is conferred by the commerce clause and other clauses of the Constitution. The most famous defender of federal power over Indians, Chief Justice Marshall, declared:¹³

" . . . That instrument [the Constitution] confers on Congress the powers of war and peace, of making treaties, and of regulating commerce with foreign nations, and among the several states, and with the Indian tribes. These powers comprehend all that is required for the regulation of our intercourse with the Indians. They are not limited by any restrictions on their free actions, the

¹² See Chapter 8, see 6. Also see *Long Wolf v. Hitchcock*, 187 U.S. 8 (1902), (*Cherokee Nation v. Hitchcock*, 187 U.S. 8 (1902)), *Smith v. Jones*, 240 U.S. 88 (1915), *N. D. Touchette*, *The United States v. Indian Nations in the United States*, 19 Cal. L. Rev. (1911) pp. 707, 712, of *Kings*, *Principles of Indian Law*, 4 Geo. Wash. L. Rev. (1915) pp. 270, 281, 33 Yale L. J. (1901) p. 250. . . . Congress possesses the broad power of legislating for the protection of the Indians wherever they may be within the territory of the United States. . . . (*United States v. Ramsey*, 271 U.S. 487 (1912))

The Supreme Court said in *Perry v. United States*, 212 U.S. 478, 488 (1914):

"As this power is incident only to the presence of the Indians and their status as wards of the Government, it must be conceded that it does not go beyond what is reasonably essential to their protection, and that to be effective, its exercise must not be purely arbitrary, but founded upon some reasonable basis. . . . On the other hand, it must also be conceded that, in determining what is reasonably essential to the protection of the Indians, Congress is invested with a wide discretion, and its action, unless purely arbitrary, need be controlled and given full effect by the courts."

In *Gris v. Fisher*, 224 U.S. 810 (1912), the Court said:

" . . . As in the instance of other tribal Indians, the members of this tribe were wards of the United States, which was fully empowered, whenever it seemed wise to do so, to assume full control over them and their affairs to determine what was such as seemed to alter and distribute the tribal lands and funds among them, and to terminate the tribal government. . . . (P 842-844)

The Court said in *United States v. Thomas*, 161 U.S. 877 (1894):

" . . . The Indians or the country are considered as the wards of the nation, and whenever the United States set apart any land of their own as an Indian reservation, whether within a State or Territory, they have full authority to pass such laws and authority such measures as may be necessary to give to these people full protection in their persons and property, and to punish all offenses committed against them or by them within such reservations. (P 383)

The Court said in *United States v. McDonald*, 902 U.S. 587 (1898):

" . . . Congress alone has the right to determine the manner in which the country's guardianship . . . shall be carried out. . . . (P 588)

Also see *Barplus Training Co. v. Cook*, 281 U.S. 647 (1930), *United States v. Xue*, 241 U.S. 691 (1916), *United States v. Quiver*, 241 U.S. 802 (1916), *United States v. Hamilton*, 213 Fed. 685 (D. C. W. D. N. Y. 1910), *In re Lusho*, 150 Fed. 247 (D. C. N. D. Calif. 1904), *United States v. Becker*, 193 U.S. 422 (1905), *In re Blackbird*, 109 Fed. 185 (D. C. W. D. N. Y. 1901).

¹³ 118 U.S. 876 (1886). For a criticism of this decision see Willoughby, *The Constitutional Law of the United States* (1929), p. 886.

¹⁴ *Wagon Mound*, 187 U.S. 426 (1902), *See* *Wagon Mound*, *See* Willoughby, *The Constitutional Law of the United States* (1929), pp. 979-982, 1927 1968

shackles imposed on this power, in the confederation, are discarded. (P. 569.)

Whatever view be taken of the possibility of danger of federal power arising from "necessity," it is clear that the powers mentioned by Chief Justice Marshall proved to be so extensive that in fact the Federal Government's powers over Indian affairs are as wide as state powers over non-Indians, and therefore one is practically justified in characterizing such federal power as "plenary." This does not mean, however, that congressional power over Indians is not subject to express limitations upon con-

gressional power, such as the Bill of Rights.¹¹ In the pages that follow we shall attempt to survey the scope and limits of congressional power over Indian affairs. In later portions of this chapter we shall consider the secondary question of how far such power has been, or may be, validly delegated to administrative officials.

¹¹Chief Justice Fuller, in the Supreme Court in the case of *Stephens v. Cherokee Nation*, 174 U. S. 445, 478 (1899), said that Congress has "plenary power of legislation" in regard to Indian tribes, "subject only to the Constitution of the United States."

SECTION 2. CONGRESSIONAL POWER—TREATY-MAKING

The first and chief foundation for the broad powers of the Federal Government over the Indians is the treaty-making provision¹² which received its most extensive only use in the negotiation of treaties with the Indian tribes. Beginning with an Indian treaty submitted to the Senate by President Washington on May 25, 1789, the President and the Senate entered into some treaty relations with nearly every tribe and band within the territorial limits of the United States.¹³

To carry out the obligations and execute the powers derived from these treaties became a principal responsibility of Con-

gress,¹⁴ which enacted many statutes relating to or supplementing treaties.¹⁵

The scope of the obligations assumed and powers conferred upon Congress by treaties with Indian tribes has been discussed in Chapter 3 of this volume and need not be recommended at this point.

In the fulfillment of these obligations are necessarily involved (1) 37 U. S. 474, Comm. Ind. Aff., 24d Cong., 1st sess., May 20, 1854.

The view that tribal power has been conferred upon the Federal Government by treaty is upheld by *United States v. Thirty-Three Gallons of Whiskey*, 94 U. S. 188 (1876).

¹²Act of January 9, 1807, 6 Stat. 135, 27 U. S. C. 182, 184, 177, 179, regulates the disposition of personal property of lands ceded to the United States by treaty with the Indians. Also see Act of January 17, 1802, 2 Stat. 6, Act of March 10, 1802, 2 Stat. 119, Act of May 28, 1810, 4 Stat. 431, Act of June 30, 1834, 1 Stat. 729. And see Chapter 4, sec. 1, 3. Numerous appropriations also have been enacted to fulfill treaty stipulations with the various Indian tribes. See Chapter 4, sec. 17.

¹³Indian treaties under the Articles of Confederation are discussed in Chapter 3, sec. 4B.

¹⁴See *Mink v. United States*, 101 U. S. 207, 102 (1880).

¹⁵The United States assumed many obligations towards the Indians, including the following:

* * * to secure them in the title and possession of their lands, in the exercise of self government and to defend them from domestic strife and foreign enemies and powers adequate

SECTION 3. CONGRESSIONAL POWER—COMMERCE WITH INDIAN TRIBES

The power of Congress to regulate commerce with Indian tribes has, in its field of action the entire nation, not just the Indian country (commerce with tribal members, anywhere, even wholly within a state, may be the subject of congressional regulation. While Congress has not usually exercised such sweeping regulation, its power has been completely demonstrated in the Indian liquor laws, which constituted one of the early examples of federal control over tribal Indians.¹⁶

¹⁶These laws are discussed in Chapter 17. One of the reasons for the drastic liquor prohibition provisions in sections 20 and 21 of the Trade and Intercourse Act of June 10, 1834, 4 Stat. 730, 732, 733 (R. S. § 2161, 25 U. S. C. 251, R. S. § 2150, 25 U. S. C. 221, amended by Act May 21, 1884, 48 Stat. 787), was to enable administrative officials to prevent the manufacture of whiskey by Indians, who believed that they had the right to do so they practiced in their own country, and acknowledged no restraint beyond the laws of their own tribe. 11 Rep. No. 474, Comm. Ind. Aff., 22d Cong., 1st sess., May 20, 1834, p. 107.

In *United States v. Alford*, 5 Wall. 407 (1853), the Supreme Court held that Congress could forbid the sale of liquor to an Indian in charge of an agent in a state and outside of an Indian reservation. The Court decided:

"Commerce," says Chief Justice Marshall, in the opinion in *Osborne v. Osborne*, to which we so often turn with profit when this clause of the Constitution is under consideration, "commerce undoubtedly is trade, but is something more; it is intercourse." The law before us professes to regulate trade and intercourse with the Indian tribes. It manifestly does both. It relates to buying and selling and exchanging commodities, which is the essence of all commerce, and it regulates the intercourse between the citizens of the United States and those tribes, which is another branch of commerce, and a very important one.

If the act under consideration is a regulation of commerce, as it undoubtedly is, does it regulate that kind of commerce which is placed within the control of Congress by the Constitution? The words of that instrument are: "Congress shall have power to regulate commerce with foreign nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian tribes." Commerce with foreign nations, without doubt, means commerce between citizens of the

The commerce clause¹⁷ is the only grant of power in the Federal Constitution which mentions Indians. The congressional power over commerce with the Indian tribes plus the treaty-making power is much broader than the power over commerce between states.¹⁸

United States and citizens or subjects of foreign governments, or individuals. And we commerce with the Indian tribes, means commerce with the individuals composing those tribes. The act before us describes this precise kind of traffic or commerce, and, therefore, comes within the terms of the constitutional provision. For any attempt to say that this power is to be exercised within the limits of a State, which restricts the act regulating it unconstitutional.

In the same opinion to which we have just before referred, Justice Marshall, in speaking of the power to regulate commerce with foreign states, says, "The power does not stop at the jurisdictional limits of the several States. It would be a very easy power if it could not pass those lines." "If Congress has power to regulate it, that power must be exercised wherever the subject exists." It follows, from these propositions which seem to be incontrovertible, that if commerce, or traffic, or intercourse, is carried on with an Indian tribe, or with a member of such tribe, is absolute, without reference to the locality of the traffic, or the locality of the tribe, or of the member of the tribe with whom it is carried on. It is not, however, intended by these remarks to imply that this clause of the Constitution authorizes Congress to regulate any other commerce, originated and ended within the limits of a single State, than commerce with the Indian tribes. (Pp. 417-418.)

¹⁷Article I, sec. 8, cl. 3 of the Constitution empowers Congress "To regulate commerce with foreign nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian tribes." See Chapter 16 and 17.

¹⁸See 1 Op. A. G. 645 (1824). Protonotary and Ryan in *The Commerce Clause of the Federal Constitution* (1893) describe the purpose of this commerce clause as follows:

"The purpose with which this power was given to Congress was not merely to prevent but domestic conflicting or dis-

Chief Justice Marshall, in the case of *Cherokee Nation v. Georgia*,¹ said that it was the intention of the Constitutional Convention

to give the whole power of managing those affairs to the government about to be instituted, the convention conferred it explicitly, and omitted those qualifications which embarrassed the exercise of it, as granted in the confederation (P. 13.)

In *United States v. Forty-Three Gallons of Whiskey*,² the Supreme Court declared

Under the articles of confederation, the United States had the power of regulating the trade and managing all affairs with the Indians not members of any of the States, provided that the legislative right of a State within its own limits be not infringed or violated. Of necessity, these limitations rendered the power of no practical value. This was seen by the convention which framed the Constitution, and Congress now has the exclusive and absolute power to regulate commerce with the Indian tribes—a power as broad and as free from restrictions as that to regulate commerce with foreign nations. (P. 134.)

The commerce clause in the field of Indian affairs was for many decades broadly interpreted to include not only transactions by which Indians sought to dispose of land or other property in exchange for money, liquor, munitions, or other goods,³ but also aspects of intercourse which had little or no relation to commerce, such as travel,⁴ crimes by whites against Indians or

eliminating State legislation, but to prevent fraud and misdeeds upon the frontier, to protect an unwarlike people from wrongs by unwarlike whites, and to guard the white population from the danger of savage wars.

A great trade with such a purpose must convey a different power to that which was intended to regulate the ordinary commerce. Congress has, in the case of the Indians, prohibited trade in certain articles, it has limited the right to trade to persons licensed under Federal laws, and in many ways asserted a greater control than would be possible over other branches of commerce (P. 142.)

¹ 5 U. S. 581 (1831).

² 13 U. S. 188 (1879). Also see Article IX of the Articles of Confederation.

³ See Chapter 17 and Chapter 14, sec. 2. See also *United States v. New, 241 U. S. 501* (1916), *Porris v. United States, 232 U. S. 478* (1914). Mr. Knoke has said

Commerce with the Indian tribes has been construed to mean practically every sort of intercourse with the Indians either in the tribes or as individuals. (*Legal Status of American Indian & His Property* (1922), p. 71, n. 1, P. 292, 293.)

This regulation included the purchase of the piece of goods sold to the Indians. Act of April 18, 1790, sec. 4, 1 Stat. 452, 453. Licensed traders were prohibited from purchasing from Indians or receiving in barter or trade from them certain articles, such as "any gun, or other article commonly used in hunting, any instrument of husbandry, or cooking utensil, or the kind usually obtained by the Indians, in their intercourse with white people, or any article of clothing, excepting shirts or trousers."

"... or any horse." Act of May 18, 1790, sec. 9, 1 Stat. 460, 471. For similar provisions see Act of April 21, 1800, sec. 2, 2 Stat. 402, 403; Act of March 3, 1790, sec. 9, 1 Stat. 743, 745. See 4 of the Act of July 26, 1806, 11 Stat. 295, 296, which requires traders on Indian reservations to furnish surety bond, as also applicable to Indians. Memo. Sol. I. D., November 20, 1894.

The Act of June 30, 1834, 4 Stat. 730, which forms the basis for the present trade regulations, authorizes the President to prohibit trade with an Indian tribe "whenever in his opinion the public interest may require." See 8, 25 U. S. C. 235, R. S. § 2132. The Circuit Court for the Ohio District, in *United States v. Owen*, 26 Fed. Cas. No. 14,706 (C. C. Ohio, 1855), said

"... The exercise of the power to prohibit any intercourse with the Indians, except under a license, must be considered within the power to regulate commerce with them, if such regulation could not be effectuated short of an intercourse thus restricted (P. 424.)"

⁴ For example, see Act of May 19, 1790, sec. 8, 1 Stat. 469, 470.

Indians against whites,⁵ slavery of land,⁶ trespass and settlement by whites in the Indian country,⁷ the fixing of boundaries,⁸ and the transshipping of articles, services, and money by the Federal Government.⁹

The admission of a new state was held not to affect laws forbidding the sale of liquor to Indians living on the territory from which the state was formed.¹⁰

The Federal Government may constitutionally forbid the sale of liquor in an area adjoining an Indian reservation in order that Indians will not be tempted by the close proximity of this forbidden beverage.¹¹

The Supreme Court, in the case of *Dick v. United States*,¹² sustained federal liquor statutes protecting against the introduc-

⁵ See Act of July 22, 1790, sec. 5, 1 Stat. 187, 188; Act of March 1, 1793, sec. 4, 1 Stat. 220 et seq.; Act of May 19, 1790, sec. 4, 1 Stat. 469, 471; Act of March 3, 1790, sec. 2, 4, 6, 7, 8, 1 Stat. 743 et seq.; Act of March 30, 1802, sec. 4, 2 Stat. 139, 141; Act of June 30, 1834, sec. 25, 1 Stat. 729, 731. Superintendents, agents, and subagents were empowered to procure the arrest and trial of all Indians accused of committing any crimes, and of other persons who may have committed crimes or offenses within a state or territory and fled into the Indian country. Act of June 30, 1834, sec. 19, 4 Stat. 729, 731. The President was authorized to suspend any mode of securing the arrest and trial of these Indians, including the employment of the military force of the United States.

⁶ The survey of lands belonging to or reserved or granted by the United States to any Indian tribe was made a crime. Act of May 19, 1790, sec. 5, 1 Stat. 469, 470. Also see Act of March 3, 1790, sec. 5, 1 Stat. 715, 716; and Act of March 30, 1802, sec. 5, 2 Stat. 139, 141.

⁷ Act of July 22, 1790, sec. 6, 1 Stat. 187, 188; Act of March 3, 1790, sec. 4, 1 Stat. 713, 714; Act of March 30, 1802, sec. 4, 2 Stat. 139, 141. The Act of June 30, 1834, sec. 10, 4 Stat. 730, 731, R. S. § 2147, 25 U. S. C. 239, empowered the superintendents of Indian affairs and Indian agents and subagents to remove from the Indian country all persons found therein contrary to law, and authorized the President to direct the military force to be employed in such removal. The President was also authorized (sec. 11) to employ the military force to drive off persons making "settlement on any lands belonging, secured, or granted by treaty with the United States to any Indian tribe." R. S. § 2115, 25 U. S. C. 190. On the issuance of passports to enter the Indian country see Chapter 1, sec. 3, in 47, Chapter 4, sec. 5, fn. 73.

⁸ The Trade and Intercourse Act of May 19, 1790, sec. 1, 20, 1 Stat. 469, 474 provides for the marking of the boundary line, described in the acts and treaties between the United States and various Indian tribes. Also see Act of March 30, 1802, sec. 1, 2 Stat. 139.

⁹ Money was often appropriated in allowances for agents and for the purpose of trading with the Indian nations. Act of April 18, 1790, sec. 6, 1 Stat. 452, 453, also see Act of March 3, 1790, 1 Stat. 443; Act of March 3, 1800, sec. 1, 2 Stat. 344. The President was empowered to furnish annuities, implements of husbandry, and goods and merrits to the Indians. Act of March 1, 1793, sec. 9, 1 Stat. 329, 331; Act of March 30, 1802, sec. 13, 2 Stat. 139, 143.

¹⁰ See *per se* Webb, 225 U. S. 693 (1912). A cession by Indians may be qualified by a stipulation that the land shall continue to be under the liquor prohibitory laws, though within state boundaries. See *Almon v. United States*, 225 U. S. 321 (1912).

¹¹ *United States v. Forty-Three Gallons of Whiskey*, 33 U. S. 158 (1870). The Supreme Court, in the case of *Johnson v. Goins*, 234 U. S. 422 (1914), said,

"That it is within the constitutional power of Congress to prohibit the manufacture, introduction, or sale of intoxicants upon Indian lands, including not only lands reserved for that special occupancy, but also lands outside of the reservations to which they may naturally be so reserved; and that this may be done, even with respect to lands lying within the bounds of a State, as propositions so thoroughly established, and upon grounds so recently discussed, that we need scarcely cite the cases. *Porris v. United States*, 232 U. S. 478, 483; *United States v. Forty-Three Gallons of Whiskey*, 33 U. S. 158, 166, 187; *Dick v. United States*, 208 U. S. 340 (Pp. 438-439)."

¹² 308 U. S. 840 (1938). Congress has power to prohibit the sale of liquor to Indians living on land owned in fee by their tribe. (*United States v. Bandolen*, 231 U. S. 28 (1913), and the introduction into an Indian reservation from a point within the state in which the reserve

tion of intoxicants for 25 years, lands ceded by, as well as lands allotted to, the Nez Percé Indians.

If Congress has the power, as the case we have last cited decides, to punish the sale of liquor anywhere to an individual member of an Indian tribe, why cannot it also subject to forfeiture liquor introduced for an unlawful purpose into territory in proximity to that where the Indians live? There is no reason for the distinction, and, as there can be no divided authority on the subject, our duty to them, our regard for their material and moral well-being, would require us to impose either legislative restrictions, should country adjacent to their reservations be used to carry on the liquor traffic with them (17 467).

The power over liquor traffic is not unlimited. The Supreme Court in *Perrin v. United States*,¹⁷ said:

It was submitted through interstate commerce is not involved (*United States v. Wright*, 229 U. S. 228 (1912)). Also see *United States v. Holladay*, 246 U. S. 530 (1918), *Robert C. Brown, The Taxation of Indian Property* (1931), 16 Minn. L. Rev. 362.
¹⁷ 232 U. S. 478 (1913).

SECTION 4. CONGRESSIONAL POWER—NATIONAL DEFENSE

Although comparatively little has been written about the war powers of Congress,¹⁸ and the Indians, these powers underlay much of the federal power exercised over Indian land and Indians during the early history of the Republic. In international law conquest brings legal power to govern.

At least 1,012 statutes, public and private, have been enacted by Congress to deal with matters arising out of Indian warfare.¹⁹

When the Constitution was adopted, the chief mode of dealing with Indians was warfare. Accidentally Indian affairs were entrusted to the War Department by the Act of August 7, 1789,²⁰ the first law of Congress relating to Indians.

The Congressional power "To . . . provide for the common defence . . . of the United States"²¹ was again utilized by the Act of September 29, 1789,²² which authorized the President to call into service from time to time such part of the militia of the states as he may judge necessary "for the purpose of protecting the inhabitants of the frontiers of the United States from the hostile incursions of the Indians." Many other early statutes indicate the seriousness with which Congress considered the danger of Indian invasion. Such laws authorize an appropriation for "preserving peace with the Indian tribes,"²³ the raising of three regiments which "shall be discharged as soon as the United States shall be at peace with the Indian tribes,"²⁴ and mustering the militia to repel "imminent danger of invasion from any foreign nation or Indian tribe."²⁵ Some early repre-

As the power is incident only to the presence of the Indians and their status as wards of the Government, it must be conceded that it does not go beyond what is reasonably essential to their protection, and that, to be effective, its exercise must not be purely arbitrary, but founded upon some reasonable basis. Thus, a prohibition like that now before us, if covering an entire State when there were only a few Indian wards in a single county, undoubtedly would be condemned as arbitrary. And a prohibition valid in the beginning doubtless would become impoperative when in time came the Indians affected were completely emancipated from Federal guardianship and control. A different view in either case would involve an undesirable encroachment upon a power obviously residing in the State. On the other hand, it must also be conceded that, in determining what is reasonably essential to the protection of the Indians, Congress is invested with a wide discretion, and its action, unless purely arbitrary, must be accepted and given full effect by the courts. (17 486).

sents of civil liberties spring from attempts to attain peace with the Indians.²⁶

The Act of July 26, 1867,²⁷ authorizes the appointment of a commission (composed of three generals and four civilians) to conclude peace with hostile Indian tribes in the path of the proposed railroads to the Pacific and secure their consent to remove to reservations. Provision was made in the event of failure of the commission for the services of mounted volunteers, not exceeding 4,000, for the suppression of Indian hostilities.²⁸ Military campaigns were frequently waged against Indians, ranging from expeditions of detachments of militia "to expeditions carrying on war against Indian tribes."²⁹

The occupation of Florida by United States troops was justified on the basis of necessity to protect Georgia from hostile Indians from the peninsula.³⁰ Money³¹ and ammunition³² were supplied to territorial and state officials for defense against the Indians, and as late as August 5, 1870, a joint resolution was passed

in relation to disturbances from any other tribe or nation of Indians The Act of July 14, 1841, 5 Stat. 695, authorized the appointment by the President of three commissioners to deal with the Indians in order to insure the protection promised the Indians in this provision. Also see Act of May 21, 1870, 5 Stat. 28.

²⁶ Act of January 17, 1800, 2 Stat. 6; discussed in Chapter 8, see 10A (2) to 213.

²⁷ 15 Stat. 17.

²⁸ For further post-Civil War statutory evidence of hostility with the Indians, see Act of March 3, 1873, 17 Stat. 366; H. Res. of July 4, 1870, 16 Stat. 214, Act of August 15, 1876, 19 Stat. 204, 31. Re. August 5, 1870, 19 Stat. 216, Act of June 7, 1878, 20 Stat. 252. And see Chapter 11, see 3.

²⁹ See Act of May 14, 1860, 2 Stat. 82; Act of April 10, 1812, 2 Stat. 704; Act of July 2, 1846, 5 Stat. 71.

³⁰ See Act of April 20, 1818, 3 Stat. 420; Act of May 4, 1822, 3 Stat. 676; Act of May 25, 1824, 4 Stat. 70.

³¹ Joint Resolution of January 16, 1811, 2 Stat. 668; Joint Resolution of February 15, 1811, 3 Stat. 471; Act of February 12, 1812, 3 Stat. 172; Act of March 30, 1822, 3 Stat. 634. The Joint Resolution of March 3, 1821, 2 Stat. 590, deals with expenditures of the State of Florida in suppressing hostile Indians.

³² Act of July 27, 1865, 14 Stat. 707. The State of California bonded four Indian war bonds. See Act of March 8, 1861, 21 Stat. 810; Act of June 27, 1862, 22 Stat. 113; Act of January 6, 1868, 22 Stat. 800.

³³ Act of April 7, 1880, 16 Stat. 26; Act of May 21, 1872, 17 Stat. 128; Act of January 10, 1880, 23 Stat. 646; Joint Resolution of December 9, 1880, 26 Stat. 1111.

¹⁸ Art. I, sec. 8, cl. 1, 14, 15, 16, 17.

¹⁹ *Of Dues*, Course of Lectures on the Constitutional Jurisprudence of the United States (1856), pp. 285-289, said:

The powers to regulate commerce, declare war, make peace, and conclude treaties, comprise all that is required for regulating our intercourse with the Indian tribes.

²⁰ *Of*, Chapter 8, sec. 4B(4)(c).

²¹ 1 Stat. 40.

²² U. S. Constitution, Art. I, sec. 8, cl. 1.

²³ 1 Stat. 95, 98.

²⁴ Act of July 22, 1800, 1 Stat. 186.

²⁵ Act of March 5, 1792, 1 Stat. 241, repealed Act of March 8, 1796, 1 Stat. 480.

²⁶ Act of May 2, 1792, 1 Stat. 264. A similar provision is contained in the Act of February 28, 1795, 1 Stat. 424. Early protective statutes against the Indians include Act of January 2, 1812, 2 Stat. 670; Act of March 8, 1812, 3 Stat. 829. The Act of May 28, 1880, sec. 6, 4 Stat. 411, 412, authorized the President to protect migrating Indians "against all

authorizing the President to prohibit the sale of special metallic cartridges to hostile Indians.¹²

There are several statutes in force¹³ which illustrate the exercise of the war power in relation to the Indian. The Act of July 3, 1862,¹⁴ authorizes the abrogation of treaties with tribes engaged in hostilities; the Act of March 2, 1877,¹⁵ authorizes the withholding of annuities from hostile Indians; the Act of Febru-

ary 11, 1873,¹⁶ regulates the sale of arms to hostile Indians; and the Act of March 3, 1875,¹⁷ forbids payments to Indian bands at war.

Apart from the specific statutes that mark the heritage of decades of military control, other less tangible relics of this control managed to persist long after the Indian Service was removed from the War Department.¹⁸

¹² 19 Stat. 210.

¹³ See Chapter 11, sec. 1.

¹⁴ 12 Stat. 552, 558; 18 U. S. C. 2094, 25 U. S. C. 72.

¹⁵ 14 Stat. 592, 593; 18 U. S. C. 2100, 25 U. S. C. 127.

¹⁶ 17 Stat. 187, 457, 459; 18 U. S. C. 107, 21 U. S. C. 260.

¹⁷ 18 Stat. 130, 440, 25 U. S. C. 128.

¹⁸ See Chapter 8, sec. 10A(d). See also Chapter 2, sec. 2.

SECTION 5 CONGRESSIONAL POWER—UNITED STATES TERRITORY AND PROPERTY

The principal Indian tribes lived on the national domain. By virtue of its control over the public domain and the United States' territories, the Federal Government was able to exercise broad dominion and control over the Indians, and to effectuate many Indian policies such as those predicated on westward removal, reservations and allotments.¹⁹ Today the control over the Alaskan natives is partly based on this power.²⁰

The control of land, water, and other property belonging to the United States is vested exclusively in Congress by the Constitution.²¹ The Supreme Court has upheld a broad exercise of this power.

The power of Congress over a territory and its inhabitants is also exclusive and paramount, except as restricted by the Constitution,²² and Congress can exercise all the sovereign and reserved powers of state governments subject to the provisions of the Constitution specifically restricting the power of the Federal Government.²³ "The extent of this power of Congress over Indians is shown by many decisions of the Supreme Court. The Court in the case of *United States v. Kagana*" said:

But these Indians are within the geographical limits of the United States. The soil and the people within these limits are under the political control of the Government of the United States, or of the States of the Union. There exist within the broad domain of sovereignty but these two. There may be cities, counties, and other organized bodies with limited legislative functions, but they are all

devised from, or exist in, subordination to one or the other of these. The territorial governments owe all their powers to the statutes of the United States conferring on them the powers which they exercise, and which are liable to be withdrawn, modified or repealed at any time by Congress. What authority the State governments may have to enact criminal laws for the Indians will be presently considered. But this power of Congress to organize territorial governments, and make laws for their inhabitants, rises not so much from the clause in the Constitution in regard to disposing of and making rules and regulations concerning the Territory and other property of the United States, as from the ownership of the territory in which the Territories are, and the right of exclusive sovereignty which must exist in the National Government, and can be found nowhere else. *Murphy v. Ramsey*, 134 U. S. 15, 14 (19 P. 879-880).

The Supreme Court, in the case of *United States v. Rogers*,²⁴ said:

... we think it too firmly and clearly established to admit of dispute, that the Indian tribes residing within the territorial limits of the United States are subject to their authority, and when the country occupied by them is not within the limits of one of the States, Congress may by law punish any offense committed there, no matter whether the offender be a white man or an Indian. (17-372.)

A TRIBAL LANDS

The control by Congress of tribal lands has been one of the most important expressions, if not the major expression, of the constitutional power of Congress over Indian affairs,²⁵ and has provided most frequent occasion for judicial analysis of that power. From the wealth of judicial statement there may be

¹⁹ For example, large areas of the public domain have been withdrawn for Indian reservations.

²⁰ See Chapter 21, sec. 4. Also see *Nelson v. United States*, 41 Fed. 112, 116 (C. C. W. 1887) and *Endicott v. United States*, 86 Fed. 166 (C. C. A. 9, 1898).

²¹ See *Holladay v. United States*, 221 U. S. 817 (1911). Since the time when the necessity for the exercise of the authority arose, there has been almost no question as to the absolute power of Congress to determine the form of political and administrative control to be exerted over the territories, and to the extent to which their inhabitants shall be admitted to a participation in their own government. Both by legislative practice and by judicial sanction, the principle has from the first been asserted that upon this matter the judgment of Congress is absolute. *Wallowitch*, *The Constitution of the United States*, (1929), p. 459.

The Congress shall have power to dispose of and make all needful Rules and Regulations respecting the Territory or other property belonging to the United States, and nothing in this Constitution shall be so construed as to Prejudice any Claims of the United States, or of any particular State. (Art. 4, sec. 3, ¶ 2.) Congress can grant to Indians fishing privileges in waters connected with a reservation. (Op. Sol. T. D., M. 28776, April 10, 1937.)

²² See *Oklaoma v. A. T. & Santa Fe Ry. Co.*, 220 U. S. 277, 285 (1911).

²³ *Oklaoma v. K. & M. I. Ry. Co. v. Houston*, 219 Fed. 602 (C. C. A. 8, 1918).

²⁴ 118 U. S. 876 (1889).

²⁵ 4 How. 567 (1846).

The primary power over tribal relations and tribal property of the Indians has been frequently exercised by Congress. See *Raff v. Bureau*, 166 U. S. 218 (1897); *Cherokee Nation v. Georgia*, 187 U. S. 205 (1902); *Blackfeather v. United States*, 190 U. S. 168 (1903); *Choate v. Trapp*, 224 U. S. 605 (1912); *See also* Webb, 225 U. S. 668 (1912); *United States v. Oquer County*, 281 U. S. 128 (1910); *Nadeau v. Union Pacific R. Co.*, 255 U. S. 412 (1920).

The Attorney General said in 71 Op. A. G. 171 (1921).

... the Indian possessions of the United States are not only complete and exclusive and transmitted by conquest to the United States, but in the exercise of that primary power of guardianship to dispose of the property of the Nation's wards without their consent. (P. 180.)

The United States has power to legislate concerning the distribution of tribal land. *United States v. Bowden*, 265 Fed. 167, 172 (C. C. A. 2, 1920), app. dismissed 237 U. S. 614; *Heckman v. United States*, 224 U. S. 418 (1912). Also see *United States v. Camanche*, 271 U. S. 432 (1926) and *United States v. Sundout*, 281 U. S. 38, 48 (1913), and Chapter 11, sec. 1.

derived the basic principle that Congress has a very wide power to manage and dispose of tribal lands.

Examples of Supreme Court statements of the principle are the following:

Justice Brandeis, speaking for the United States Supreme Court in the case of *Johnson v. Ward*,²⁴ declared:

It is admitted that, as regards tribal property subject to the control of the United States as guardian of Indians, Congress may make such changes in the management and disposition as it deems necessary to promote their welfare. The United States is now exercising, under the claim that the property is tribal, the powers of a guardian and of a trustee in possession. (P. 487.)

The Supreme Court said in the case of *Nadeau v. Union Pacific Railroad Company*:²⁵

It seems plain that at least, until actually allotted in severalty (1884) the lands were but part of the domain held by the tribe under the ordinary Indian claim—the right of possession and occupancy—with fee in the United States. *Hitchcock v. Helcher*, 135 U. S. 317, 323. The power of Congress, as guardian for the Indians, to legislate in respect of such lands is settled. *Cherokee Nation v. Georgia*, 5 Pet. 581; *Worcester v. Georgia*, 6 Pet. 51; *United States v. Rausch*, 243 U. S. 464, 468; *United States v. Shaw*, 245 U. S. 80, 117 (441-442).

A necessary corollary to this principle is that control of tribal land is a political function not to be exercised by the courts.²⁶

The Supreme Court in the case of *Mont Indians v. United States*²⁷ said:

Jurisdiction over them [the Indians] and their tribal lands was peculiarly within the legislative power of Congress and may not be exercised by the courts in the absence of legislation conferring rights upon them as are the rights of individual citizens. See *Long Wolf v. Hitchcock*, supra, 245 U. S. 80; *Cherokee Nation v. Hitchcock*, 137 U. S. 294; *Stephens v. Cherokee Nation*, 174 U. S. 445, 448. This jurisdictional Act of April 31, 1916, plainly failed to do so. (P. 487.)

In the case of *Cherokee Nation v. Hitchcock*,²⁸ the Supreme Court said:

The power existing in Congress to administer upon and grant the tribal property, and the power being

²⁴ 298 U. S. 187 (1937), aff'g 290 Fed. 106 (App. D. C. 1934).

²⁵ 293 U. S. 442 (1935). The Attorney General wrote in 20 Op. A. G. 140 (1907).

It is unnecessary to go into any detailed discussion of the power of Congress to allot, modify, or extend the provisions of the agreement with the Seminole Nation reached by the act of July 2, 1898, and to reserve to the United States the title to their property and funds, as provided by the act of April 26, 1906, because the question has been conclusively settled in the decisions of the Supreme Court. (*Stephens v. Cherokee Nation*, 174 U. S. 245; *Cherokee Nation v. Hitchcock*, 137 U. S. 294; *Long Wolf v. Hitchcock*, 137 U. S. 80; *Cherokee Nation v. Hitchcock*, 137 U. S. 294; *Stephens v. Cherokee Nation*, 174 U. S. 445, 448; *Wolcott v. Adams*, 204 U. S. 415.)

These decisions maintain the plenary authority of Congress to control the affairs and administer the property of the Five Civilized Tribes in the Indian Territory and other Indian tribes. (P. 440.)

²⁶ The courts have usually denominated this power as political and not subject to the control of the judicial department of the government. See *Long Wolf v. Hitchcock*, 137 U. S. 531, 595 (1918) sustaining the disposal of a reservation of an Indian tribe on the ground that it was a legitimate exercise of congressional power over tribal Indians and their property. This case is discussed in *Oklahoma v. Texas*, 259 U. S. 871, 882 (1922). Also see *Cherokee Nation v. Hitchcock*, 137 U. S. 294, 508 (1902).

²⁷ 277 U. S. 431 (1928), aff'g 58 U. S. 302 (1921). Also see *Turner v. Weirich Investment Co.*, 223 U. S. 288, 313-112 (1911).

²⁸ 137 U. S. 294 (1902).

The Court acted with approval the following excerpt from *Stephens v. Cherokee Nation*, 174 U. S. 445 (1880):

It may be remarked that the legislation seems to recognize, especially in the act of June 23, 1898, a distinction between allotment to citizenship merely and the distribution of property to be subsequently sold to the Indians. The latter would be the case in which the right to a share in the latter would not necessarily follow from the concession of the former. But in any aspect, we are of opinion that the constitutionality of these acts in

political and administrative in its nature, the manner of its exercise is a question within the province of the legislative branch to determine, and is not one for the courts. (P. 308.)

The power of Congress extends from the control of the use of the lands, through the grant of adverse interests in the lands, to the outright sale and removal of the Indians' interests.²⁹ And this is true, whether or not the lands are disposed of for public or private purposes.³⁰

To illustrate, the power of Congress to grant rights-of-way across tribal land is clearly established.³¹ To quote the Supreme Court:³²

respect of the determination of citizenship cannot be arbitrarily swayed on the ground of the impulsion of individual vested rights. The lands and interests of these tribes are public lands and public property, and are not held in individual ownership and the exercise by any particular applicant that his right therein is so vested as to provide inquiry into his status involves a consideration in terms.

The court continued:

The holding, that Congress had power to provide a method for determining citizenship in the case of these tribes, and for determining the citizenship thereof preliminarily to a division of the property of the tribe among its members, necessarily involved the further holding that Congress was vested with authority to adopt measures to determine the citizenship of the type and secure therefrom an income for the benefit of the tribe. (P. 307.)

²⁹ See *Guadalupe*, 300 U. S. 481, 483, 484, 485 (1932), 485, 486, 487 U. S. 486.

³⁰ The rights of way See Chapter 4, sec. 13, and sec. 16, infra.

³¹ Congress in dividing a tribe may also provide for the liquidation and distribution of tribal property. *United States v. Johnston*, 299 U. S. 417 (1937). See also *United States v. Jones*, 295 Fed. 708 (1916). 14 (2d L. Rev. 387-390 (1911)). But the court will not assume that Congress indicated its powers over the title or its property without an unequivocal expression of that intent. *Chippewa Indians v. United States*, 307 U. S. 1 (1939), *United States v. Boston*, 295 Fed. 167 (1914) C. A. 2, 1930, app. den. 277 U. S. 614 (1921).

³² But the land so managed and disposed of must be tribal land. Congress has frequently taken in court the complaint that the tribal property has become vested, by previous acts in treaty, in individuals and is no more subject to congressional control than the private property of other individuals. The courts, however, tend to construe such previous acts and treaties, whenever possible, against the vesting of private rights in tribal property. *Chippewa Indians of Minnesota v. United States*, 307 U. S. 328 (1937), aff'g 80 U. S. 410 (1935); *United States v. Chow*, 245 U. S. 80 (1917), rev'g 222 Fed. 691 (1st C. C. S. 1915). Tribal property is allotted court cases possesses plenary power to deal with tribal lands and funds as tribal property. *Seaman v. Brady*, 225 U. S. 431 (1911). Also see *United States v. Little Lake*, 229 U. S. 408 (1914).

³³ *Nadeau v. Union Pacific R. Co.*, 293 U. S. 442 (1935). Federal statutes provide for the taking of tribal lands by the United States. For example, the act of May 31, 1906, 34 Stat. 268, created a national forest upon lands held by the Federal Government as a trustee for the Chippewa Indian Tribe. This law is discussed in *Chippewa Indians v. United States*, 307 U. S. 470 (1939). For other cases on eminent domain see *Mooshonee Tribe v. United States*, 269 U. S. 476 (1927), *United States v. Creek Nation*, 265 U. S. 105 (1925), 502 U. S. 103 (1938). See, for example, act of March 4, 1901, 31 Stat. 1058, 1060, discussed in 40 L. D. 890 (1922).

The right of eminent domain may be exercised by the Federal Government over land held by an Indian nation in five simple under patent from the United States, without the consent of the tribe. *Cherokee Nation v. Texas*, 203 U. S. 343 (1907), which rejected the contention that land was held by the Cherokee as a sovereign nation. Some treaties provided that railroads should have rights-of-way upon payment of just compensation to the Indian tribes. Treaty of June 5, 1864, with the Omaha Act, 30, 10 Stat. 1004. See Chapter 13, see 13.

The act of March 2, 1890, 30 Stat. 990, authorized any railroad company or telegraph and telephone company to take and condemn a right-of-way in or through any lands which have been or may hereafter be allotted in severalty, but have not been conveyed to the allottee without power of alienation. The act of January 28, 1902, sec. 23, 32 Stat. 44, discussed in *Oklahoma v. Texas*, 259 U. S. 871, 882 (1922). (C. C. A. 10, 1918), made this statute inapplicable to the Indian Territory and Oklahoma Territory.

³⁴ *Winters, Kansas & Texas Ry. Co. v. Roberts*, 122 U. S. 114 (1887). Even though an Indian tribe has granted a purported exclusive license to a telephone company, Congress may issue a similar license to another

The United States had the right to authorize the construction of the road of the Atkinson, Kanas, and Texas Railway Company through the reservation of the Osage Indians, and to grant absolutely the fee of the two hundred feet as a right of way to the company. Though the lands of the Indians were reserved by treaty for their occupation, the fee was always under the control of the government and when transferred, without reference to the possession of the lands as a result of dedication of any use of them requiring the delivery of their possession, the transfer was subject to their right of occupancy, and the manner, time, and conditions on which that right should be extinguished were matters for the determination of the government, and for final resolution in the courts between private parties. This doctrine is applicable generally to the rights of Indians to lands occupied by them under similar conditions. It was asserted in *Blitt v. The Northern Pacific Railroad Company*, 110 U. S. 55, and has never, so far as we are aware, been seriously controverted. * * * Though the law as stated with reference to the power of the government to determine the right of occupancy of the Indians to their lands has always been recognized, it is to be presumed, as stated by this court in the *Blitt* case, that in its exercise the United States will be governed by such considerations of justice as will control a Christian people in their treatment of an ignorant and dependent race, the court observing, however, that the propriety or justice of their action towards the Indians, with respect to their lands, is a question of governmental policy, and is not a matter open to discussion in a controversy between that particular people of whom dispute title from the Indians. The right of the United States to dispose of the fee of land occupied by them, it added, has always been recognized by this court from the foundation of the government. (Pp. 116-118)

Plenary authority does not mean absolute power, and the exercise of the power must be founded upon some reasonable basis. * * * Thus, plenary power does

* * * not enable the United States to give the tribal lands to others, or to appropriate them to its own purposes, without rendering, or assuming an obligation to render, just compensation for them; for that "would not be an exercise of guardianship, but an act of confiscation."

Company. The Circuit Court of Appeals in the case of *Muskogee Nat. Tel. Co. v. Trail*, 118 Fed. 382 (C. A. 5, 1902), said:

* * * It is well settled that, in the exercise of its power to regulate commerce among the several states and with the Indian tribes, Congress has full authority to grant rights of way through the land occupied by Indian tribes domiciled in the Indian Territory for the construction of railroads (*Cherokee Nation v. Southern Ry.*, 104 U. S. 464, 18 Sup. Ct. 206, 208; *Stephens v. Cherokee Nation*, 174 U. S. 445, 18 Sup. Ct. 722, 47 L. Ed. 1041); and in the exercise of this power it has recently authorized the Secretary of the Interior to grant rights of way through the Indian Territory for the construction, operation, and maintenance of telephone lines. (*Stephens v. Cherokee Nation*, c. 882, § 3. It follows, of course, that none of these tribes had the power to declare that any such telephone company should have the sole right to construct and operate telephone lines within its borders, since the existence of such a monopoly would have a necessary tendency to prevent free communication between those who reside outside of, and those who reside within, the territory. To this extent the grant of such franchise by the one in question operates to obstruct interstate commerce. (C. 885.)

The Solicitor of the Department of the Interior has said

About the plenary power of Congress over tribal Indian property there can be no doubt and in the absence of some controlling action to the contrary, undeniably lay the power to subject such property to taxation either by the State or Federal Government. (Op. Sol. D. M. 4637, December 25, 1894.)

* * * *Wyer*, Indian Law and Needed Reforms (1926), 12 A. B. Jour. 87, 38-80.

* * * *United States v. Creek Nation*, 205 U. S. 108, 110 (1902)

Property rights can be conferred by treaty as well as by formal grant. *United States v. Creek Nation*, 205 U. S. 108 (1902); *Morrow v. United States*, 243 Fed. 879 (C. A. 5, 1917). Government liability on the conduct of Indian affairs arises only from statutes or treaties with the tribe. *McClubb, Adm'r v. United States*, 85 C. Cls. 70, 87 (1908). See *Shoshone Tribe v. United States*, 250 U. S. 478, 407 (1917), in which the Court said:

* * * Power to control and manage the property and affairs of Indians in good faith for their betterment and welfare

The Supreme Court, per Mr. Justice Van Devanter, recently said *

* * * Our decisions, while recognizing that the government has power to control and manage the property and affairs of its Indian wards in good faith for their welfare, show that this power is subject to constitutional limitations and does not enable the government to give the lands of one tribe or band to another, or to deal with them as its own. * * * (Pp. 275-276.)

* * * *Lagay v. Santa Rosa*, 240 U. S. 110, 118; *United States v. Creek Nation*, 205 U. S. 108, 109-110; *Shoshone Tribe v. United States*, 250 U. S. 478, 497.

Thus, while Congress has broad powers over tribal lands, the United States does not have complete immunity from liability for the actions of Congress. If Congress takes tribal land from the Indians without either their consent or the payment of compensation, the United States is liable under the Fifth Amendment to the United States Constitution for the payment of just compensation,* which must include payment for the minerals and timber.† The right of the Indians to just compensation is legally imperfect unless Congress itself passes legislation permitting suit by the Indians against the United States as the United States is not liable to suit without its consent.‡ While there is general legislation permitting suits for just compensation, this does not embrace suits by Indian tribes, and thus far they have been authorized to sue only by jurisdictional acts applying only to individual tribal complaints.§

may be exercised in many ways and at times even in delegation of the provisions of a treaty.

Also see Op. Sol. I. D. M. 29016, February 19, 1908.

* *Cherokee Indians v. United States*, 201 U. S. 858 (1907), aff'd 80 C. Cls. 410 (1908). Also see *Creek Nation v. United States*, 202 U. S. 820 (1908).

† The portion of this amendment which prohibits confiscation reads, "No * * * shall private property be taken for public use without just compensation."

‡ "It is fundamental that tribal assets cannot be disposed of by the United States without the consent of the tribe or without compensation." Op. Sol. I. D. M. 26016, February 19, 1908, p. 7.

§ If vested rights are created in a tribe by a treaty or agreement, the Federal Government becomes liable for its violation by Congress. As the Supreme Court said in the case of *United States v. Little Lake Chippewas*, 220 U. S. 498 (1913):

* * * That the wrongful disposal was in disobedience to directions given in two resolutions of Congress does not make it any the less a violation of the treaty. The resolutions of Congress, legislation submitted in *Cherokee Nation v. United States*, 187 U. S. 555, and *Lane v. Hoek*, 188 U. S. 554, 556, 558, 559, were not adopted in the exercise of the administrative power of Congress over the property and affairs of dependent Indian wards, but were intended to assert and did assert an unequalled power of disposition over the lands as the absolute property of the Government. The tribes have been because there was a transgression of the treaty relation of the Government to the Indians, but that does not alter the result. (Pp. 509-510.)

Also see *Blackfeet v. United States*, 81 C. Cls. 101 (1908).

Typical jurisdictional acts provide for recovery by a tribe against the United States. "It * * * the United States Government, has wrongfully appropriated any lands belonging to the said Indians" (Act of May 28, 1906, sec. 3, 41 Stat. 922) (Klamath), or for "misappropriation of any of the * * * lands of said tribe" (Act of June 8, 1920, sec. 1, 41 Stat. 738) (Shosh); or "the law to said Indians of their right, title, or interest, arising from occupancy and use, in lands or other tribal or community property, without just compensation therefor, shall be held sufficient ground to select" (Act of June 19, 1905, 40 Stat. 788) (Timut and Hauda).

* *United States v. Flathead Tribe*, 204 U. S. 111 (1908). See Chapter 16, sec. 14, 15. Also see C. T. Westwood, Legal Aspects of Land Acquisition, Indians and the Land, Contributions by the delegation of the United States, First Inter-American Conference on Indian Life, Painesville, March, 1914, published by Office of Indian Affairs, (April, 1914) p. 4.

† However, suits against officers of the United States based on alleged illegal acts require no such statutory authority. *Lane v. Pueblo of Santa Rosa*, 249 U. S. 110 (1919), wherein it was held that the Secretary of the Interior could be enjoined from disposing of certain Indian lands as public lands of the United States. See Chapter 20, sec. 7.

‡ See Chapter 14, sec. 62.

B TRIBAL FUNDS

The power of Congress over tribal funds is the same as its power over tribal lands, and is, historically speaking, a result of the latter power, since tribal funds arise principally from the use and disposition of tribal lands. The extent of congressional power has been expressed by the Attorney General as follows:

Now, these royalties are tribal funds, it even not be seriously contended that Congress had not power to provide for their disbursement for such purposes as it might deem for the best interest of the Indians, and the authority of the United States as such guardian is not to be narrowly defined, but on the contrary is plenary.

Examples of the exercise of such power over the tribal property of Indians, and decisions sustaining it, are found in many of the adjudicated cases, among them *Cherokee Nation v. Hitchcock*, 187 U. S. 244, *Long Wolf v. Hitchcock*, 197 U. S. 538, *Chaffey v. Smith*, 224 U. S. 840, *Siemens v. Brady*, 237 U. S. 181, *Chase v. United States*, decided April 11, 1921 (T. 63).

¹The congressional control over tribal funds was defined by Justice Van Devanter in the case of *Nazemon v Brady*.²¹

As in the case of lands, Congress cannot divert tribal funds from tribal purposes in the absence of Indian consent or corresponding benefit without being liable, when suit is brought, for the amount diverted. Thus, there has been occasion, not infrequently, for judicial analysis of the manner of disposition of tribal funds. On the whole the tendency of the Court of Claims has been to uphold expenditures, authorized by Congress as made for tribal purposes.⁴⁷

C INDIVIDUAL LANDS

The power of Congress over individual lands, while less sweeping than its power over tribal lands, is clearly broad enough to cover supervision of the alienation of individual lands.¹⁰ In fact the exercise of congressional power over individual lands has been largely directed toward the release, extension, or imposition of restrictions surrounding their alienation, depending on whether the policy of conserving or of opening up Indian lands was dominant in Congress.

As "an incident to guardianship" * Congress not only has the power to extend,⁶ modify, or remove existing restrictions on the alienation of such lands⁷ but while the Indian is still the ward

* 33 Op. A. G. 60 (1921). Also see *Cherokee Nation v. United States*, 37 U. S. 51 (1838), cert. den. 407 U. S. 646. Congress may appropriate tribal funds for the civilization and self-support of the Indian tribe *Grey v. Missouri*, 210 U. S. 214 (1918). See Chapter 12, sec. 2.

*235 U S 111 (1914) See sec 6, *infra*
The power of Congress over Onaga tribal funds is upheld in *Ne-kah-nah-shie-tun-kah v Hall*, 290 Fed 303 (App D C 1914), app disrn 206 U S 595 (1925)

²⁴ See *Griffis v. Fisher*, 224 U.S. 640 (1912).

trust or restricted category except in so far as to reimpose restrictions and restore them to the class of lands under its supervision

* *La Motte v United States*, 224 U S 570, 575 (1911).
 * *Tiger v Western Fur Co*, 224 U S 280, 291 (1911), *Heckman v United States*, 224 U S 113 (1912). Also see *United States v Jackson*, 280 U S 189, 191 (1930), involving extension of time period of homestead patent under Act of July 4, 1884, 23 Stat 76, 90, on the ground that the Indians possessed no vested right until a patent was issued, and *United States v Pelican*, 232 U S 442, 451 (1914) involving congressional retention of trusteeship of land thrown open to settlement.

¹¹ *Goat v United States*, 224 U S 458 (1912); *Doming Iron Co v United States*, 224 U S 471 (1912); *Jones v Prairie Oil Co*, 273 U S 108 (1927).

of the nation it may reimpose restrictions on property already freed from restrictions or delegate such power to an executive officer."

This power includes permitting alienation upon such terms as Congress or the Federal officer delegated with the power deems advisable from the standpoint of the protection of the Indians. "Such restrictions must be expressed and are not implied merely because the owner of land is an Indian," nor can such restrictions be made retroactive so as to invalidate a conveyance made by an Indian before the restriction was imposed."

Congress may lift the restriction on alienation of allotments to mixed-blood Indians and continue the restrictions on full-blood Indians, until the Secretary of the Interior is satisfied that such Indians are competent to handle their own affairs.¹⁰ In deciding this question the Supreme Court said:

It is necessary to have in mind certain matters which are well settled by the previous decisions of this Court. The United Indians are wards of the Government, and as such under its guardianship. If acts which are deemed to be detrimental to the interests of the United Indians are committed, the Government is authorized to interfere. Controlling citizenship is not inconsistent with the contemplation of such guardianship, for it has been held that even as the Indians are wards of the Government, the Government has the right to control the citizenship of its wards of guardian and ward for some purpose, may continue. On the other hand, Congress may relieve the Indians from such guardianship and control, in whole or in part, and may set aside the laws of the United States which establish concerning their property or give to them a partial emancipation if it thinks that comes better for their protection. *United States v. Nix*, 241 U. S. 701, 706, 16 S. Ct. 684 (1916).

The restrictions on alienation of land express a public policy designed to protect improvident people.⁹⁷ Hence under the statutes, despite the good faith or motives of a grantee of land conveyed in violation of the restrictions,⁹⁸ the conveyance is void.⁹⁹

As in the case of private property generally, Congress cannot deprive an Indian of his land or any interest therein without due process of law or take such property for public purposes without just compensation. An outstanding decision on this subject is

² *Hadley v James*, 240 U S 88 (1918), cited with approval in *McClure v United States*, 246 U S 261, 273 (1918).

See Mullen v. United States, 224 U.S. 448 (1912). *See United States v. Noble*, 237 U.S. 74 (1915), *Sunderland v. United States*, 286 U.S. 226 (1932).

⁹⁴ *Doi v Wilson* 24 How 157 (1870)

²⁰ *United States v. Wallis*, 248 U. S. 452 (1917). From time to time Congress has by statute empowered the Secretary to remove restrictions on some certificates of competency to Indians deemed capable of managing their own affairs. See Chapter 11, sec. 4.

* * * In adopting the restrictions, Congress was not mistaking
resistant on a class of persons who were *not* free, but on Indians
who were being conducted from a state of dependent wardship to
one of full emancipation and needed to be safeguarded against their
own impotence during the period of transition. The purpose of
the restrictions was to give the needed protection. (1p
464-465) *Smith v McCullough*, 270 U S 456 (1926)

⁷¹ *United States v. Brown*, 8 F.2d 504 (C.C.A.8, 1925), cert. den., 270 U.S. 644 (1926).

¹McKernan v. United States, 234 U.S. 113, 33(12), (Jan.) 1915; *State*, 234 U.S. 458 (1912), *State v. Long Jim*, 234 U.S. 918 (1913); *Koonen v. Sawanow*, 281 U.S. 841 (1930), building that a deed by an alien is not binding on the United States, and that the United States is absolutely void if made before final patent, even if made after passage of an act of Congress permitting the Secretary of the Interior to issue such patent, and that the unextinguished title subsequently acquired by the United States is not subject to the provisions of the act. *See also* *McKernan v. McKernan*, 240 U.S. 308 (1916), *United States v. Rydholm*, 250 U.S. 104 (1919), and *Smith v. Rivena*, 77 U.S. 321, 326 (1870), discussing the policy behind restrictions on sale of land in Treaty between United States and the *Chippewa Indians*, 1829, 9 Stat. 25, 26, and the Act of Mar. 20, 1890, 18 Stat. 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, 231, 232, 233, 234, 235, 236, 237, 238, 239, 240, 241, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 250, 251, 252, 253, 254, 255, 256, 257, 258, 259, 260, 261, 262, 263, 264, 265, 266, 267, 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 273, 274, 275, 276, 277, 278, 279, 280, 281, 282, 283, 284, 285, 286, 287, 288, 289, 290, 291, 292, 293, 294, 295, 296, 297, 298, 299, 300, 301, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 307, 308, 309, 310, 311, 312, 313, 314, 315, 316, 317, 318, 319, 320, 321, 322, 323, 324, 325, 326, 327, 328, 329, 330, 331, 332, 333, 334, 335, 336, 337, 338, 339, 340, 341, 342, 343, 344, 345, 346, 347, 348, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360, 361, 362, 363, 364, 365, 366, 367, 368, 369, 370, 371, 372, 373, 374, 375, 376, 377, 378, 379, 380, 381, 382, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 389, 390, 391, 392, 393, 394, 395, 396, 397, 398, 399, 400, 401, 402, 403, 404, 405, 406, 407, 408, 409, 410, 411, 412, 413, 414, 415, 416, 417, 418, 419, 420, 421, 422, 423, 424, 425, 426, 427, 428, 429, 430, 431, 432, 433, 434, 435, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 443, 444, 445, 446, 447, 448, 449, 450, 451, 452, 453, 454, 455, 456, 457, 458, 459, 460, 461, 462, 463, 464, 465, 466, 467, 468, 469, 470, 471, 472, 473, 474, 475, 476, 477, 478, 479, 480, 481, 482, 483, 484, 485, 486, 487, 488, 489, 490, 491, 492, 493, 494, 495, 496, 497, 498, 499, 500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510, 511, 512, 513, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 533, 534, 535, 536, 537, 538, 539, 540, 541, 542, 543, 544, 545, 546, 547, 548, 549, 550, 551, 552, 553, 554, 555, 556, 557, 558, 559, 560, 561, 562, 563, 564, 565, 566, 567, 568, 569, 570, 571, 572, 573, 574, 575, 576, 577, 578, 579, 580, 581, 582, 583, 584, 585, 586, 587, 588, 589, 590, 591, 592, 593, 594, 595, 596, 597, 598, 599, 600, 601, 602, 603, 604, 605, 606, 607, 608, 609, 610, 611, 612, 613, 614, 615, 616, 617, 618, 619, 620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627, 628, 629, 630, 631, 632, 633, 634, 635, 636, 637, 638, 639, 640, 641, 642, 643, 644, 645, 646, 647, 648, 649, 650, 651, 652, 653, 654, 655, 656, 657, 658, 659, 660, 661, 662, 663, 664, 665, 666, 667, 668, 669, 670, 671, 672, 673, 674, 675, 676, 677, 678, 679, 680, 681, 682, 683, 684, 685, 686, 687, 688, 689, 690, 691, 692, 693, 694, 695, 696, 697, 698, 699, 700, 701, 702, 703, 704, 705, 706, 707, 708, 709, 710, 711, 712, 713, 714, 715, 716, 717, 718, 719, 720, 721, 722, 723, 724, 725, 726, 727, 728, 729, 730, 731, 732, 733, 734, 735, 736, 737, 738, 739, 740, 741, 742, 743, 744, 745, 746, 747, 748, 749, 750, 751, 752, 753, 754, 755, 756, 757, 758, 759, 760, 761, 762, 763, 764, 765, 766, 767, 768, 769, 770, 771, 772, 773, 774, 775, 776, 777, 778, 779, 780, 781, 782, 783, 784, 785, 786, 787, 788, 789, 790, 791, 792, 793, 794, 795, 796, 797, 798, 799, 800, 801, 802, 803, 804, 805, 806, 807, 808, 809, 810, 811, 812, 813, 814, 815, 816, 817, 818, 819, 820, 821, 822, 823, 824, 825, 826, 827, 828, 829, 830, 831, 832, 833, 834, 835, 836, 837, 838, 839, 840, 841, 842, 843, 844, 845, 846, 847, 848, 849, 850, 851, 852, 853, 854, 855, 856, 857, 858, 859, 860, 861, 862, 863, 864, 865, 866, 867, 868, 869, 870, 871, 872, 873, 874, 875, 876, 877, 878, 879, 880, 881, 882, 883, 884, 885, 886, 887, 888, 889, 890, 891, 892, 893, 894, 895, 896, 897, 898, 899, 900, 901, 902, 903, 904, 905, 906, 907, 908, 909, 910, 911, 912, 913, 914, 915, 916, 917, 918, 919, 920, 921, 922, 923, 924, 925, 926, 927, 928, 929, 930, 931, 932, 933, 934, 935, 936, 937, 938, 939, 940, 941, 942, 943, 944, 945, 946, 947, 948, 949, 950, 951, 952, 953, 954, 955,

be distributed only to tribal members.¹¹¹ It may thus provide that all children born of a marriage between a white man and an Indian woman who was recognized by the tribe at the time of her death shall have the same rights and privileges to the property of the tribe to which the mother belonged as have members of the tribe.¹¹²

Congress may authorize an administrative body to make a roll descriptive of the persons therein so that they might be identified, in take a census of the tribes and to adopt any other means deemed necessary in the commission. It may provide that such rolls, when approved by the Secretary, shall be final, and that persons therein and their descendants born thereafter and such persons as informally according to tribal laws should also constitute the several tribes they represent.¹¹³

Enrollment does not ordinarily give a vested right in tribal property.¹¹⁴ Congress may disregard the existing membership rolls of a tribe and direct that the per capita distribution be made upon the basis of a new roll, even though such act may be inconsistent with prior legislation, treaties, or agreements with the tribe.¹¹⁵ Thus, the Supreme Court in the case of *Sicamore v. Brady*,¹¹⁶ said

"Take other tribal Indians, the Cheeks, were wards of the United States, which possessed full power, if it deemed such a course wise, to assume full control over them and their affairs, to ascertain who were members of the tribe, to distribute the lands and funds among them, and to terminate the tribal government."¹¹⁷ (P. 447.)

The Supreme Court, in holding that Congress may add to a tribal roll even though it purports to be final said:¹¹⁸

"It is not proposed to disturb the individual allotments made to members living September 1, 1902, and enrolled under the act of 1902, and therefore we are only concerned with whether children born after September 1, 1902, and living on March 1, 1903, should be excluded from the allotment and distribution. The act of 1902 required that they be excluded, and the legislation in 1906, as we have seen, provides for their inclusion. It is conceded, and properly so, that the later legislation is valid and controlling unless it impairs or destroys rights which the act of 1902 vested in members living September 1, 1902, and enrolled under that act. As has been indicated, their individual allotments are not affected. But it is said that the act of 1902 contemplated that they alone should receive allotments and be the participants in the distribution of the remaining lands, and also of the funds, of the tribe. No doubt such was the purpose of the act. But that, in our opinion, did not confer upon

them any vested right such as would disable Congress from thereafter making provision for admitting newly born members of the tribe to the allotment and distribution. The difficulty with the appellants' contention is that it treats the act of 1902 as a contract, when it is only an act of Congress and can have no greater effect." (*Cherokee Intermarriage Cases*, 203 U. S. 78, 98. It was but an exertion of the administrative control of the Government over the tribal property of tribal Indians, and was subject to change by Congress at any time before it was carried into effect and while the tribal relations continued. *Stephens v. Cherokee Nation*, 174 U. S. 445, 488; *Cherokee Nation v. Hitchcock*, 187 U. S. 204; *Wallace v. Adams*, 204 U. S. 416, 423. It is not to be overlooked that those for whose benefit the change was made in 1906 were not strangers to the tribe, but were children born into it while it was still in existence and while there was still tribal property whereby they could be put on an equal, or approximately equal, plane with other members. The council of the tribe asked that this be done, and we cannot see how that Congress, in according to the request, was well within its power. (Pp. 447-448.)

In the important case of *Wallace v. Adams*,¹¹⁹ the Supreme Court held that the Act of July 1, 1902,¹²⁰ granting the Chickasaw citizenship act and giving it power to examine the judgments of the Indian territorial courts and determine whether they should be annulled on account of irregularities, was a valid exercise of power. This and other cases in this field are based on the theory of the ultimate power of Congress over matters of membership of the tribes and its power to adopt any reasonable measures, to ascertain who are entitled to its prerogatives. If the result of one of the methods which it adopts is unsatisfactory, it may try another.¹²¹

Congress may make the finding of an administrative commission, approved by the Secretary of the Interior, a final determination of tribal membership.¹²² The Supreme Court in the case of *United States v. Wildcat*¹²³ said

"There was thus constituted a quasi-judicial tribunal whose judgments within the limits of its jurisdiction were only subject to attack for fraud or such mistake of law or fact as would justify the holding that its judgments were voidable. Congress by this legislation provided an intention to put an end to controversy by providing a tribunal before which those interested could be heard and the rolls authoritatively made up of those who were entitled to participate in the partition of the tribal lands. It was to the intent of all concerned that the beneficiaries of this division should be ascertained. To this end the Commission was established and endowed with authority to hear and determine the matter.

A correct conclusion was not necessary to the finality and binding character of its decisions. It may be that the Commission in acting upon the many cases before it made mistakes which are now impossible of correction. This might easily be so, for the Commission passed upon the rights of thousands claiming membership in the tribe and ascertained the rights of others who did not appear before it, upon the merits of whose standing the Commission had to pass with the best information which it could obtain.

When the Commission proceeded in good faith to determine the matter and to act upon information before it, not arbitrarily, but according to its best judgment, we think it was the intention of the act that the matter, upon the approval of the Secretary, should be finally concluded and the rights of the parties forever settled, subject to such attacks as could successfully be made upon judgments of this character for fraud or mistake.

We cannot agree that the case is within the principle decided in *Scott v. McLeod*,¹²⁴ 154 U. S. 34, and kindred

¹¹¹ See Chapter 9, sec. 8.

¹¹² *Tenne v. United States*, 245 Fed. 411 (C. C. A. 8, 1917). And see Chapter 9, sec. 8.

¹¹³ See *Stephens v. Cherokee Nation*, 174 U. S. 445, 490, 491 (1890), Chapter 7, sec. 4.

¹¹⁴ Congress may also provide that for the purpose of determining the quantum of Indian blood possessed by members of these tribes, and their capacity to alienate allotted lands, the rolls of citizenship approved by the Secretary of the Interior are conclusive.

Act of April 26, 1906, 34 Stat. 137, 1901 Act of May 27, 1906, 33 Stat. 312 interpreted in *United States v. Ferguson*, 247 U. S. 176 (1918). Accord, *Gully v. Mitchell*, 37 F. 2d 493 (C. C. A. 10, 1910).

¹¹⁵ It has been held that Congress is not bound by the tribal rule regarding membership and may determine for itself whether a person is an Indian from the standpoint of a Federal criminal statute. *United States v. Rogers*, 4 How. 587 (1846).

¹¹⁶ *Wallace v. Adams*, 204 U. S. 416, 423 (1907).
¹¹⁷ See *Stephens v. Cherokee Nation*, 174 U. S. 445, 488 (1890).
¹¹⁸ *U. S. v. D. M. 27700*, January 22, 1910. *Off. Lous Wolf v. Hitchcock*, 187 U. S. 558 (1903).

¹¹⁹ 204 U. S. 441 (1914).

¹²⁰ *Grist v. Fisher*, 224 U. S. 640 (1912), discussed in Chapter 9, sec. 8. An example of "final" pro rata distribution of tribal assets is found in the Appropriation Act of May 31, 1909, 35 Stat. 219 (Soleis Reorganization). Cf. Act of April 21, 1906, 34 Stat. 189, 201 (Otoe and Missouria, Stockbridge and others).

¹²¹ 204 U. S. 416 (1907).

¹²² 22 Stat. 641, 647.

¹²³ See *Stephens v. Cherokee Nation*, 174 U. S. 445 (1890), and *Wallace v. Adams*, 204 U. S. 416, 423 (1907). See also Chapter 16, sec. 4.

¹²⁴ *United States v. Almon*, 200 U. S. 920 (1922).

¹²⁵ 244 U. S. 111 (1917).

cases, in which it has been held that in the absence of a subject-matter of jurisdiction an adjudication that there was such is not conclusive, and that a judgment based upon action without its proper subject being in existence is void. (17-118-119)

SECTION 7. ADMINISTRATIVE POWER—INTRODUCTION

By necessity Congress has delegated much of its power over the Indians to administrative officials. This power is dependent upon and supplementary to the legislative power. Although rhetorical figures of speech, like "amplidominion,"¹²² have tended to blur the distinction between administrative and legislative powers, it is important to distinguish between the problem of whether Congress possesses the authority to pass certain legislation and the problem of whether Congress has vested its power in an administrative officer or department.

"We have no officers in this government," the Supreme Court said, in the case of *The Royal Innesplanets*,¹²³ "from the President down to the most subordinate agent, who does not hold office under the law, with prescribed duties and limited authority." (Exp 970-977)

Therefore, in seeking to trace the scope of administrative power in the field of Indian law, one primary concern must be with the statutes and treaties that confer such power.

The interplay of the legislative and administrative branches, at Government in Indian affairs has caused the frequent application of two rules of administrative law. The first is that if properly promulgated pursuant to law the rules and regulations of an administrative body have the force and effect of statutes and the courts will take judicial notice of them.¹²⁴ The Supreme Court in *Mayland Casualty Co v United States*,¹²⁵ said:

"It is settled by many recent decisions of this court that a regulation by a department of government, addressed to and reasonably adapted to the enforcement of an act of Congress, the administration of which is confided to such department, has the force and effect of law if it be not in conflict with express statutory provision, *United States v Grunwald*, 220 U S 808, *United States v*

"We think the decision of such tribunal, when not impeached by fraud or mistake, conclusive of the question of membership in the tribe, when followed, as was the case here, by the action of the Interior Department confirming the allotment and ordering the patents conveying the lands, which were in fact issued." (P. 130)

Burdall, 233 U S 228, 231, *United States v Small*, 230 U S 405, 409, 411, *United States v Mochoch*, 248 U S 607 (P. 349)

The second principle is that courts and administrative authorities give great weight to a construction of a statute consistently given by an executive department charged with its administration,¹²⁶ especially if it is a rule affecting considerable property or a doubtful question.¹²⁷

The Supreme Court has given great weight to an administrative interpretation even if not long continued.¹²⁸

These rules are based on the theory that the failure of Congress by subsequent legislation to change the construction of administrative bodies charged with the administration of a statute constitutes acquiescence in the practical construction of a statute.

¹²² *United States v Chief of Hatchcock*, 205 U S 80 (1907), 1 Op A G 75 (1842), 18 U D 367 (1910), *United States v Jackson*, 230 U S 184, 198 (1930)

When the law has been so construed by Government Departments during a long period as to permit a certain course of action, and Congress has not seen fit to intervene, the interpretation so given is strongly presumptive of the existence of the power. (4 Op A G 259, 260 (1904))

¹²³ The Supreme Court in *Crane v. United States*, 261 U S 310 (1922), said:

"That such individual occupancy [by a non-cession Indian] is confined to protection funds strong support in various rulings of the Interior Department, to which in kind matters this Court has always given much weight (citing cases)." (P. 327)

¹²⁴ 4 Op A G 75 (1842). Also see *Wisconsin v Hitchcock*, 201 U S 202 (1906), *Kendrick v Union Pacific R R Co*, 222 U S 352, 360 (1912)

¹²⁵ The Supreme Court in *United States v First National Bank*, 234 U S 245 (1914), said:

"While departmental construction of the Clapp Amendment does not have the weight which such constructions sometimes have in long continued observance, nevertheless it is entitled to consideration, the early administration of that amendment showing the 'plainness' of its meaning, than it by competent men living up to its enforcement." (P. 265)

A recent administrative interpretation will sometimes be given weight, though conflicting with early interpretation. *United States v Reynolds*, 250 U S 104, 109 (1919). Departmental sponsorship of legislation is also considered. The Supreme Court in *Bisset v Grinnell*, 261 U S 310 (1921), said:

"... And there can be no doubt that the act was the suggestion of the Interior Department, and its construction is an assistant, if not demonstrative criterion, of the meaning and purpose of the act. *Shawnee v Baker*, 220 U S 187, *Jacobs v Proctor*, 223 U S 200; *United States v Corcoran Herman*, 200 U S 837. And the regulations of the Department are administrative of the act and partake of its legal force." (P. 328)

SECTION 8. THE RANGE OF ADMINISTRATIVE POWERS

The specific functions of officials of the Indian Service and of other federal officials dealing with Indian affairs are necessarily discussed in various parts of this chapter and in other chapters.¹²⁹ It may be worth while, however, at this point, to indicate the scheme of authorities which Congress has conferred in this field.

¹²⁹ See especially Chapter 2, Chapters 9 to 31 deal largely with administrative powers over property. Chapter 13 discusses administrative duties regarding federal services for the Indians; Chapter 16 deals with hearings of Indians, Chapter 37, sec. 5, covers administration of liquor laws.

In general, administrative powers in the field of Indian affairs have been conferred upon the President, the Secretary of the Interior, and the Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

Administrative powers of the President include the consolidation of agencies, and, with the consent of the tribes, the consolidation of one or more tribes on reservations created by Executive order,¹³⁰ dispensing with unnecessary agents,¹³¹ or transferring

¹³⁰ Act of May 17, 1882, sec. 6, 22 Stat. 68, 68, 23 U S C 63; Act of July 4, 1894, sec. 6, 28 Stat. 76, 77, 28 U S C 63.

¹³¹ Act of June 25, 1874, sec. 1, 18 Stat. 146, 147, 28 U S C 64; Act of March 3, 1875, sec. 1, 18 Stat. 420, 421, 28 U S C 64, interpreted in 15 Op A G 405 (1877).

any agent 'from the place or tribe designated by law to such other place as the public service may require'.¹¹³

The Secretary of the Interior, who has been described by a Solicitor of his Department as "guardian of all Indian interests,"¹¹⁴ acts on behalf of the President in the administration of Indian affairs. His acts are presumed to be the acts of the President.¹¹⁵

Administrative powers of the Secretary of the Interior include the establishing of superintendencies, agencies, and subagencies by tribes or by geographical boundaries,¹¹⁶ the appointment of

¹¹³ Act of June 30, 1834, sec. 4, 4 Stat. 729, 736, 23 U. S. C. 62. The power given in this section is not affected by the Senate being in session 15 Op. A. G. 456 (1877). Also see *Morrison v. Peck*, 200 Fed. 306 (App. 1 (1914)), and 260 U. S. 481 (1922), which also discuss the power of the President over agents.

The early tendency to place administrative responsibility on the President is exemplified by the Act of July 22, 1790, 1 Stat. 137, and the Act of March 3, 1795, 1 Stat. 443, which appropriated \$70,000 for the purchase of goods for the Indians, and provided "that the sale of such goods be made under the direction of the President of the United States."

The President delegated to Indian superintendents and agents his duty to distribute funds. 37 Op. A. G. 90 (1878).

Other Presidential powers of appointment are conferred by the Act of May 25, 1824, sec. 1, 4 Stat. 35, and the Act of July 20, 1837, 25 Stat. 17.

See Act of May 20, 1826, 4 Stat. 188, providing for commissioners to treat with the Chiricahua and Kickapoo Indians; Joint Resolution of May 7, 1827, 17 Stat. 496, to inquire into depredations; Act of January 12, 1831, 20 Stat. 712, to arrange for selection of reservations for Mexican Indians in California. Also see Act of March 1, 1870, 1 Stat. 406, 701, Act of February 19, 1799, 1 Stat. 618, Act of May 1, 1870, 19 Stat. 41, Act of September 10, 1800 (Southwestern Utah), 20 Stat. 504, 524, Act of September 25, 1826, 28 Stat. 408, Act of April 30, 1806, sec. 1, 37 Stat. 70, 73, 25 U. S. C. 12.

Other statutory powers granted to the President regarding the Indians are discussed in later sections of this Chapter. Also see 25 U. S. C. 27, 28, 61, 65, 72, 112, 189, 140, 141, 154, 174, 180, 264, 347, 349. For examples of treaty powers see Chapter 3, sec. 19 (2).

¹¹⁴ 42 U. S. D. 468, 469 (1922).

¹¹⁵ *Wolsey v. Chapman*, 301 U. S. 755, 769 (1879). The action of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs must be presumed to be the action of the President. *Belt v. United States*, 15 C. Cl. 62 (1870). The same rule has been applied to other departments. *Manuel v. United States*, 49 C. Cl. 252, 274 (1914). The direction of the President is actually presumed in institutions and orders relating from competent federal departments. 7 Op. A. G. 481 (1855).

In the absence of statutory authority subordinate officials have no power with respect to the delivery of an advance involving the exercise of judgment and discretion. *United States v. Waters*, 102 F. 2d 459 (C. C. A. 10, 1939). See also *Robinson v. United States*, 285 Fed. 911 (App. D. C., 1922), *Tanner v. Peck*, 167 Fed. 616 (C. C. W. D. Okla., 1909), and 170 Fed. 74, *Memo. Sol. J. D.*, December 11, 1937.

Administrative or ministerial functions may be delegated without statutory authorization. The Secretary of the Interior has delegated some of his regulatory powers over Indians to other officials or bodies. For instance, he has delegated administrative authority to the judges of the Court of Indian Offenses and to tribal courts.

The Solicitor of the Department of the Interior, in an opinion dated September 25, 1921, 48 L. D. 456 (1921), wrote:

"... During earlier times the Indians were practically confined on reservations and controlled by the strong arm of the Military. The President as 'The Great White Father' was looked to as the protector of their interests, and was charged with many responsibilities and duties in their behalf. Gradually, by specific statute in some cases, but more rapidly within comparatively recent times by general legislation, that responsibility and duty has been lodged elsewhere, notably in the Secretary of the Interior."

As late as 1895, the Attorney General was asked whether the President must personally approve depredation claims. 21 Op. A. G. 181 (1897). Also see Chapter 3, sec. 3, 3 Op. A. G. 307 (1883) and 471 (1839), 6 Op. A. G. 49 (1832) and 402 (1864), 16 Op. A. G. 228 (1878), 17 Op. A. G. 258, 259, (1882), and 202 (1882), and Goodnow, *Administrative Law of the United States* (1905).

¹¹⁶ Act of June 30, 1834, 4 Stat. 735, amended by Act of March 8, 1847, 9 Stat. 202, 25 U. S. C. 40.

members of the Indian Arts and Crafts Board,¹¹⁷ and the appointment of various Indian Bureau employees.¹¹⁸

Other duties are expressly delegated to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, such as issuing trader's licenses¹¹⁹ and publishing statutory provisions regulating the duties of Indian Bureau employees.¹²⁰

Provisions in many statutes¹²¹ and occasional treaties confer on the President¹²² or the Secretary of the Interior¹²³ or the Commissioner of Indian Affairs¹²⁴ or all three¹²⁵ power to make rules and regulations.¹²⁶ The wide range of regulations concerning Indians is shown by title 25 of the Code of Federal Regulations.¹²⁷ Important statutes providing for rule-making in relation to the Indians which are included in title 25 of the United States Code are discussed in various parts of this volume.¹²⁸ A brief description of the subject matter of some of them will therefore suffice to show the variety of statutes expressly conferring regulatory power on the Secretary of the Interior. He is authorized to make regulations governing the business of the Indian Arts and Crafts Board,¹²⁹ concerning the operation of various types of lower affecting restricted Indian lands,¹³⁰ concerning service fees from individual Indians,¹³¹ to secure attendance at school,¹³² to admit white children to Indian day

¹¹⁷ Act of August 27, 1935, sec. 1, 49 Stat. 901, 25 U. S. C. 401.

¹¹⁸ Act of March 4, 1819, 1 Stat. 510, 25 U. S. C. 271, Act of March 2, 1880, sec. 10, 26 Stat. 940, 1008, 25 U. S. C. 272, Act of March 4, 1861, sec. 1, 12 Stat. 774, 776, 25 U. S. C. 12. Various special acts provide for agents for particular tribes, Act of May 18, 1824, 4 Stat. 25 (Osage), Act of February 25, 1851, 4 Stat. 443 (Winnebago), Act of July 1, 1862, 12 Stat. 498 (Grand River and Winitia).

The Secretary of the Interior, under the direction of the President has been authorized to discontinue the services "of such agents, with agents, interpreters, and mechanics, as may, from time to time, become unnecessary, in consequence of the cessation of the Indians, or otherwise." Act of July 9, 1812, sec. 5, 4 Stat. 564, amended by Act of February 27, 1877, sec. 1, 20 Stat. 240, 244, 25 U. S. C. 65.

¹¹⁹ See Chapter 10.

¹²⁰ Act of May 17, 1882, sec. 7, 22 Stat. 68, 69, 25 U. S. C. 8.

¹²¹ Act of July 21, 1854, 10 Stat. 315, Act of March 3, 1865, 14 Stat. 541, Act of May 18, 1872, 17 Stat. 85, Act of May 24, 1876, 19 Stat. 53, Act of February 28, 1891, sec. 4, 26 Stat. 704, interpreted in 18 L. D. 497 (1894), also see 40 L. D. 211 (1911), Act of August 1, 1924, 43 Stat. 684, 685, Act of February 14, 1926, 41 Stat. 408, 410, 25 U. S. C. 282, Act of May 25, 1928, 45 Stat. 12, 25 U. S. C. 318, Act of April 16, 1934, sec. 2, 48 Stat. 590, amended June 4, 1930, 19 Stat. 1468, 26 U. S. C. 451, Act of June 7, 1937, 50 Stat. 421, also see special statutes. Act of March 3, 1861, 12 Stat. 819 (Sioux), Act of March 8, 1861, c. 414, 46 Stat. 1406 (Crow), Act of February 11, 1933, 40 Stat. 1107 (Chippewa).

¹²² Treaty of October 14, 1861, with the Klamath, 16 Stat. 707, Treaty of September 14, 1864, with the Chippewa, 10 Stat. 1109, 1110, unpublished treaty with the Creek, Asheville, 17, August 7, 1700, Treaty of November 14, 1860, with the Creek, 7 Stat. 96.

¹²³ Treaty of February 8, 1851, with the Menominee, 7 Stat. 842, Treaty of March 6, 1885, with the Omaha, 14 Stat. 937.

¹²⁴ Treaty of October 21, 1867, with the Kiowa and Comanches, 41 U. S. Stat. 581.

¹²⁵ Treaty of June 9, 1863, with the Nez Percé, 31, 14 Stat. 647.

¹²⁶ The procedure adopted by the Office of Indian Affairs in drafting regulations is discussed in Monograph 30, Attorney General's Committee on Administrative Procedure (1940).

¹²⁷ The subjects covered in this Code are noted in Chapter 2, sec. 3A.

¹²⁸ Chapter 2, 4, 8, 9, 10, 12, 15, 17.

¹²⁹ Act of August 27, 1935, sec. 1, 49 Stat. 891, 892, 25 U. S. C. 400b.

¹³⁰ Act of May 11, 1938, sec. 4, 52 Stat. 347, 348, 25 U. S. C. 4691, see Chapter 16, sec. 19.

¹³¹ Act of May 9, 1938, sec. 1, 52 Stat. 291, 313 as amended by Act of May 10, 1939, sec. 1, 58 Stat. 685, 708, 25 U. S. C. 561.

¹³² Act of July 14, 1862, sec. 1, 27 Stat. 120, 145, 25 U. S. C. 284, Act of March 3, 1893, sec. 1, 27 Stat. 612, 628, 25 U. S. C. 298, Act of February 14, 1920, sec. 1, 41 Stat. 408, 410, 25 U. S. C. 282, Chapter 13, sec. 2.

schools¹¹³ and Indian boarding schools,¹¹⁴ for the conduct of an Indian reform school,¹¹⁵ for disposal by will of restricted allotments,¹¹⁶ governing the use of water on irrigation lands¹¹⁷ and the apportionment of irrigation costs,¹¹⁸ and covering trading licenses.¹¹⁹

In addition to those statutes which confer regulatory power for specific purposes, there are several general statutes which have sometimes been relied upon as the basis for the exercise of administrative power. Section 17 of the Act of June 30, 1834,¹²⁰ provides:

"The President of the United States shall be, and he is hereby, authorized to prescribe such rules and regulations as he may think fit, for carrying into effect the various provisions of this act, and of any other act relating to Indian affairs, and for the settlement of the accounts of the Indian department."

This general statute fills the needs of practical administration arising from the fact that many acts of Congress require the issuance of regulations, for their proper interpretation and enforcement, although such regulations are not expressly authorized.¹²¹

Section 1 of the Act of July 11, 1832,¹²² as amended by the Act of March 3, 1849,¹²³ establishing the Department of the Interior, provides that a Commissioner of Indian Affairs shall, under the direction of the Secretary of the Interior, and "agreeably to such regulations as the President may prescribe, have the management of all Indian affairs and of all matters arising out of Indian relations."

This statute, enacted in 1832, was obviously not intended to vest in the newly created office of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs the power to regulate Indian conduct generally. Since the acts of the Commissioner were expressly made subject to regulations prescribed by the President, the limits of which have already been outlined, the phrase "management of all Indian affairs" clearly does not mean "management of the affairs of the Indians," any more than the phrase "management of foreign affairs" means "management of the affairs of foreign nations or of foreigners."¹²⁴ The phrase "Indian affairs" and

"Indian relations" are intended to cover the relations between the United States and the Indian tribes, which relations are commonly established either by treaty or by statute.¹²⁵

Whether the President, the Secretary of the Interior, or the Commissioner of Indian Affairs has "general supervisory authority" over Indians in the absence of specific legislation has been questioned in several cases.

In the case of *Prince v. Prince*,¹²⁶ the President, pursuant to a treaty reserving land to individual Indians and their heirs, issued a patent conveying a title with reservations upon conveyance. The Supreme Court held ineffective the restrictive clause because the "President had no authority, in virtue of his office, to impose any such restriction, certainly not, without the authority of an act of Congress, and no such act was ever passed." (P. 242.)

The question of whether internal affairs of Indian tribes, in the absence of statute, are to be regulated by the tribe itself or by the Interior Department was squarely before the Supreme Court in the case of *Jones v. Meehan*.¹²⁷ One of the questions presented by that case was whether inheritance of Indian land, in the absence of statute, was governed "by the laws, usages, and customs of the Chippewa Indians" or by the rules and regulations of the Secretary of the Interior.¹²⁸ In line with numerous decisions of lower courts, the Supreme Court held that the Secretary of the Interior did not have the power claimed, and that in the absence of statute such power rested with the tribe and not with the Interior Department.

In *Romero v. United States*,¹²⁹ a regulation of the President regarding the salaries of Indian Service officials was held invalid despite the claim that this might be justified under Revised Stat-

utes, serving a friendly intercourse with the Indians, or for managing the concerns of the United States with them. * * *

15 U. S. C. 22, 28 R. A. 101, as derived from the Acts of July 27, 1789, 1 Stat. 28, August 1, 1789, 1 Stat. 45, September 2, 1789, 1 Stat. 68, September 15, 1789, 1 Stat. 68, April 30, 1791, 1 Stat. 63, March 3, 1849, 9 Stat. 303, 206, June 22, 1870, 16 Stat. 103, June 8, 1872, 17 Stat. 283, provides:

Departmental regulations.—The head of each department is authorized to prescribe regulations, not inconsistent with law, for the government of his department, the conduct of its officers and clerks, the distribution and performance of its business, and the custody, use, and preservation of the records, papers, and property appertaining to it.

This statute is obviously directed to the regulation of internal matters within the various departments, such as the allocation of authority to officials, the forms to be used in departmental business, and other matters *expedient* generally. It cannot be reasonably construed as a grant of power to any administrative officer to promulgate regulations requiring obedience outside of the federal service.

120 208 U. S. 238 (1908).

121 176 U. S. 1 (1899). Similarly in other fields. The case of *United States v. George*, 228 U. S. 14 (1913) holds that a regulation of the Interior Department relating to public lands is invalid where not authorized by any act of Congress. The argument that general power to prescribe reasonable regulations governing public lands is conferred by Revised Statutes, section 441, and by other similar statutes, was rejected by the Supreme Court in this case with the following comment:

It will be seen that they confer administrative power only. This is undeniably so as to sections 161, 441, 458, and 2478; and certainly under the guise of regulation legislation cannot be stretched. *United States v. United Verde Copper Co.*, 138 U. S. 207 (P. 20.)

Also see *Montoye v. Jones*, 108 U. S. 466, 487 (1882).

Unless empowered by statute, the Secretary of the Interior is not authorized to issue regulations granting an extension of time for the payment of certain accrued water right charges, *Op. Sol. I. D. M.* 28084, July 3, 1930, nor to create a charge against the Indians on their lands, *Op. Sol. I. D. M.* 27019, February 20, 1926. Also see *Romero v. United States*, 24 C. Cls. 831 (1889); *Levey v. United States*, 190 Fed. 289 (C. C. A. 8, 1911); *app. diss.* 282 U. S. 781 (1914), *aff. rev.* 5 S. P. 5, 264, 255 (D. C. W. D. Wash. 1925), and *Rele v. Wilder*, 8 Kal. 154 (1871).

122 15 U. S. C. 1, 31.

123 24 C. Cls. 331 (1889).

¹¹³ Act of March 1, 1907, 34 Stat. 1015, 1018, 25 U. S. C. 288.

¹¹⁴ Act of March 3, 1900, 33 Stat. 783, 25 U. S. C. 280.

¹¹⁵ Act of June 21, 1900, 34 Stat. 225, 228, 25 U. S. C. 302.

¹¹⁶ Act of June 25, 1910, sec. 2, 36 Stat. 856, amended by Act of February 14, 1918, 37 Stat. 676, 25 U. S. C. 378, sec. 381; see OB.

¹¹⁷ Act of February 8, 1887, sec. 7, 24 Stat. 385, 25 U. S. C. Chapter 11; see Chapter 12, see 7.

¹¹⁸ Act of April 4, 1910, sec. 1 and 3, 36 Stat. 269; Act of August 1, 1914, sec. 1, 38 Stat. 592, 25 U. S. C. 380; see Chapter 12, see 7.

¹¹⁹ Act of July 31, 1882, 22 Stat. 179, 25 U. S. C. 204; also see Chapter 17, for other examples in 25 U. S. Code see sec. 14 (money accruing to Indians from governmental services), 192 (sale by agents of unnecessary cattle and horses), 272 (leaves of absence to certain employees of Indian Service), 292 (employment of schools), 319 (lights-of-way); 454 (standard of state services). Many of the rules and regulations require the Secretary of the Interior or the Commissioner of Indian Affairs to approve or disapprove specified transactions. See for example 25 Code of Federal Regulations (1940), sec. 21.13, 21.6, 21.40 and 25.53.

¹²⁰ 4 Stat. 785, 788, 25 U. S. C. 0.

¹²¹ The Act of February 14, 1918, sec. 12, 32 Stat. 825, 830, as embodied in 25 U. S. C. 386, provides:

"The Secretary of the Interior is charged with the supervision of public business relating to the following subjects."

Second The Indians

¹²² 1 Stat. 564, 25 U. S. C. 2.

¹²³ 1 Stat. 805. Also see Act of July 27, 1898, 15 Stat. 258.

¹²⁴ See the explanation of a similar phrase in *Worcester v. Georgia*, 6 Pet. 515, 525 (1829), quoted in Chapter 8, sec. 45. And see definition of duties of Commissioners and other department employees in Act of January 17, 1890, 2 Stat. 0, in terms of "facilitating or pre-

utes, section 465.¹⁶ The court declared that such regulations, "must be in execution of and supplementary to, but not in conflict with the statutes." The actual holding in this case may be explained on the theory that the regulation questioned conflicted with general provisions of law on tenure of office.

In the case of *Rever v. United States*,¹⁷ the claim of the Department that *Revised Statutes* 441¹⁸ and 408¹⁹ were a grant of general regulatory powers was again rejected. In this case, as in the *Rancosa* case, it may be argued that the regulation in question was in derogation of the statutory rights of the Indians. A fair reading of the opinion, however, indicates that the supposed statutory rights invaded were so tenuous that every unauthorized regulation of the conduct of an Indian, or any other citizen, could similarly be regarded as a violation of statutory or constitutional rights. The real force of the decision is the holding that sections 441 and 408 of the *Revised Statutes* do not create independent powers.²⁰

The claim of administrative officers to pleiary power to regulate Indian conduct has been rejected in every decided case where such power was not invoked simply to implement the administration of some more specific statutory or treaty provision.

There is sometimes a tendency to regard the scope of administrative authority over Indians as broad enough to encompass almost every form of regulation. This idea, like the view of an omnipotent congressional power,²¹ has been nurtured by descriptions of the extent of this power in dicta in decisions involving a specific legislative grant of administrative power.²² Such language may influence later decisions in doubtful cases.

¹⁶ Act of June 30, 1834, sec. 17, 4 Stat. 735, 738, 25 U. S. C. § 9.

¹⁷ 190 Fed. 289 (C. C. A. 8, 1911), aff'd *sub. nom. United States v. Rever*, 214 U. S. 741 (1914).

¹⁸ Derived from Act of March 9, 1849, 9 Stat. 295 5 U. S. C. § 485.

¹⁹ Derived from Act of July 9, 1852, 4 Stat. 601, 26 U. S. C. § 2.

²⁰ In *Indefatigable v. United States*, 254 U. S. 570 (1921), involving an Act of 256 Fed. 5 (U. C. A. 9, 1919), the Supreme Court applied the validity of regulations covering the leasing of restricted lands, which were subject to the approval of the Secretary of the Interior by the Act of June 28, 1906, sec. 7, 34 Stat. 589 on the ground that "the regulations appear to be consistent with the statute, appropriate to its execution, and in themselves reasonable."

²¹ In *United States v. Bidwell*, 238 U. S. 823 (1914), 109 200 Fed. 814 (11 C. C. N. D. Iowa 1914), the regulation challenged and upheld dealt with the control of departmental employees, and was authorized by the *Revised Statutes* § 2074, 25 U. S. C. § 13, derived from Act of June 30, 1834, sec. 7, 4 Stat. 740. Act of June 5, 1850, sec. 4, 9 Stat. 487, and Act of February 27 1861, sec. 5, 9 Stat. 687.

²² See cases 1-6, *supra*.

²³ Chief Justice Hughes (then associate justice), in describing the functions of the Office of Indian Affairs, and in *United States v. Bidwell*, 238 U. S. 823 (1914), 109 200 Fed. 814 (11 C. C. N. D. Iowa 1914).

* * * The object of the establishment of the office was to create an administrative agency with broad powers, adequate to the execution of the policy of the Government, as determined by the acts of Congress, with respect to the Indians under its guardianship. * * * (P. 282.)

* * * In exercising the powers of the Indian Office there is necessarily a wide range of administrative discretion and in determining the scope of official action regard must be had to the authority conferred, and this, as we have seen, embraces

involved questions as to whether administrative power was implied though not clearly delegated by the language of the statute.

The scope of administrative powers raises problems of particular importance in five fields: (a) tribal lands;²⁴ (b) tribal funds;²⁵ (c) individual lands;²⁶ (d) individual funds;²⁷ and (e) tribal membership.²⁸

every action which may properly constitute an aid in the enforcement of the law. (P. 283.)

In upholding the power of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs to require bull collectors to remain away from the Indian agency on the days when payments were being made, Mr. Justice Van Dusen, then on the Circuit Court of Appeals, wrote in *Bamboo v. Young* 101 Fed. 845 (11 C. C. A. 8, 1908):

* * * We turn to the statutes bearing upon the authority of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, and in considering these it is well to remember that he was and in *United States v. Bidwell*, 7 Fed. 1, 14, 8 U. S. C. 2d 687 (1891).

"A practical knowledge of the action of any one of the great departments of the government must convince every person that the head of a department in the distribution of its duties and responsibilities is often compelled to exercise his discretion. He is limited in the exercise of his powers by the law, but it does not follow that he must show statutory provision for everything he does. No government could be administered on such principles. No attempt to regulate in this manner movements of every part of the complicated machinery of government would create an insuperable impediment on the subject. Within the great outlines of its movements may be marked out and limitations imposed on the exercise of its powers, but the innumerable lines which it must be done that can neither be anticipated nor defined, and which are essential to the proper action of the government." (P. 147.)

It is upon the very general language of the statutes making it quite plain that the authority conferred upon the Commissioner of Indian Affairs was intended to be sufficiently comprehensive to enable him, apparently to the least court check and to the approval of the President, and the Secretary of the Interior, to manage all Indian affairs, and all matters arising out of Indian relations, with a free and independent discretion, that the scope of the public but also to the rights and welfare of the Indians, and to the duty of care and control of things in which they are in state of dependency and tutelage. And, while there is an explicit provision relating to the exclusion of collectors from Indian agencies at times when payments are being made to the Indians, it does not follow that the commissioner is without authority to exclude them, for by section 2319 he is both authorized and required, with the approval of the Secretary of the Interior, to remove from any tribal reservation "any person whose presence therein may, in his judgment, be detrimental to the peace and welfare of the Indians." This applies alike to all persons whose presence may be thus detrimental and contains the decision of that question on the commissioner. Of course, it is necessary to the adequate protection of the Indians and to the orderly conduct of reservation affairs that one such authority should be vested in someone and it is in keeping with other legislation dealing with the Indians that it should rest with the Commissioner. *United States v. Bidwell*, 238 U. S. 823, 27 Sup. Ct. 424, 51 L. Ed. 718. There is no provision in the examination in the case of the question of land so committed to him for decision and, considering the nature of the question, the pleiary power of the Commissioner in the matter, and the obvious difficulty of the way of a re-examination, we think it is enough that they shall be made. *United States v. Bidwell*, 238 U. S. 823, 27 Sup. Ct. 424, 51 L. Ed. 718, 352 Fed. 687 (11 C. C. A. 8, 1908).

See also *United States v. West v. Hitchcock*, 205 U. S. 80 (1907), 109 Mo. 81 U. D., February 28, 1905, which refers to *United States v. Omaha*, 95 Fed. 877, 877 (C. C. O. 1888), *Adams v. Peterson*, 65 F. 126, 136 (1897), 109 Mo. 81 U. D., August 19, 1908, 101 Fed. 845 (11 C. C. A. 8, 1908), 101 Fed. 845 (11 C. C. A. 8, 1908).

²⁴ See case 1, *supra*.

²⁵ See case 3, *supra*.

²⁶ See case 11, *supra*.

²⁷ See case 12, *supra*.

²⁸ See case 13, *supra*.

SECTION 9. ADMINISTRATIVE POWER—TRIBAL LANDS

A. ACQUISITION

One of the most important powers granted to the Secretary of the Interior is the power to acquire land for tribes. Apart from the many special statutes in this field,²⁹ two provisions of general law deserve mention.

²⁹ See Chapter 15, sec. 0-8.

Section 3 of the Wheeler-Howard Act³⁰ provides:

The Secretary of the Interior, if he shall find it to be in the public interest, is hereby authorized to resolve to tribal ownership the remaining surplus lands of any Indian reservation heretofore opened, or authorized to be opened, to sale, or any other land not disposed of by presidential proclamation, or by any of the public-land laws.

³⁰ Act of June 18, 1884, 48 Stat. 984, 985, 25 U. S. C. § 483.

of the United States. *Provided, however*, That valid rights or claims of any persons to any lands so withdrawn existing on the date of the withdrawal shall not be affected by this Act. *Provided further*, That this section shall not apply to lands within any reclamation project heretofore authorized in any Indian reservation.

This provision was originally framed in mandatory language, but was amended to make the restoration a discretion on the part of the Secretary. The administrative determination of this question may be guided by the fact, among others, that the protection of the property rights of the tribes is a federal function in which the public at large is interested.¹⁸

A second method by which the Secretary of the Interior is authorized to acquire lands for Indian tribes is set forth in section 5 of the Wheeler-Howard Act.¹⁹ This section authorizes the Secretary

to have discretion, to acquire, through purchase, relinquishment, gift, exchange, or assignment, any interest in lands, water rights, or surface right to lands, within or without existing reservations, including trust and otherwise restricted allotments, whether the allottee be living or deceased, for the purpose of providing land for Indians.

The procedure followed under this authority and the status of lands thereby acquired is elsewhere discussed.²⁰

B. LEASING

The Secretary of the Interior has no power to enter into or approve a lease without authority from either a treaty²¹ or a statute.²² A few statutes permit the Secretary alone to make tribal leases for land rights,²³ but the law covering the leasing of most tribal land permits the tribal council to lease the lands subject to the approval of the Secretary.²⁴ Some of these statutes have been recently summarized by the Solicitor of the Department of the Interior.²⁵ Under existing laws,²⁶ and under

many tribal charters,²⁷ adopted pursuant to the Wheeler-Howard Act,²⁸ the tribal council has a right to make leases and permits on its own initiative subject to the approval of the Department. Under most of the statutes it is held that the Secretary acts in a quasi-judicial capacity in acting upon the recommendations of the superintendent and the actions of the tribal council regarding these leases, and hence cannot delegate this function to the superintendent.²⁹ It has been administratively held that the determination of the council should be conclusive upon the Department of the Interior, at least in the absence of evidence of mistake, fraud, or undue influence.³⁰

C. ALIENATION

The general prohibition against alienation of tribal lands is elsewhere analyzed.³¹ These restrictions upon alienation apply to federal administrative officers, as well as to tribal authorities, and to interests less than a fee as well as to conveyances in fee simple.³² Thus, in the absence of express statutory authorization, the Secretary of the Interior has no power to diminish the tribal estate by withdrawing a right-of-way for the construction of irrigation ditches.³³ Congress, however, has conferred upon administrative authorities various statutory powers to alienate interests in tribal land less than a fee, particularly easements and rights-of-way.³⁴ Generally these statutes do not make tribal consent a condition to the validity of the alienation, but as a practical administrative matter tribal consent is frequently made a condition of the grant.³⁵

170, 397, 398, and 402; regulations governing the leasing of tribal lands for mining purposes, approved May 31, 1930, section 2, general mining regulations, approved December 23, 1935, section 6, see 65 Regulations, Department of the Interior, at, pages 50-56.

The tribe may, with departmental approval, assign certain tracts of tribal land to individual members of the tribe or to particular families.

Such assignments may be purely for personal use and occupancy or they may permit leasing to outsiders under departmental supervision.

The tribe has no right to lease any part of the reservation without departmental approval. So, too, the individual Indian has no right to make a lease covering any part of the reservation without departmental approval.

The Department may withhold its approval from any lease, permit or assignment which does not do substantial justice to the claims of the tribe as a whole and the individual Indians who may have built improvements in particular areas.

Also see Chapter 15, sec. 10 and 20. On the power of the President to authorize the sale or other disposition of dead timber on reservations, see Act of February 10, 1890, 26 Stat. 473, 26 U. S. C. 190.

See Act of June 7, 1924, sec. 37, 43 Stat. 614, Act of May 20, 1924, 43 Stat. 214, 26 U. S. C. 306, interpreted in *Wichita Indians Co. v. Board*, 269 U. S. 120 (1926).

See Chapter 15, sec. 10 and 20. Some tribal charters require departmental approval of leases but not of permits. *Ibid.* see 20.

See Chapter 15, sec. 10, March 26, 1935. Some permits, like grazing permits for tribal lands, are frequently issued by the superintendent and then approved by the governing body of the tribe.

See Memo Sol. I. D., May 22, 1937, containing a discussion of the principles which should guide administrative practice. Also see *White Deer v. Berry*, 31 Mont. 322, 209 Pac. 517 (1921).

Although an original lease of tribal lands was signed by the Secretary and a lease, it has been administratively held that after the passage of the Wheeler-Howard Act and the adoption of a tribal constitution conferring power to prevent any lease affecting tribal land without the consent of the tribe, the Secretary of the Interior cannot modify such lease without securing the approval of the Indian tribe. Memo Sol. I. D., July 19, 1937.

See Chapter 15, sec. 10.

See Memo Sol. I. D., September 2, 1935. Memo Sol. I. D., September 6, 1934, and Memo Sol. I. D., March 11, 1935. See also 25 C. F. R. 250.83.

See Memo Sol. I. D., April 12, 1940 (Flathead).

See 26 U. S. C. 312-322.

See 26 C. F. R. 250.24, 250.55, 250.83.

¹⁸ Memo Sol. I. D., September 29, 1937, Op Sol. I. D., M. 20708, June 15, 1938. See also Op Sol. I. D., M. 29610, February 19, 1938.

Even prior to the passage of this section, the Secretary of the Interior had adequate authority to withdraw lands from the public domain for public purposes.

See Act of June 25, 1910, 20 Stat. 880, 547, relating to "public lands." The authority to make (temporary) withdrawals was expressly preserved by sec. 4 of the Act of March 3, 1927, 44 Stat. 1347, which provides:

"This hereafter done in the boundaries of reservations created by Executive order, proclamation, or otherwise for the use and occupation of Indians shall not be made except by Act of Congress. *Provided*, That this shall not apply to temporary withdrawals by the Secretary of the Interior."

Memo Sol. I. D., September 17, 1934.

¹⁹ For discussion of tribal property see Chapter 15.

²⁰ 48 Stat. 984, 985, 26 U. S. C. 405.

²¹ See Chapter 15, sec. 6. See also Memo Sol. I. D., August 14, 1937.

Memo Sol. I. D., September 29, 1937.

²² See 23 Op. A. G. 214, 220 (1900).

²³ 18 Op. A. G. 225 (1880), 18 Op. A. G. 496 (1880). It has been customary to utilize renewable permits on tribal lands which could not be leased under the statute in order to preserve the value of the land and to obtain a revenue from them rather than allowing them to lie idle. Memo Sol. I. D., January 12, 1937.

²⁴ Act of June 28, 1898, sec. 18, 30 Stat. 495 (Indian Tribes). Statutes of this nature concerning mineral leasing are described in Chapter 15, sec. 10.

²⁵ Act of February 28, 1891, 30 Stat. 794, sec. 3, 25 U. S. C. 397, extended by Act of August 15, 1894, sec. 1, 28 Stat. 280, 305, 26 U. S. C. 402. Also see Act of May 11, 1938, sec. 1, 52 Stat. 347, 26 U. S. C. 800a and Chapter 15, sec. 10.

²⁶ Memo Sol. I. D., October 21, 1939.

²⁷ Leases or permits covering use of tribal lands, entry or residence thereon, or removal of resources therefrom, may be executed through the consent of the tribe and the Secretary of the Interior, or his duly authorized representative, under the following statutes and regulations: United States Code, title 25, sections

Where statutory authority for the issuance of a right-of-way exists, it has been administratively held that such authority is not precluded by section 4 of the Act of June 18, 1934.⁴⁹ In thus construing the Act of June 18, 1934, the Solicitor for the Interior Department declared:⁵⁰

The only limitations which the Reorganization Act imposes upon the exercise of authority conferred by such specific acts of Congress are: (1) a tribe organized under section 16 may vote the grant under the land provisions given it by that section to prevent the sale, disposition, lease, or encumbrance of tribal lands, interests in lands, or other tribal assets without the consent of the tribe; and (2) a tribe organized under section 17 may be given the power to make such grants without restriction.

Although the grant of an easement is held to be outside the prohibition of section 4 of the Act of June 18, 1934, it would appear that section 16 of the act⁵¹ requires the consent of an organized tribe to any grant of right-of-way which the Secretary is authorized to make.⁵² Tribal consent is likewise required

where the Secretary of the Interior seeks to set aside tribal lands for reservation purposes for an irrigation project.⁵³

It is true that the United States in its sovereign capacity may condemn tribal land for certain purposes and may over appropriate tribal lands by act of Congress subject to constitutional requirements of compensation. But the rights and powers with respect to tribal property granted by the Constitution and Charter of the Confederated Indian and Klamath Tribes are effective against officers of the United States and acting under direct mandate of Congress. Indeed, unless officers of the Department can be restrained by the tribe from disposing of tribal property, all meaning has vanished from the provision in section 16 of the Indian Reorganization Act of 1934 that no organized tribe the power "to prevent the sale, disposition, lease, or encumbrance of tribal lands, interests in lands, or other tribal assets without the consent of the tribe." The only persons against whom this provision can be directed are officers of the United States. Private individuals never have had the power to sell tribal land or to dispose of tribal assets. If then, the restrictions contained in the above-quoted provision do not run against the United States, they are meaningless, and the constitutional provisions enacted in accordance therewith are a false promise.

⁴⁹ 48 Stat. 954, 956, 27 U. S. C. 164.

⁵⁰ Memo Sol. I. D. September 2, 1938.

⁵¹ 49 Stat. 956, 27 U. S. C. 170.

⁵² See 27 U. S. C. 256-53.

⁵³ Memo Sol. I. D. July 9, 1944. And see 26 U. S. C. 256-54.

SECTION 10. ADMINISTRATIVE POWER—TRIBAL FUNDS⁵⁴

In defining the scope of federal administrative power over tribal funds it is important to bear in mind certain distinctions between various classes of funds, all of which are, in some sense of the word, tribal.

Funds which an Indian tribe has derived from its own members or from third parties without the intervention of the Federal Government, as where tribal authorities hold a lot of dance and charge admission, are, in a very real sense, "tribal," yet it has never been held that federal administrative authorities have any control over such funds.⁵⁵

A second class of funds which may be called "tribal" comprises those funds held in the treasury of a tribe which has become incorporated under section 17 of the Act of June 18, 1934,⁵⁶ or organized under section 16 of that act.⁵⁷ In both cases the scope of departmental power with respect to such funds is marked out by the provisions of tribal constitution or charter. Typically, departmental review is required where the financial transactions exceed a fixed level of magnitude or importance, but not in lesser matters. In the case of unincorporated tribes, such departmental supervisory powers are generally temporary.⁵⁸

⁵⁴ The Act of April 1, 1880, c. 41, 21 Stat. 70 provided:

That the Secretary of the Interior be, and he is hereby, authorized to deposit, in the Treasury of the United States, any and all sums now held by him, or which may hereafter be received by him, as Secretary of the Interior and Director of various Indian funds, on account of the redemption of United States bonds, or other debts and securities, belonging to Indian tribe funds, and all sums received on account of sales of Indian trust lands, and the sales of stocks lately purchased for temporary investment, whenever he is of the opinion that the best interests of the Indians will be promoted by such deposits, in lieu of investments, and the United States shall not interfere with the Secretary from the date of deposit of any and all such sums in the United States Treasury, at the rate per annum stipulated by treaties or prescribed by law, and such payments shall be made in the usual manner, as each may become due, without further appropriation by Congress.

Previous to the enactment of this law, the Secretary of the Interior invested tribal funds in various kinds of bonds, including state bonds, some of which were defaulted.

It has been suggested that the Federal Government might buy out on behalf of an Indian tribe a large obligation of such funds, but there are no decisions on this point. See Memo Sol. I. D., November 15, 1938 (Palm Springs).

⁵⁵ See Chapter 15, sec. 23 and 24.

⁵⁶ See Chapter 16, sec. 28.

⁵⁷ *Ibid.*, sec. 23 and 24.

⁵⁸ 287785—41—9

A third class of funds consists of moneys held in the Treasury of the United States in trust for an Indian tribe. It is this class of funds which is customarily referred to under the phrase "tribal funds." These funds arise from two sources, in general:

1. Payments rendered by the Federal Government to the tribe for lands ceded or other valuable consideration,⁵⁹ usually arising out of a treaty, and
2. Payments made to federal officials by licensees, land purchasers, or other private parties in exchange for some benefit, generally tribal land or interest therein.⁶⁰

In view of the fact that the land itself was subject to a considerable measure of control, it was natural to find a similar control placed over the funds into which tribal lands were transferred. Congress has, in general, reserved complete power over the disposition of these funds, requiring that each expenditure of such funds be made pursuant to an appropriation act, although this strict rule has been relaxed for certain favored purposes.⁶¹ Thus it has developed that administrative authority for any disbursement of "tribal funds" in the strict sense, must be derived from the language of some annual appropriation act or from those statutes which are, in effect, permanent appropriations of tribal funds for specified purposes.⁶²

⁵⁹ See Chapter 1, sec. 1, Chapter 2 sec. 2, Chapter 4, sec. 40(3), Chapter 15, sec. 21. The payment of annuities and distribution of goods is a mandatory duty enforceable by mandamus, if the Secretary is arbitrary or capricious. *Work v. United States*, 14 F. 2d 820 (App. D. C. 1937). *U. of United States ex rel Coburn v. Work*, 15 F. 2d 822 (App. D. C. 1927). *United States ex rel Dierling v. Work*, 15 F. 2d 822 (App. D. C. 1927).

⁶⁰ See Chapter 15, sec. 23.

⁶¹ *Ibid.*

⁶² The Act of May 15, 1916, sec. 27, 39 Stat. 124, 158, 159, requires specific congressional appropriation for expenditure of tribal funds except as follows:

"... Equalization of allotments, education of Indian children in accordance with existing law, and annuities and other payments, all of which are hereby continued in full force and effect."

See Chapter 15, sec. 23. Provisions relating to the deposit or investment of funds are numerous. For example, the Secretary of the Interior is authorized to "invest in a manner which shall be in his judgment most safe and beneficial for the fund, all moneys that may be received under treaties containing stipulations for the payment to the Indians, annually, of moneys upon the proceeds of the lands ceded by them, and he shall make no investment of such moneys, or of any portion, at a lower rate

Among the most important of the permanent authorizations for the disbursement of tribal funds are the various statutes providing for the division and apportionment of tribal funds among the members of the tribe.²⁰⁰

While any administrative control over these funds must be based on statutory authority, it is not necessary, nor is it indeed possible, that every detail of the expenditure shall be expressly covered by statute.²⁰¹

The Court of Claims in the case of *Creek Nation v. United States*²⁰² said

" * * * The Secretary of the Interior has only such authority over the funds of Indian tribes as is conferred in him by Congress. He cannot legally disburse and pay out Indian funds for purposes other than those authorized by law. This rule is the test by which the legal right of the Secretary of the Interior to make the disbursements involved must be determined. The contention, however, that the Secretary of the Interior could legally make only such disbursements as were expressly authorized by Congress cannot be conceded. The authorities cited in plaintiff's brief in support of this contention, when considered in the light of the precise questions presented, do not sup-

port interest than 3 per centum per annum." (25 U. S. C. 154, 158, 159, 160, derived from Act of June 14, 1830, 5 Stat. 30, 37, as amended by Act of January 9, 1837, sec. 4, 5 Stat. 185.)

There are many special statutes relating to the disposition of tribal funds. For example, the Act of June 30, 1910, 49 Stat. 1543, provides

"That tribal funds now on deposit or later placed to the credit of the Crow Tribe of Indians, Montana, may be used for per capita payments, or such other purposes as may be designated by the tribal council and approved by the Secretary of the Interior."

The Comptroller General has differentiated between two types of tribal funds:

"There are several classes of tribal funds provided for by law, the monies in which are not subject to appropriation legislation as such. The following may serve as examples:

(1) Section 7 of the act of January 14, 1839 (5 Stat. 445), provides that the net proceeds of sales of land ceded to the United States by the Chickasaw Indians shall be placed in the Treasury to the credit of said Indians as a permanent fund, which shall draw interest at the rate of 5 per centum per annum, principal and interest, to be expended to the benefit of said Indians.

(2) Section 5 of the act of June 15, 1850 (21 Stat. 201), in consideration of lands ceded to the United States, provides as follows:

"That the Secretary of the Treasury shall out of any moneys in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, set apart and hold as a perpetual trust fund for said Indians, an amount of money equivalent at four per centum to produce annually five thousand dollars, which interest shall be paid to them per capita in cash annually."

The moneys in the general fund and also those in special funds are available for public expenditures. There is, however, an important distinction between these two classes of funds. Moneys in the general fund can only be withdrawn from the Treasury in pursuance of an appropriation made by law, but moneys in special funds, having been deposited by Congress in expenditure for specified objects before they were entered into the Treasury, in which they have been deposited, are not subject to withdrawal from the Treasury for expenditure for these objects, without an appropriation (18 Comp. Gen. 215-16). It is true that in some instances, as in that of the special fund called the "reclamation fund" (31 Stat. 1091), Congress has used the term "appropriation" in constituting certain moneys to be collected special funds, but as the term is not applied to the moneys before they are collected it is obvious that the term is not used in a general sense only, for which the term "dedicated" appears to be more appropriate.

Moneys in trust funds are not properly available for expenditures of the Government. They are payable to or for the use of the beneficiaries only. The beneficiaries may be either a single person or a class of persons. In the three classes of funds mentioned above, the trust moneys in the first class (a) were received directly from the donors; those in the second class (b) were collected as revenues of the United States charged with the trust; those in the third class (c) were a grant of moneys in the general fund of the Treasury in pursuance of a trust in a general sense only, for which the term "dedicated" appears to be more appropriate.

²⁰⁰ These statutes are discussed in Chapter 9, sec. 6, Chapter 10, sec. 5, Chapter 15, sec. 28.

²⁰¹ Act of May 19, 1910, sec. 27, 39 Stat. 128, 129, requires with a few exceptions specific congressional appropriation for tribal expenditures of tribal moneys. The Act of May 26, 1918, sec. 27 and 28, 40 Stat. 901, authorizes the Secretary to invest restricted funds, tribal or individual, in United States Government bonds. Also see Chapter 15, sec. 22P.

²⁰² 178 U. S. 474 (1903). On the lack of power of the Secretary to restore to the Creek orphan fund the funds erroneously expended for general benefit of tribe, see 10 Op. A. G. 81 (1878).

Jan. 31. The opinion of Attorney General Mitchell of October 6, 1929 (30 Op. Att'y Gen. 98-100), in fact, refutes the contention, and in effect lays down the rule that the authority of the Secretary of the Interior over Indian property may arise from the necessary implication as well as from the express provisions of a statute. We think this is the correct rule and will apply it in determining whether the Secretary of the Interior was authorized to make the payments in question. The authority of the Secretary of the Interior to make the payments, or his lack of authority to make them, must be found in the treaties between the United States and the Creek Nation, and the various acts of Congress dealing with Creek tribal affairs. (P. 485.)

Quite apart from the necessity of finding some statutory source for authority to expend funds held in the United States Treasury in trust for an Indian tribe, there are certain positive statutory limitations upon the ways in which such funds may be disbursed. These statutes, which are elsewhere listed,²⁰³ limit the administrative authority derived from appropriation acts construed in conjunction with section 17 of the Act of June 30, 1834,²⁰⁴ which gave the President power to "prescribe such rules and regulations as he may think fit, for carrying into effect the various provisions of this act, and of any other act relating to Indian affairs, and for the settlement of the accounts of the Indian department."

Perhaps the most important of these statutory limitations in effect today is that imposed by section 10 of the Act of June 18, 1834,²⁰⁵ which gives an organized tribe the right to prevent any disposition of its assets without the consent of the proper officers of the tribe. This includes the right to prevent disbursements of tribal funds by departmental officials, where the tribe has not consented to such disbursements. Unless an act of Congress authorizing disbursements of tribal funds expressly reveals relevant provisions of the Indian Reorganization Act, such appropriation legislation does not nullify the power of the tribe to prevent such expenditure.²⁰⁶

There is a fourth category of funds which may be called "tribal funds" but which are subject neither to the uncontrolled tribal power pertaining to the first class of funds discussed; to the defined tribal power of the second class, nor to the detailed congressional control pertaining to the third class. This fourth category includes funds which have accrued to administrative officials as a result of various Indian activities not specially recognized or regulated by act of Congress.

The Act of March 8, 1833,²⁰⁷ as amended, provides:

"The proceeds of all pasturage and sales of timber, coal, or other product of any Indian reservation, except those of the five civilized tribes, and not the result of the labor of any member of such tribe, shall be covered into the Treasury for the benefit of such tribe under such regulations as the Secretary of the Interior shall prescribe; and the Secretary shall report his action in detail to Congress at its next session."

The Comptroller General in a report on Indian funds dated February 28, 1929,²⁰⁸ stated:

" * * * The absolute control and almost indiscriminate use of these funds, through authority delegated to the several Indian agents by the Commissioner of Indian

²⁰³ See Chapter 9, sec. 6; Chapter 10, sec. 5; Chapter 15, sec. 28.

²⁰⁴ 4 Stat. 785, 788, 25 U. S. C. 9, construed to cover disbursement of tribal funds in 5 Op. A. G. 36 (1848).

²⁰⁵ 48 Stat. 694.

²⁰⁶ Memo. Sol. I. D., October 6, 1936.

²⁰⁷ 22 Stat. 532, 590; amended Act of March 2, 1837, 24 Stat. 440, 408; Act of May 17, 1928, sec. 2, 44 Stat. 500; Act of May 29, 1928, sec. 68, 45 Stat. 968, 991, 25 U. S. C. 150.

²⁰⁸ See Pub. Rep. 263, 70th Cong., 2d sess., 1928-29. For a discussion see American Indian Bill, Bull. No. 14 (May 1929), American Defense Association, Inc., p. 19.

Affairs pursuant to section 463, Revised Statutes, is apparently covered by complaint on the part of groups of Indians. (P 40)

The report also contained some evidence justifying the discontent of the Indians.

"Indian moneys, proceeds of labor," were being used for such purposes as the purchase of adding machines, and office equipment, furniture, rugs, draperies, etc., for employees' quarters, papering and painting the superintendent's house, and the purchase of automobiles for the field units. (P 40)*

The Comptroller General concluded that—

"This condition has through the years of practice brought about a very broad interpretation of what constitutes 'the benefit of the Indian' (P 39)."†

The Act of June 13, 1890, provides

Sec 2. All tribal funds arising under the Act of March 3, 1853 (23 Stat 590), as amended by the Act of May 17,

* Sen Doc 283, op cit

† Ibid

Sec 463, 48 Stat 594. There are 900 tribal "funds of principal" held in trust by the United States in the Treasury (Department of the Interior), combined Statement of Receipts and Expenditures, Balance, etc.,

SECTION 11. ADMINISTRATIVE POWER—INDIVIDUAL LANDS

Administrative power over individual Indian lands is of particular importance at five points:

- Approval of allotments,
- Release of restrictions,
- Probate of estates,
- Insurance of rights-of-way,
- Leasing

A. APPROVAL OF ALLOTMENTS

The statutes and treaties which confer upon individual Indians rights to allotments are elsewhere discussed,¹ as is the legislation governing jurisdiction over suits for allotments.² Within the fabric of rights and remedies thus defined there is a certain scope of administrative discretion³ which is described in a recent ruling of the Solicitor for the Interior Department in these terms:

"The Secretary may for good reason refuse to approve an allotment selection, but he may not cancel his approval of an allotment except to correct error or to relieve fraud. Cf. *Omooqua v Kessel* (128 U S 450) (public land entry). It is very doubtful whether the Sec-

¹ See Chapter 11, sec 2

² See Chapter 19 sec 2

³ The Act of March 3, 1885, sec 3, 23 Stat 540 (Cayuse and others) which authorizes the Secretary to determine all disputes and questions arising between Indians regarding their allotments, exemplifies one of many administrative powers over allotments. The Supreme Court in *Hy-Yu-Tse-Mi-Kue v Smith*, 164 U S 401 (1904) said that if two Indians claim the same land, the allotment should be "made in favor of the one whose priority of selection and residence and whose improvements on the land equitably entitled such person to the land" (P 414).

The Court in the case of *La Roque v United States*, 298 U S 62 (1919) said:

"The regulations and decisions of the Secretary of the Interior, under whose supervision the act was to be administered, show that it was conceived by that office as confining the right of selection to living Indians and that he so instructed the allotting officers. While not conclusive, this construction given to the act in the course of its actual execution is entitled to great respect and ought not to be overruled without cogent and persuasive reasons" (P 64).

On the scope of discretion of the Secretary of the Interior in allotting lands, see *Chase, Jr. v United States*, 298 U S 1 (1921).

⁴ Op Sol, I. D., M. 28088, July 17, 1895 and see Memo Sol, I. D., September 17, 1894.

1926 (41 Stat 560), now included in the fund 'Indian Money, Proceeds of Labor,' shall, on and after July 1, 1900, be carried on the books of the Treasury by Department of a separate account for the respective tribes, and all such funds, with account balances exceeding \$500 shall bear simple interest at the rate of 4 per centum per annum from July 1, 1890.

Sec 3. The amount held in any tribal fund account which, in the judgment of the Secretary of the Interior, is not required for the purpose for which the fund was created, shall be covered into the surplus fund of the Treasury, and so much thereof as is found to be in excess for such purpose may at any time be returned to the account on books of the Treasury without appropriation by Congress.

The extent to which funds which are still called "I M P L" are subject to the statutory limitations applicable to tribal funds in the strict sense is an intricate problem upon which no opinion will be here ventured.⁴

of the United States for Fy-Ed Year ended June 30, 1900, pp 417-427), and 206 interest accounts, which are classified by the Treasury as general funds (Ibid., pp 240-249). The Department of the Interior breaks down many of the principal funds into subsidiary classifications.

⁵ See Chapter 15, sec 23A

ately would be privileged to return allotment selections to tribal ownership simply on the ground that the Wheeler-Howard Act possibly forbids the trust patenting of such selections.

(2) Where the Secretary has approved an allotment, the ministerial duty arises to issue a patent. With approval his discretion is ended except, of course, for such reconsideration of his approval as he may find necessary. (24 L D 284.) Since only the routine matter of issuing a patent remains, the allottee after his allotment is approved is considered as having a vested right to the allotment as against the Government. *Raymond Bear Hill* (42 L D 659 (1920)). (3) Where a certificate of approval has been issued in the *Exe Christian* Trust cases, *Bullinger v Post* (230 U S 240), and where right to a homestead is involved, *Smith v Slavo* (6 Wall 402) and then the allottee may bring mandamus to obtain the patent. See *Tribes v Nichols-Chambers* (120 Minn 318, 148 N W 288, 200 (1914)). Cf. *Lane v Hodgins* (224 U S 174), *Battenroth v United States* (112 U S 50), *Bunney v Dolph* (97 U S 622, 653).

(3) Where an allotment has not been approved, on the other hand, approval and the issuance of a patent cannot be compelled by mandamus. *West v Hitchcock* (205 U S 80), *United States v Hitchcock* (190 U S 310). But it is recognized that an allottee acquires rights in land with some of the incidents of ownership when the allotting agents have set apart allotments and he has made his selection. Until that time an Indian eligible for allotment has only a floating right which is personal to himself and dies with him. *La Roque v United States* (298 U S 62). See *Edouard Smith* (24 L D 338, 327). The owner of an allotment selection, even before its approval, has an inheritable interest. *United States v Chase* (245 U S 80); *Smith v Bonifay* (186 Fed 848) (C C A 9th, 1909); which will be protected from the outside world (*Smith v Bonifay*, *supra*), and which he can transfer within limits (*Henkel v United States*, *supra*, *United States v Chase*, *supra*), and which is sufficient to confer on him the privileges of State citizenship as granted to all "citizens" by the act of 1891 (*Smith v Bonifay*, *supra*). Moreover, where the Government has issued an arduous patent for the allotment selections, the owner of such selection will be protected in his right against the adverse interests possessing the patent (*Hy-Yu-Tse-Mi-Kue v Smith* (164 U S 401); *Smith v Bonifay* (186 Fed 848) (C C A 9th, 1909)), and against the Government itself. *Omooqua v*

United States (119 Fed. 261) (C. C. Neb. 1897). In these cases the courts lay down the principle that where an Indian has done all that is necessary and that he can do to become entitled to land and lands to attain the right through the neglect or misconduct of public officers, the courts will protect him in such right. Again, where the claimant does all required of him he acquires a right against the Government for the perfection of his title, and the right is to be determined as of the date it should have been perfected. *Pugue v. New Mexico* 1257 U. S. 707, *Reynolds v. Hill*, *supra*.

Further, where the right in the allotment has failed to become vested through the neglect of public officers to afford approval to the selection, one must be indicated that the right to the allotment would be considered as already vested so as to be beyond the reach of a later act of Congress. *Leavens v. United States* (175 Fed. 524) 518, 521 (C. C. A. 8th, 1923). In the *Leavens* case the Secretary's approval under the act of 1897 would have had to include determination of the qualifications of the applicants but in the Fort Belknap situation, no question of qualifications arises since previous enrollment on the allotment list is made by statute conclusive evidence of the applicant's right to allotment. Thus the position of the Fort Belknap allottee compels even more strongly to the conclusion suggested in the *Leavens* case. It has also been suggested that where the Indian possesses all the qualifications entitling him to an allotment the Secretary has no longer any discretion to refuse approval. See *State v. Norris, supra* (375 N. W. at 1084).

In view that the Secretary of the Interior could disapprove allotment selections on a reservation which had voted to exclude itself from the Wheeler-Howard Act, the Solicitor of the Department of Interior said:²⁴

The owners of allotment selections have certain rights and interests which will be protected against outside interests and claims by Government action. *United States v. Chase* (125 U. S. 80), *Up-Te-Tee-Alut-Ku v. Smith* (194 U. S. 401), *Smith v. Bouffie* (190 Fed. 840, C. C. 9th, 1910), *Coleman v. United States* (141 Fed. 261, C. C. Neb. 1907). But they ordinarily have no vested right to approval or to a patent. In other words, they cannot prevent Congress from annulling their selection (*Leavens v. United States*, 175 Fed. 524) 518, 521 (C. C. A. 8th, 1923)) nor have the Secretary to grant approval. *West v. Hitchcock* (1205 U. S. 80).

Decidedly, the conservation of Indian land in tribal ownership when as imperative as in the Ft. Peck situation, if it can be accomplished, would appear to be sufficient justification to require the cooperation of the Secretary to refuse approval to allotment selections. Precedent is not available for guidance here since cases dealing with the discretion of the Secretary to refuse approval to allotments have dealt only with his power as applied to particular applications for allotment and resulting from certain defects in the application. However, in one of these cases, *West v. Hitchcock* (205 U. S. 80), the stewardship of the Secretary over tribal property was recognized as a source of power to refuse allotments intransigent to the tribe. The power would seem of broad as great when applied on a large scale as in a single instance. Accordingly I conclude that the Secretary is privileged to disapprove the Ft. Peck selections upon the grounds of policy.

The Solicitor of the Department of the Interior has further described the power of the Secretary over allotment selections in a subsequent opinion dealing with the Fort Peck Indian Reservation. He declared:²⁵

Where allotment selections have been duly made under authority of the Department and pursuant to its official

instructions, and in accordance with a course of allotment on the reservation, in my opinion it is probable that a court would hold that the Secretary cannot decline to approve particular selections because of a subsequent change in land policy. His authority to disapprove such selections would be limited to disapproving particular selections not entitled to approval because of error or the ineligibility of the applicant or other such causes. I have my opinion on the fact that when an official allotment selection has been duly made in accordance with the laws and regulations at the time of the selection, in ordinary circumstances the selector acquires a certain property interest in the land and a right to the perfection of his title which courts will protect.

An Indian eligible for allotment who has not properly selected an allotment under the instructions of the Interior Department has only a floating right to an allotment which is not inheritable and which gives him no vested interest in any land. *Re Royce v. United States*, 259 U. S. 12, 13 *condemning v. United States*, 170 Fed. 302, C. C. A. 8th, 1909. After proper selection of an allotment, however, an Indian has been held to have an individual interest in the land with many of the incidents of individual ownership. This interest is inheritable, transferable without limit, and is deserving of protection against adverse claims by third persons. *United States v. Chase*, 125 U. S. 80, *Hendel v. United States*, 237 U. S. 43, *Up-Te-Tee-Alut-Ku v. Smith*, 194 U. S. 401, *Bouffie v. Smith*, 106 Fed. 840, C. C. A. 9th, 1910, see 52 U. S. D. 255, at 302.

The cases before the Interior Department and before the courts which are of most concern in this problem are the cases dealing with the protection of an allotment selection against adverse action by the Government, either by Congress or by the Executive. The Department has taken the view that acts of Congress limiting allotment rights in "undisposed of" tribal lands do not apply to allotment selections even though they have not been approved. *Paul Peck and Zwozomphong v. Department*, 18 U. S. D. 588, *Raymond v. Hill*, 122 U. S. 180. In these decisions it was held that the filing and recording of an allotment selection segregates the land from other disposal, withdraws the land from the mass of tribal lands, and creates in the Indian an individual property right.

A judicial determination of whether or not an allotment selection needs protection against adverse governmental action involves a weighing of the equities in the light of the intent of Congress and the history of administrative action. In the *Paul Peck* case the act contemplated that no allotments should be made until the Secretary of the Interior was satisfied of their advisability. No allotments were in fact made and the Secretary was clearly not satisfied of their advisability. If a court attempted to force the recognition and completion of tentative selections in the field, it would encroach upon executive discretion. In the *Pugue* and *Leavens* cases, however, whatever discretion had been given to the Executive as to the advisability of allotments had been exercised and a course of allotment had been established. Therefore, individual allotment selections were approved or disapproved according to their individual merits. In this situation a court could properly prevent, as an abuse of discretion, the Executive to approve an individual allotment selection not because of its own demerits, but because of extraneous policies.

B. RELEASE OF RESTRICTIONS

Perhaps the most important power vested in administrative officials with respect to allotted land is the power to pass upon the elevation of such lands. We have elsewhere noted the rigid restrictions placed upon the alienation of tribal lands from early times.²⁶ Allotments carried the obvious risk that the land given to the individual allottee would be speedily alienated.²⁷ Accordingly restrictions of various kinds were imposed upon allotments for the purpose of controlling alienation. Such restrictions were

²⁴ Memo. Sol. I. D., July 17, 1935.

²⁵ Op. Sol. I. D., Mar. 30, 1935, May 31, 1936. In reaching his conclusion, the Solicitor discussed, among other cases, the following: *United States v. Payne*, 204 U. S. 440 (1904), *Levy v. United States*, 190 Fed. 260 (C. C. A. 8, 1911), and then *United States v. Levy*, 292 U. S. 781 (1934); and the Palm Springs Reservation case, *St. Morris v. United States*, 24 F. Supp. 287 (D. C. S. D. Cal. 1938), aff'd 108 F. 2d 878 (C. C. A. 10, 1940).

²⁶ See Chapter 15, sec. 15.

²⁷ See Chapter 11, sec. 1.

embodied in various treaties⁷⁶ and statutes⁷⁷ that preceded the General Allotment Act.

At the present time restrictions upon alienation of allotments are in general of two kinds: (1) the "first patent" and (2) the "restricted fee."

(1) Under the General Allotment Act and related legislation,⁷⁸ the allottee receives what is called a "first patent," the theory being that the United States has no legal title to the land. Alienation of the land, therefore, requires either the consent of the United States to the alienation or, as a prerequisite to a valid conveyance, the issuance of a fee patent to the allottee.

Section 5 of the General Allotment Act⁷⁹ provided that at the expiration of 25 years the trust should terminate and a fee patent should be issued.⁸⁰ The President, however, was given discretionary authority to extend this period,⁸¹ and by the Act of May 8, 1900,⁸² the Secretary of the Interior was given power to issue a patent in fee simple whenever he shall be satisfied that any Indian allottee is competent and capable of managing his or her affairs.⁸³ Finally, the Act of June 25, 1910,⁸⁴ authorized the Secretary to sell trust patented lands in fee simple if this:

The Act of May 8, 1906, and not in terms require the consent of the Indian allottee as a condition to the issuance of a patent in fee simple by the Secretary of the Interior. Under a deliberate policy of hastening the "consummation" of the Indian, many fee patents were issued without Indian application and even over Indian protest.⁸⁵ Many years later the courts held that the Act of May 8, 1906, had not been properly construed, that no patent could properly issue prior to the expiration of the trust period without the consent of the Indian, and that taxes paid by the Indians upon lands thus patented without Indian consent might be recovered.⁸⁶ In the case of *United States v. Ferry County, Wash.*,⁸⁷ the court declared, after reviewing numerous authorities:

The United States as trustee may not impudently take the trust without the consent of the allottees and the Act of May 8, 1900, on which defendants rely must have so intended. *U S v. Bernhart County, Idaho*, 9 Cir., 290 F. 923 (P. 410).

Congress has taken cognizance of the error involved in the assumption by the Interior Department of power to issue fee

patents without Indian consent and has authorized appropriations to repay to Indians taxes paid on such lands and to repay to county authorities judgments obtained in favor of Indians paying such taxes.⁸⁸

The Secretary's authority to sell trust patented lands was revoked, except for sales to Indian tribes and exchanges of land of equal value by section 1 of the Act of June 18, 1934,⁸⁹ on those reservations to which that statute applies. The Secretary of the Interior, however, still has power to issue a fee patent to the holder of a trust patent in advance of the expiration of the 25-year period at least where the allottee makes application therefor. Section 2 of the same Act extended the trust period "until otherwise directed by Congress."

A second form of restriction upon the alienability of allotments involves the holding of a legal fee by the allottee under a deed which prevents alienation without the consent of some administrative officer. Usually the Secretary of the Interior.⁹⁰ Such fee tenures, for instance, is provided by various statutes dealing with allotments among the Five Civilized Tribes.⁹¹ The negotiation of land by federal authorities for individual Indians has frequently been effected by means of these restricted deeds.⁹²

Section 2 of the Act of June 18, 1934⁹³ extends the period of such restrictions indefinitely until Congress shall otherwise provide, but does not prohibit the termination of such restrictions by mutual agreement between the Indian and the appropriate administrative official. Alienation of allotments held in fee simple subject to restrictions of alienation may be authorized by the Secretary of the Interior, prior to the expiration of the statutory period, under the Act of March 1, 1907.⁹⁴ Issuance of a "certificate of competency" prior to the expiration of the statutory period is authorized in the Act of June 25, 1910.⁹⁵ As in the case of first-

⁷⁶ Act of June 11, 1910 (Chin No. 290—Tenth Census). See, for a history of the enormous departmental interpretation and its consequences in the field of taxation 11 Rept. No. 609, 70th Cong., 1st sess. (1919).

⁷⁷ 48 Stat. 964, 25 U. S. C. 161.

⁷⁸ The power delegated to the Secretary of the Interior to approve the alienation of restricted property cannot generally be transferred or delegated to any other governmental agency. *Op. Sol. D No. 23,268*, June 26, 1921. *United States v. Waters*, 102 F. 96 425 (C. C. 10, 1903).

⁷⁹ See Chapter 21, see 8A.

⁸⁰ The Secretary of the Interior may impose restrictions on land purchased by him for an Indian from restricted lands. *United States v. Brown*, 5 F. 2d 644 (C. C. 4, 1924). It is also possible that the Secretary of the Interior may impose restrictions on land purchased by him from restricted lands. The underlying theory is that the Secretary's control over the funds enables the power to invest them in land subject to the condition against alienation. A similar theory is advanced to justify the power of the Secretary to restrict lands purchased with money paid for allotted lands. See *Reedcloud v. United States*, 200 U. S. 220 (1921) (money paid for allotted lands).

⁸¹ In the problem of taxation imposed thereby, see Chapter 18, see 1D.

⁸² 48 Stat. 964, 25 U. S. C. 161.

⁸³ 48 Stat. 1015, 25 U. S. C. 405. On the effective date of the Secretarial approval of a deed, see 63 D 412 (10.11).

⁸⁴ See 1, 36 Stat. 563, 25 U. S. C. 872.

⁸⁵ The Circuit Court of Appeals in *59 Supp. 216*, 100 F. 2d 58 (C. C. 4, 1936), cert. den. 300 U. S. 943 (1939), in holding that the acquisition of a certificate of competency under the Act of June 25, 1910, 36 Stat. 855, does not satisfy the requirement for the issuing of a patent in fee simple, said:

The scope and expressed purpose of the Act of 1910 is narrow and definitely stated. The Secretary of the Interior is authorized to issue a certificate of competency to any Indian "not in one of his debts to be held" in whom a patent in fee simple is to be issued. No question concerning the validity of the certificate shall have the effect of removing the restrictions on alienation of one who has received a patent in fee simple "under any law or treaty." * * * Since Congress expressly provided that the Secretary is not competent and capable of managing his own affairs as a condition precedent to the issuance of patent in fee simple, it would seem to be doing violence to legislative intent for this court to substitute a certificate of competency for both

⁷⁶ Thus, for example, Article 4 of the Treaty of September 24, 1854, with the Chippewas, 10 Stat. 1110 (1854) authorized the President to impose restrictions upon allotted lands. In *Rain v. Campbell*, 208 U. S. 627 (1908), it was held that these restrictions covered the disposition of timber.

⁷⁷ See Chapter 11, see 1.

⁷⁸ See Chapter 11, see 1. Also see Chapter 4, see 11.

⁷⁹ Act of February 8, 1887, 24 Stat. 388 390, amended, Act of March 3, 1901, see 9, 31 Stat. 1038, 1047, 25 U. S. C. 448.

⁸⁰ To the effect that upon the expiration of the trust period there then results nothing to be done but the purely ministerial duty of entering the legal title on the person or persons to whom such title belongs, see *Op. Sol. D No. 5170*, July 14, 1921, *Op. Sol. D No. 11702*, April 27, 1923. *See* 30 D 1, 208 (1900).

⁸¹ Act of June 18, 1934, 48 Stat. 964, 25 U. S. C. 201. In *United States v. Jackson*, 540 U. S. 143 (1926), the Supreme Court held that presidential power under this provision extended to Indian public domain homesteads.

⁸² It has been held that when the trust period has expired it cannot be re-imposed in the guise of an "extension" without express statutory authority. *Reynolds v. United States*, 252 Fed. 68 (C. C. 4, 1918), *cert. den.* 200 U. S. 104 (1919), on another ground, *Op. Sol. D No. 27940*, April 9, 1925. *See* *McGowan v. United States*, 248 U. S. 208 (1918). For an example of such a statute see Act of February 20, 1877, 14 Stat. 1247, 25 U. S. C. 332.

⁸³ 34 Stat. 182, 25 U. S. C. 349.

⁸⁴ See 1, 36 Stat. 805, amended, Act of March 3, 1928, 45 Stat. 101, amended, Act of April 30, 1904, 48 Stat. 647, 25 U. S. C. 874.

⁸⁵ See Chapter 2, see 2B.

⁸⁶ See Chapter 14, see 8B.

⁸⁷ 21 F. Supp. 869 (D. C. B. D. Wash. 1938).

patented lands, however, the power of the Secretary to permit alienation was terminated with respect to tribes covered by section 4 of the Act of June 18, 1904.²⁴

We have elsewhere noted how the Federal Government, through the leverage of its veto power over the alienation of tribal land, was able to impose various conditions upon the use of "tribal funds" derived therefrom.²⁵ In the same way, the power of administrative officials to approve or veto the alienation of allotments has been used to impose various conditions upon the manner and terms of such alienation and upon the disposition of the individual Indian moneys derived therefrom.²⁶

C. PROBATE OF ESTATES

(1) *Intestate succession*—The Secretary of the Interior is vested with statutory power to determine heirs in inheritance proceedings affecting restricted allotted lands and other restricted property²⁷ of an Indian to whom an allotment of land has been made (except Indians of the Five Civilized Tribes and the Osage Nation). The Secretary may issue patents in fee to heirs whom he deems "competent to manage their own affairs"²⁸ in cases of allottees dying intestate; may sell land in heirship status; or may partition it, if he finds that partitioning would be for the benefit of the heirs, and sell the portions of the incompetent heirs.²⁹

The determination of competency and the final and essential act of issuing the patent in fee simple and special power is subject to the foregoing and the exercise of it is subject to review by the Secretary in non-mandatory cases, has been satisfied that a final allottee is competent and capable of managing his own affairs (p. 84).

See also the Act of May 8, 1900, 84 Stat. 182, 38 L. D. 427 (1901) For a discussion of incompetency, see Chapter 8, sec. 8.

²⁴ 48 Stat. 884, 885, 26 U. S. C. 872, 873.
²⁵ See Chapter 1, sec. 1D(2), Chapter 8, sec. 8B(2); Chapter 12, sec. 1, Chapter 15 sec. 23A.

²⁶ *United States v. Brown*, 8 F. 2d 561 (C. C. A. 8, 1925), cert. den. 270 U. S. 844 (1926); *Sanderford v. United States*, 260 U. S. 226 (1922).

²⁷ On inheritance of real property see Chapter 12, sec. 8. On inheritance of personal property see Chapter 10, sec. 10.

The power to determine the inheritance of allotted lands was inferred from section 5 of the General Allotment Act of February 8, 1887, 24 Stat. 888, 889, which imposed upon the Secretary the duty to convey a fee patent to the heirs of a deceased allottee.

The Act of August 15, 1891, 28 Stat. 294, was construed as conferring power to determine heirs upon the federal courts. See *Hallowell v. Commons*, 280 U. S. 508 (1910); see also *McKee v. Kelyton*, 204 U. S. 458, 468 (1907). This act was amended by the Act of February 6, 1901, sec. 2, 31 Stat. 700, 26 U. S. C. 840. Sec. 7 of the Act of May 27, 1902, 32 Stat. 245, 273, authorized the Secretary to approve transfers of restricted allotted lands by the heirs of such lands. This statute was construed in *Helen v. Morgan*, 288 Fed. 438 (D. C. B. Wash. 1922) as giving the Secretary of the Interior final authority to determine heirs in such cases. See also *Nyan v. McAdams*, 246 U. S. 297 (1918).

The Act of May 20, 1908, sec. 1, 35 Stat. 444, expressly authorized the Secretary to determine the heirs of restricted lands, except in Oklahoma, Minnesota, and South Dakota. This was amended by the Act of June 25, 1910, 36 Stat. 855, amended Act of March 3, 1925, 43 Stat. 101, Act of April 30, 1924, 43 Stat. 647, 23 U. S. C. 872, interpreted in 40 L. D. 120 (1910) (upheld as constitutional in *Hallowell v. Commons*, 280 U. S. 508 (1910)).

The Act of August 1, 1914, sec. 1, 38 Stat. 852, 853, 25 U. S. C. 874, empowered the Secretary to compel the attendance of witnesses in probate hearings. The Probate Regulations are expressly made inapplicable to tribes organized under the Wheeler-Howard Act insofar as they conflict with tribal constitutions and charters. 25 C. F. R. 81.02.

Act of June 25, 1910, 36 Stat. 855, amended Act of March 3, 1925, 43 Stat. 101; Act of April 30, 1924, 43 Stat. 647, 23 U. S. C. 872, interpreted in 40 L. D. 120 (1910).

²⁸ The power to effect a partition or sale of inherited Indian land is conferred on the Secretary by the Act of June 25, 1910, sec. 1, 36 Stat. 855, as amended Act of March 3, 1925, 43 Stat. 101; and Act of April 30, 1924, 43 Stat. 647, 23 U. S. C. 872; and Act of May 18, 1910, sec. 1, 36 Stat. 128, 127, 26 U. S. C. 874. The fact that one or more of the heirs is white does not affect the Secretary's power to sell or partition the trust land for all the heirs. *Reed v. Clinton*, 28 Okla. 610, 101 Pac. 1006 (1909).

The Secretary is, in general, not bound by decrees or decision of any court in inheritance proceedings affecting restricted allotted lands.³⁰

The determination by the Secretary of the heirs of Indians is "final and conclusive." In the comparatively few instances in which his decision has been attacked the courts have refused to look behind his determination.³¹

In *Red Hawk v. Wilbur*³² the Court of Appeals of the District of Columbia held that under the provisions of the Act of June 25, 1910, the Secretary's exercise of power is not subject to review by the courts in the absence of fraud or a showing of a want of jurisdiction, and that consequently his decision respecting the distribution of allotted lands of an Indian dying before the issuance of a patent in fee was not reviewable by the court.

In ruling that the power of the Secretary to determine the descent of lands extends to lands purchased with Indian trust funds, even though they were unrestricted prior to the purchase, the Solicitor of the Department of the Interior said:³³

It is clearly within the power of the Secretary of the Interior to attach conditions to sales of Indian allotted lands because such power is expressly conferred in acts authorizing such sales; that, they are to be made subject to his approval and on such terms and conditions and under such regulations as he may prescribe. It was held in the case of *United States v. Thibault County, Nebraska, et al.* (143 Fed. 287), that the proceeds of sales of allotted lands are held in trust for the same purposes as were the lands, that no change of form of property divests it of the trust and that the substitute takes the nature of the original and stands charged with the same trust. From this situation arose the practice of inserting in deeds of conveyance covering property purchased for an Indian with trust funds the nonalienation clause referred to, which is merely a continuation of the new property of the trust declared for the old or original property. For sanction of this practice see 18 Ops. A. G. 100; *Jackson v. Thompson et al.* (80 Pac. 454); and *Reck v. Flournoy Live-Stock and Real-Estate Co.* (85 Fed. 80).

It thus being established that lands purchased with trust funds continue under the trust as originally declared and that power exists to insert in deeds covering such lands a condition against alienation and encumbrance, it follows that upon the death of an Indian for whom the property is held in trust his heirs are to be determined by the Department the same as in the case of the original property from the sale of which the purchase funds are derived. Apparently no question is raised as to the authority of the Department to determine the descent of property purchased with trust funds derived from the sale of lands previously held in trust or restricted. The question submitted has reference to lands that were unrestricted prior to purchase. The theory on which the Department and the courts have proceeded in this matter is that property purchased with trust funds becomes impressed with the trust nature of the purchase money. In this view it can make no difference whether the purchased lands are restricted or unrestricted, the authority to determine heirs is co-extensive with the continuation of the trust. By the act of June 25, 1910 (36 Stat. 855), Congress conferred exclusive jurisdiction upon the Secretary of the Interior to determine the heirs of deceased Indian allottees, and this power extends not only to property held in trust but also to property on which restricted fee patents have issued, under legislation providing for "determining the heirs of deceased Indian allottees having any right, title, or interest, in any

²⁴ 42 L. D. 408 (1913).

²⁵ *First John v. White Owl*, 270 U. S. 248 (1926), *cf. Nymrod v. Jenson*, 24 F. 2d 615 (App. D. C. 1928).

²⁶ 89 F. 2d 283 (App. D. C. 1926).

Other decisions of the Secretary have also been held outside of the scope of judicial review, such as his determination of whether an Indian and his land were under federal control. *Wass v. United States ex rel. Mohrstedt and Fuchs*, 241 U. S. 301 (1916).

³⁰ 40 L. D. 414 (1923).

trust or restricted allotment, under regulations prescribed by the Secretary of the Interior." (*United States v. Bostling et al.*, 256 U. S. 484.) (Pp. 415-416)

(2) *Wills*—Prior to 1910 an Indian allottee could not by will devise his restricted land.

Section 2 of the Act of June 25, 1910,⁸⁶ as amended by the Act of February 14, 1913,⁸⁷ provides for the bequest of restricted lands by will, in accordance with rules prescribed by the Secretary of the Interior, and the devise of allotments prior to the expiration of the trust period and before the issue of a fee simple patent,⁸⁸ but in order to be valid, the will must be approved by the Secretary either before or after the testator's death.⁸⁹

If, for some reason, the will should not be approved by the Secretary, the property devolves to those who are found by him to be heirs under the laws of the state where it is located.⁹⁰ Death of the testator and approval of the will does not release the property from the trust. The Secretary may pay the money to the legatees either in whole or in part from time to time as he may deem advisable, or use it for their benefit.⁹¹

The decision in *Blinn v. Cady*⁹² holds that if the will is approved by the Secretary of the Interior and such approval remains uncancelled by him, the state law of descent and distribution does not apply and the state law cannot control as to the portions the will conveys or as to the objects of the testator's bounty.

D ISSUANCE OF RIGHTS-OF-WAY⁹³

Many statutes have granted the Secretary of the Interior various duties and powers in regard to rights-of-way through Indian lands. The Act of March 3, 1901,⁹⁴ authorized the Secretary to grant permission to the proper state or local authority to the establishment of public highways through any Indian reservation or through restricted Indian lands which had been allotted in severalty to any individual Indian under any law or treaty. The Act of March 2, 1909,⁹⁵ authorized the Secretary to grant rights-of-way for railway, telegraph, and telephone lines, and town-site stations.⁹⁶ It was required that the Secretary approve the surveys and maps of the line of route of the railroad and

that compensation be made to each occupant or allottee for all property taken or damage done to his land, claim, or improvement, by reason of the construction of such railroad.⁹⁷ In the absence of amicable settlement with any such occupant or allottee, the Secretary was empowered to appoint three disinterested referees to determine the compensation.⁹⁸ An aggrieved party was permitted judicial review.⁹⁹ The Secretary was also authorized to grant a right-of-way in the nature of an easement for the construction of telephone and telegraph lines,¹⁰⁰ to acquire lands for reservoirs or material for railroads¹⁰¹ and rights-of-way for pipe lines.¹⁰²

The necessity for the consent of the Secretary has occasionally been a minor point in judicial decisions. In such a case the Circuit Court of Appeals said:¹⁰³

The third question can be briefly disposed of. The United States, the holder of the title to the lands in question, was not made a party to the proceedings in the state court, and consequently it was not bound by those proceedings had behind its back. *Appalachian Electric Power Co. v. Smith* (C. C. 4th) 37 F. (2d) 451, 452, *Wood v. Phillips* (C. C. 4th) 59 F. (2d) 714, 717. If a railway over the Indian lands was desired, application should have been made to the Secretary of the Interior pursuant to provision of the Act of March 3, 1901, § 4, 31 Stat. 1068, 1084 (25 U. S. C. § 311). A right of way could no more be acquired over these lands by proceedings against the Indians than title to lands ceded under a government treaty could be tried by suit against the federal, or than post office property could be condemned for purposes of a street in proceedings against the postmaster. In *Holins v. Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians*, 37 N. C. 221, it was held that the courts of the state of North Carolina, without the consent of Congress, were without jurisdiction to entertain suit on contract against these Indians. A fortiori, the state courts, without such consent, have no jurisdiction of proceedings affecting land held by the United States in trust for the Indians. (Pp. 314, 315.)

E LEASING

Approval of leases of restricted Indian lands is an important administrative function.¹⁰⁴ The Supreme Court said in *Mittler v. McClure*:

By a course of legislation beginning in 1891 and extending to 1909, authority was conferred upon the Secretary of the Interior to sanction, when enumerated and exceptional conditions existed, leases of land allotted under the Act of 1887, and the power was given to the Secretary to adopt rules and regulations governing the exercise of the right.

⁸⁶ 36 Stat. 855, interpreted in 40 L. D. 120 (1911), 40 L. D. 212 (1911), and 48 L. D. 405 (1922).

⁸⁷ 37 Stat. 678.

⁸⁸ To facilitate the adjudication of heirship, Indians over the age of 21 may dispose of restricted property by will, but the approval of the Secretary of the will is necessary before it is regarded as a valid testamentary act. The final approval of the will is not given until after the death of the decedent. 25 C. F. R. § 34, § 35. Prior to the death of the maker the Secretary only passes on the form of the will. Before and after the death of the testator the authority of the Secretary of the Interior is limited to the approval or disapproval of an Indian will, and he lacks authority to change its provisions. Act of June 25, 1910, 36 Stat. 859, amended Act of February 14, 1913, 37 Stat. 678. On the Secretary's power to grant a rehearing, see *Winn v. Jandron*, 21 F. 2d 618 (App. D. C. 1923).

⁸⁹ Act of June 25, 1910, as amended by Act of February 14, 1913, 37 Stat. 678.

⁹⁰ See *Blinn v. Cady*, 256 U. S. 819 (1921).

⁹¹ *Ibid.*

⁹² On regulations relating to rights-of-way over Indian lands, see 25 C. F. R. pt. 256. On regulations relating to the construction and maintenance of roads on Indian lands, see 25 C. F. R. pt. 251. On regulations relating to establishment of roadless and wild areas on Indian reservations, see 25 C. F. R. pt. 251.

⁹³ See, e. g., 31 Stat. 1058, 1084, 36 U. S. C. § 311. For a statute requiring state authorities to pay out lands across restricted Indian lands to secure consent of superintendant, see Act of March 4, 1915, 38 Stat. 1185.

⁹⁴ See 1, 30 Stat. 990, as amended by Act of February 28, 1902, sec. 22, 32 Stat. 43, 30, Act of June 25, 1910, sec. 16, 36 Stat. 855, 859, 25 U. S. C. § 312.

⁹⁵ The Secretary had also been given many powers and duties by numerous acts granting rights-of-way through Indian territory to specific railways. See, e. g., Act of March 2, 1887, 24 Stat. 448.

⁹⁶ Act of March 3, 1909, sec. 8, 30 Stat. 990, 991, as amended by Act of February 28, 1902, sec. 23, 32 Stat. 48, 20, 36 U. S. C. § 14. The Secretary lacks power to authorize the construction of a railroad across an Indian reservation prior to the determination (and fixing) and payment of compensation as provided by statute. 10 Op. A. G. 199 (1898).

⁹⁷ *Ibid.*

⁹⁸ *Ibid.* For the power of the Secretary in the event of the failure of the railroad to complete the road on time, see Act of March 2, 1887, sec. 4, 30 Stat. 990, 991, 25 U. S. C. § 15.

⁹⁹ Act of March 3, 1901, sec. 8, 31 Stat. 1058, 1088, 25 U. S. C. § 311, interpreted in *Seoway v. Washington Water Power Co.*, 205 U. S. 822 (1924). *City of Tulsa v. Southwestern Bell Telephone Co.*, 76 F. 3d 843 (C. C. 4th, 10, 1908), cert. den. 205 U. S. 744 (1908).

¹⁰⁰ Act of March 3, 1909, 35 Stat. 781, amended by Act May 6, 1910, 36 Stat. 440, 25 U. S. C. § 320.

¹⁰¹ Act of March 11, 1904, sec. 1, 33 Stat. 95, amended by Act of March 2, 1917, sec. 1, 39 Stat. 989, 25 U. S. C. § 331.

¹⁰² *United States v. Colburn et al.*, 30 F. 2d 313 (C. C. 4th, 1907). An extended decision of administrative consent appears in *United States v. Jernegan*, 36 F. 2d 468 (C. C. 4th, 1908) pp. 471-472. The Supreme Court, in affirming the decision, 305 U. S. 882 (1939), did not consider the question of administrative consent and affirmed the case on other grounds.

¹⁰³ The congressional delegation of this power to the Secretary of the Interior has been sustained. See *Dunoch v. Cole*, 263 U. S. 250 (1923).

¹⁰⁴ 249 U. S. 808 (1919).

(Acts of February 28 1891, c 384, 26 Stat 754, 757, August 15, 1894, c 294, 28 Stat 256, 357, June 7, 1897, c 3, 30 Stat 62, 87, May 31, 1906, c 208, 34 Stat 221, 224). The general scope of the legislation is shown by the following provision of the Act of 1906, which does not materially differ from the prior acts:

"That whenever it shall be made to appear to the Secretary of the Interior that, by reason of war, disability, or inability, any allottee of Indian lands cannot personally and with benefit to himself, occupy or improve his allotment or any part thereof, the same may be leased upon such terms, regulations, and conditions as shall be prescribed by the Secretary for a term not exceeding five years, for farming purposes only."

The regulations for the purpose of carrying out the power given provided a general form of lease to be used under the exceptional circumstances which the statute contemplated and entered into execution and the subject is entrusted with it to the scrutiny of the Indian Bureau and to the express or implied approval of the Secretary. (See "Amended rules and regulations to be observed in the execution of leases of Indian Allotments," approved by the Secretary of the Interior March 16, 1907.)

The foregoing provisions were enlarged by the Act of June 23, 1910, c 471, 36 Stat 853, 854, as follows:

"That any Indian allotment held under a trust patent may be leased by the allottee for a period not to exceed five years, subject to and in conformity with such rule, and regulations as the Secretary of the Interior may prescribe and the proceeds of any such lease shall be paid to the allottee at his election, or expended for his or their benefit in the discretion of the Secretary of the Interior."

And the regulations of the Secretary which were adopted under this grant of power in express terms modified the previous regulations on the subject "so far as to permit Indian allottees of land held under a trust patent, on the basis of such allottee, who may be deemed by the superintendent in charge of any competency commission to have the requisite knowledge, experience, and business capacity to negotiate the lease contracts, to make their own contracts for leasing that lands." (29 Stat 310-311.)

The right of an administrative official to withhold his consent to a contract includes, it has been held, the right to impose conditions on his approval.²⁰

In discussing the approval of leases, the Supreme Court said:²¹

"The statute is plain in the premises—that no lease, of the character here in question, can be valid without the approval of the Secretary. Such approval rests in the exercise of his discretion, unquestionably this authority was given to him for the protection of Indians against their own improvidence and the designs of those who would obtain their property for inadequate compensation. It is also true that the law does not vest arbitrary authority in the Secretary of the Interior. But it does give him power to consider the advantages and disadvantages of the lease presented for his action, and to grant or withhold approval as his judgment may dictate."

We find nothing in this record to indicate that the Secretary of the Interior has exceeded the authority which the law vests in him. The fact that he has given reasons in the discussions of the case, which might not in all respects meet with approval, does not deprive him of authority to exercise the discretionary power with which by statute he is invested. *United States ex rel West v. Blackrock*, 205 U S 80, 85, 89.

Although powers expressly entrusted to the Secretary of the Interior to approve the alienation of restricted property cannot

generally be transferred or delegated to any other governmental agency,²² certain leasing statutes provide that the power of approval may be delegated to the Secretary to superintendents or to his officials or to the Indian Service,²³ and other statutes permit approval by such officials as may be designated in regulations issued by the Secretary of the Interior.²⁴

In general the consent of the Indian allottees to the leasing of land is necessary.²⁵ At the Assistant Secretary has said:²⁶

"While the powers of the Secretary of the Interior are broad, under the principle of stare decisis referred to in the letter, there is no statutory provision which enables the Department to execute leases for the Indian owner of an allotment without his consent. Such consent is required, on the contrary, by statute and by the regulations for the leasing of Indian allotments. (Section 297, title 25 U S C, section 3, Regulations Governing the Leasing of Indian Allotments for Farming, Grazing, and Business Purposes.) This is not a case where the lands have not been determined, and leasing by the Superintendent as permitted by the regulations due to inability in the ownership of the land, but as it is a case where a majority of the heirs refuses to lease indicated land and the Government is authorized to intervene in order that the land may of some economic value to the Indians. (Section 1, Leasing Regulations.)"

²⁰ *Op Sol I D M 23278*, June 20, 1920. Under the Act of April 21, 1910, 31 Stat 159, 701, a deed executed by an Indian to sell lands which had been purchased for her with restricted funds was voided, and the parties agreed to estate in the land when the deed was approved only by an assistant superintendent and not by the Secretary. *United States v. Hulsabe*, 102 F 2d 128 (C C A 10, 1910). On basis upon abatement of property, see Chapter 6, 10, and 11.

²¹ *Act of Mar 11, 1908*, sec 6, 32 Stat 317, 318, 25 U S C 896. The Circuit Court of Appeals regarding this provision as indicative of congressional belief that his authorization was necessary for the delegation of this authority. *United States v. Hulsabe*, 102 F 2d 128, 131 (C C A 10, 1910).

²² R 8 § 120 provides

"The Assistant Secretary of the Interior shall perform such duties as the Department of the Interior as shall be prescribed by the Secretary, or may be required by law."

This provision was declared constitutional in *Robinson v. United States*, 245 Fed 111, 913 (App D C 1922).

The Circuit Court of Appeals, in *Turner v. Neep*, 107 Fed 110 (C C R 10 Okla 1909), in holding that the Secretary may delegate to the Assistant Secretary authority to approve leases of Indian lands and subordinate thereof said:

"... so long as the powers so delegated to the Assistant Secretary of the Interior by his superior remain unrevoked, the authority of the Assistant Secretary is coordinate and concurrent with that of the Secretary." (1909)

In referring to this function of the Assistant Secretary of the Interior, the Supreme Court said, in *Widby v. United States ex rel Kadie*, 281 U S 300 (1910):

"The powers and duties of such an officer are imposed and unqualified by a charter in the person holding it." (1917)

²³ See e.g., Act of March 3, 1921, sec 1, 41 Stat 1235, 1232, 25 U S C 893 (leasing of restricted allotments).

²⁴ In holding that the superintendent of an agency cannot compel a nonconsenting heir to sign leases, the Solicitor of the Department of the Interior said:

"The letter purports to authorize the Superintendent to sign the name of nonconsenting heirs on leases that a majority in interest of the estate, in two cases: (1) Where the superintendent believes 'the reason of their absence from the reservation, as unknown without proof, cannot be reached after a reasonable effort has been made'; and (2) where the superintendent believes 'refusal to sign without giving good and sufficient reason for refusing'."

In the first mentioned case, the authority for action by the Superintendent can probably be derived from a relation of agency between the allottee and the Superintendent. No objection is raised to this portion of the letter. In the second case, however, such special local justification is lacking, and full weight must therefore be given to the general leasing statute which provides that restricted allotments "may be leased for farming and grazing purposes by the allottee, or his heirs, subject only to the approval of the Superintendent." (Act of March 3, 1921, c 192, 41 Stat 1232, 25 U S C, sec 893.) Unless special circumstances exist to provide for the leasing of the land, the Superintendent on behalf of protesting heirs it appears that the statute prohibits such action on his part. (Almo, Sol I D, August 10, 1909.)

²⁵ Memo of Asst Sec'y, I. D., August 23, 1908

²⁰ *Bundland v. United States*, 240 U S 220 (1915), *United States v. Brown*, 8 F 2d 804 (C C A 8, 1925) cert den 270 U S 844 (1926), *United States v. Pumphrey*, 11 App D 44 (1897), *La Motte v. United States*, 264 U S 870 (1921).

The consent of the Indian owner is generally required by statute and regulations for the leasing of Indian allotments. 25 U S C 285, 25 C F R, subchapter Q. But see Memo Asst Sec'y I. D., August 23, 1908.

²¹ *Anchev v. Gussberg*, 240 U S 110, 119, 120 (1915).

In some cases Congress has laid down a policy requiring the consent of Indians to modifications of contracts affecting them.¹²

Some statutes¹³ empower the Secretary to renew leases, upon such reasonable terms and conditions as he may see fit. In constituting a provision in such a statute, the Solicitor of the Department of the Interior said:¹⁴

"Tribal contracts, Act of March 4, 1901, 47 Stat. 1564, Op. Sol. I D. M. 2709, August 8, 1901.

"See, for example, Act of August 21, 1916, 40 Stat. 514 (Shoshone Indian Reservation).

"Memo Sol. I D., June 1, 1918.

SECTION 12. ADMINISTRATIVE POWER—INDIVIDUAL FUNDS

Statutes restricting the Indian in the use of his funds may provide for the investment of his funds under the direction of the Secretary of the Interior.¹⁵ The statute may specify certain investments or may be more general, giving the official selective powers. In any case, he is bound strictly by the authority wanted in the statute.

If the Secretary of the Interior is empowered to handle the Indian's money, he cannot create trusts in favoring such property from his authority to a private agency without the specific authority of Congress.¹⁶

On this point Attorney General Mitchell noted:¹⁷

"... while it has been the purpose of Congress to place the supervising control over Indian funds in the Secretary of the Interior, his control is not unlimited, but is based upon directions contained in the various statutes of Congress. I find no provision or implication in any statute to the effect that the Secretary of the Interior may delegate control of these Indian funds, while held under restrictions, to outside agencies.

I regard the control and supervision over Indian funds so committed to the Secretary of the Interior and the Department of the Interior as an imposition of a specific duty by Congress, and am of the opinion that it cannot lawfully be transferred by the Secretary of the Interior to anyone outside of his Department. The suggested creation of a trust, in which the custody and control of the trust funds would be in a private trustee, would be an abrogation on the part of the Secretary of the control of restricted Indian funds with which Congress has vested him. I believe that this would be improper in the absence of specific congressional authority to that end, and I do not and find such authority has been given by Congress by existing statutes. (P. 100)

The Secretary is not authorized to make donations or gifts of Indian property,¹⁸ nor to purchase single premium annuity policies, unless for ascending adult Indians capable of understanding the nature of the investment.¹⁹

¹² See Chapter 10.

¹³ Memo Sol. I D., September 19, 1921. See also Op. Sol. I D., M. 2709, June 26, 1920, 45 U. D. 700 (1920). The Act of January 27, 1913, 47 Stat. 777, placed under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of the Interior the funds and securities of Indians of the Five Civilized Tribes of one-half or more Indian blood until April 26, 1908. See 2 authorities. See the Secretary to present.

"... on his own and subject to my approval, any Indian of the Five Civilized Tribes, over the age of twenty-one years, having restricted funds or other property subject to the supervision of the Secretary of the Interior, to create and establish, out of the restricted funds or other property, trusts for the benefit of such Indian, his heirs, or other beneficiaries designated by him, such trusts to be created by contracts or agreements, by and between the Indian and incorporated trust companies or such banks as may be authorized by law to act as trustees or trustees.

For a discussion of this Act see Chapter 23, sec. 10.

¹⁴ 46 Op. A. G. 58 (1897). If the Secretary, in violation of a statute, invests funds due to a certain class of Indians, and a loss occurs, Congress and not the Secretary may provide for a reimbursement. 10 Op. A. G. 21 (1878).

¹⁵ Act of June 25, 1910, 36 Stat. 805. *Mott v. United States*, 268 U. S. 747, 751-752 (1925).

¹⁶ 35 Op. A. G. 98 (1920).

"... Such power obviously cannot be taken away by any act of the lessee through contract or otherwise. The only limitation to which the power is subject is that the conditions of renewal must be reasonable. The authority to determine the reasonableness of the conditions is also committed to the Secretary and in its exercise he is necessarily invested with broad discretion. That this power and authority extend to the imposition as a condition for renewal, a requirement that the operations royalty shall not exceed a figure to be determined by the Secretary to be the maximum economic royalty, I have little doubt.

The Court of Appeals after quoting with approval from the *Shoshone* said:²⁰

"It comes, in the exercise of its guardianship, and as to the extent approved in the *Shoshone* Case, we find no difficulty in upholding the action in question to the disposition of the funds in the possession of the Secretary. They came into his possession in the last of course of his supervisory power over the lands in question, and were still in his possession at the time the act of Congress was passed. Assuming, therefore, without doing, that technically the disposition over this fund passed to the Oklahoma court with the result of the restrictions upon the land, the court had not acquired such jurisdiction as to place the fund beyond the control and power of Congress to further restrict it in the hands of the Secretary. (P. 102)

The authority of the Interior Department over individual Indian monies is, generally, a derivative authority. Its value or the control which the Department exercises over the alienation of Indian lands and interests thereon, conditions have been imposed upon the manner in which proceeds derived from such lands are to be handled. In some cases the statutes providing for the loan or alienation of individual lands specify that the proceeds shall be paid to the allottee or disposed of for his benefit under regulations to be prescribed by the Secretary of the Interior.²¹ Other statutes do not refer specifically to the proceeds of transactions subject to the approval of the Interior Department, but contain broad language authorizing regulations covering the transaction which is construed to permit a comprehensive supervision of the proceeds derived therefrom.²²

Originally the method of disbursement of restricted individual Indian money is governed by the regulations issued by the Department of the Interior.²³ In a few instances Congress prescribes the method and permissible purposes of such disbursement.²⁴ For example, the Act of March 8, 1903,²⁵ regulating the disbursement of restricted individual money of members of the Five Indians of Utah was designed to direct the expenditures of the Indian money, so as to insure permanent improvements or other expenditures which will enable the Indians to become self-supporting. It also provides:

"That in cases of the aged, infirm, decrepit, or incapacitated members (their shares may be used for their proper maintenance and support in the discretion of the Secretary of the Interior."

¹⁷ *Hunderland v. United States*, 206 U. S. 229 (1923).

¹⁸ *King v. Tolson*, 64 F. 2d 979 (App. D. C. 1943).

¹⁹ Act of June 25, 1910, sec. 8, 36 Stat. 805, 807, 25 U. S. C. 407 (sale of timber on allotments). And see sec. 4, 36 Stat. 803, 805, 25 U. S. C. 408 (lease of tract allotments).

²⁰ See, for example, Act of March 3, 1900, 35 Stat. 781, 783, 25 U. S. C. 408 (mining leases).

²¹ See Chapter 10, sec. 8.

²² Memo Sol. I D., September 13, 1894.

²³ 47 Stat. 1348.

²⁴ *Ibid.*, p. 1480.

SECTION 13. ADMINISTRATIVE POWER—MEMBERSHIP

A. AUTHORITY OVER ENROLLMENT

At various times Congress has delegated to the Department of the Interior much of its sweeping power over the determination of tribal membership.¹²¹ During the periods when the federal policy was designed to break up the tribal organization, this power was one of the most important administrative powers, since the sharing in tribal property usually depended upon being placed upon a roll prepared by the Department or subject to its approval. At present, under the policy of encouraging tribal organization, membership problems are not usually as crucial as formerly.¹²² However, they may be important for other purposes, such as determining the right to vote in a tribal election. The most important limitation on the Secretary's power¹²³ when the tribe is still in existence is the principle that in the absence of express congressional legislation to the contrary an Indian tribe has complete authority to determine all questions of its own membership.¹²⁴

The power of the Secretary to determine tribal membership¹²⁵ for the purpose of segregating the tribal funds, was granted by section 168 of title 25 of the United States Code,¹²⁶ which reads as follows:

The Secretary of the Interior is authorized, wherever in his discretion such action would be for the best interest of the Indians, to cause a final roll to be made of the membership of any Indian tribe, such rolls shall contain the ages and quantum of Indian blood, and when approved by the said Secretary are declared to constitute the legal membership of the respective tribes for the purpose of

segregating the tribal funds . . . and shall be conclusive both as to ages and quantum of Indian blood: *Provided*, That the foregoing shall not apply to the Five Civilized Tribes or to the Osage Tribe of Indiana, or to the Chippewa Indians of Minnesota, or the Menominee Indians of Wisconsin.

Tributes often provide for the payment of money to an Indian of a tribe whose membership is ascertained by an administrative authority which shall examine and determine questions of fact concerning the identity of the members.¹²⁷ Statutes also impose such duty upon the Secretary¹²⁸ or a quasi-judicial tribunal,¹²⁹ whose determinations are subject to the approval of the Secretary of the Interior. Such enrollments are presumptively correct,¹³⁰ and unless impeached by very clear evidence of fraud, mistake, or arbitrary action they are conclusive upon the courts.¹³¹

B. REMEDIES

Where the determination of membership in a tribe is left to the Secretary of the Interior, his decision is final and cannot be controlled by mandamus unless his act is arbitrary and in excess of the authority conferred upon him by Congress.¹³²

It has also been held that the duty imposed upon him to restore names to the tribal roll is not a mere ministerial act, but calls for the determination of issues of fact and interpretations of law, and that his decisions are not ordinarily subject to review or controlled by mandamus, even though he is wrong or may change his mind within the period allowed.¹³³

For example, the Secretary of the Interior was empowered by section 2 of the Act of April 26, 1900,¹³⁴ to complete the rolls of the Creek Nation, and his jurisdiction to approve the enrollment ceased on the last day set by the statute. In *United States ex rel Johnson v Payne*,¹³⁵ the Secretary had approved the decision of the Commissioner of the Five Civilized Tribes and then reversed it and ordered the name of the petitioner stricken from the rolls. The Supreme Court said:

While the case was before him he was free to change his mind, and he might do so none the less that he had stated an opinion in favor of one side or the other. He did not lose his power to do the conclusive act, ordering and approving an enrollment, *Garfield v Goldsby*, 211 U. S. 240, until the act was done. *New Orleans v. Pons*, 147 U. S. 266, 268. *Kay v. Olson*, 245 U. S. 225, 228. The petitioners' names never were on the rolls. The Secretary was the final judge whether they should be, and they cannot be ordered to be put on now, upon a suggestion that

¹²¹ See Chapter 16, sec. 4.

¹²² See Chapter 16, sec. 4.

¹²³ The limitations on administrative power over membership are indicated by an opinion of the Circuit Court of Appeals in *ex parte Pore*, 90 F. 2d 28 (C. C. A. 7, 1938):

* * * Only Indians are entitled to be enrolled for the purpose of receiving allotments and the act of enrollment would be evidence that the enrollee is an Indian. But the refusal of the Department of Interior to enroll a certain Indian as a member of a certain tribe is not necessarily an administrative determination, that the person is not an Indian. Moore's mother failed to be enrolled as a St. Croix Indian because she was too young, not because she was not an Indian. (Pp. 811-82.)

¹²⁴ See Chapter 7, sec. 4. In matters affecting the distribution of tribal funds and other property under the supervisory authority of the Secretary, tribal action is subject to the supervisory authority of the Secretary. See Chapter 7, sec. 4; Sol. Memo October 12, 1937; Sol. Memo March 24, 1938. According to administrative practice, in doubtful cases the tribal action is regarded as controlling. The Circuit Court of Appeals in *Yenna v. United States*, 245 Fed. 411, 415 (C. C. A. 8, 1917), said:

The law did not call for the consent of the Indians to the making of the list for allotment. That power was solely vested in the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, and he was mainly directed to take the advice of an Indian council.

¹²⁵ Citizenship in a tribe and tribal membership are sometimes used synonymously. *Seminole Nation v. United States*, 78 C. Cls. 458 (1938). The agent has the duty of preparing certain statistics concerning Indians under his charge. Sec. 4 of the Act of March 3, 1875, 18 Stat. 420, 449, 26 U. S. C. 133, provides:

That hereafter, for the purpose of properly distributing the supplies appropriated for the Indian service, it is hereby made the duty of each agent in charge of Indians and having supplies to distribute, to make out, at the commencement of each fiscal year, rolls of the Indians entitled to supplies, and to give out supplies, with the names of the Indians and of the heads of families or lodges, with the number in each family or lodge, and to give out supplies to the heads of families, and not to the heads of tribes or bands, and not to give out supplies for a greater length of time than one week in advance.

Sec. 9 of the Act of July 4, 1854, 23 Stat. 76, 98, 25 U. S. C. 298, provides that the Indian agent shall submit in his annual report a census of the Indians at his agency or upon the reservation under his charge, and the number of school children between the ages of 6 and 16, the number of school houses at his agency, and other data concerning the education of the Indians.

¹²⁶ Act of June 30, 1916, sec. 1, 41 Stat. 8, 9.

¹²⁷ 5 Op. A. G. 820 (1851).

¹²⁸ Act of June 4, 1920, 41 Stat. 751 (Crow). See *Ulliy v. Mitchell*, 87 F. 2d 468 (C. C. A. 10, 1930); *United States v. Whitson*, 244 U. S. 111 (1917).

¹²⁹ *United States v. Whitson*, 244 U. S. 111 (1917).

¹³⁰ Unless Congress confers authority upon the Secretary to inquire into the validity of the enrollment of a person whose name appears on the final rolls, the rolls must be regarded as determinative of legal membership in the tribe at the time the rolls were completed and closed. See *Op. Sol. I. D. M. 27759*, January 22, 1936.

¹³¹ *United States ex rel West v. Hitchcock*, 205 U. S. 80 (1907). The Secretary has been held not to have the power to strike names from the roll without giving notice and an opportunity to be heard. *Garfield v. United States ex rel Goldsby*, 211 U. S. 240 (1908). It has been held that he has power, after such notice and hearing, to strike from the rolls names which have been placed therein through fraud or mistake. *Love v. Fisher*, 228 U. S. 95 (1912).

¹³² Determinations of the Dawes Commission were subject to attack for arbitrary fraud or mistake. *Tiger v. Fenn State Oil Co.*, 48 F. 2d 508 (C. C. A. 10, 1931).

¹³³ *Garfield v. United States ex rel Goldsby*, 211 U. S. 240 (1908). See *United States ex rel West v. Hitchcock*, 205 U. S. 80 (1907).

¹³⁴ *Stacy v. Walber*, 55 F. 2d 522 (App. D. C., 1892).

¹³⁵ 84 Stat. 137.

¹³⁶ 263 U. S. 209 (1920).

the Secretary made a mistake or that he came very near to giving the petitioners the rights they claim (P 211)

In the absence of fraud, or arbitrary action, the courts will not issue a mandamus directed against the Secretary of the Interior if the question involves the exercise of judgment and discretion. The Supreme Court, in the case of *Wilbur v United States ex rel Kadon*,¹² decided that the duty of determining to whom pay-

¹² 281 U S 208 (1930) Mr Justice Van Devanter, speaking for the Supreme Court, said

If at the time of the decision in 1927 the Secretary of the Interior was without power to reconsider and revoke the decision of 1919, it well may be that the petitioners would be entitled to the relief by mandamus which they seek.¹ But there was no such want of power. The decision in 1919 was, not a judgment pronounced in a judicial proceeding, but a ruling made by an executive officer in the exercise of administrative authority. That authority was neither exhausted nor terminated by its exertion on that occasion, but was in its nature continuing. Under it the Secretary who under the decision could reconsider the matter and revoke the decision if found wrong, and so of his successors. The duty was, therefore, no less than the former, but with the duty of supervising the payment of the interest annuities and of ensuring them to be distributed among those entitled to them and no others, and if he found that individuals not so entitled were sharing in the annuities by reason of a mistaken or erroneous ruling of the former his authority to revoke that ruling and stop further payments under it was the same as if it had been his own act.² The power and duties of such an officer are impersonal and unaffected by a change in the person holding it. (Pp 216-217)

Mandamus is employed to compel the performance, when refused, of a ministerial duty, this being its chief use. It also is employed to compel action when refused, in matters involving judgment and discretion, but not to direct the exercise of judgment or discretion in a particular way nor to direct the retention or reversal of action already taken in the exercise of either.³

The duties of executive officers, such as the Secretary of the Interior, usually are connected with the administration of statutes which must be read and in some instances to ascertain what is required. But it does not follow that these administrative duties all involve judgment or discretion of the character intended by the rule just stated. Where the duty in a particular situation is so plainly prescribed as to be free from doubt and equivalent to a positive command it is regarded as being, so far ministerial that its performance may be compelled by mandamus, unless there be provision or implication to the contrary.⁴ But where the duty is not thus plainly prescribed but depends upon a statute or statutes the construction or application of which is not free from doubt, it is regarded as involving the character of judgment or discretion which cannot be controlled by mandamus.⁵ (Pp 218-219)

The questions mooted before the Secretary and decided by him were whether the fund is a tribal fund, whether the tribe is still existing and whether the distribution of the annuities is to be confined to members of the tribe, with exceptions not including the relations. These are all questions of law the solution of which requires a construction of the act of 1889 and other related acts. A reading of these acts shows that they fall short of plainly requiring that any of the questions be answered in the negative and that in some aspects they give rise to the affirmative answers of the Secretary. That the construction of the acts involves as

ments shall be made of certain interest annuities accruing to the Chippewa Indians vested with the Secretary of the Interior and not with the courts

Where the Secretary has nothing but a ministerial duty to perform, the court in a proper case will award a writ of mandamus.⁶

they have a bearing on the first and third questions is sufficiently manifest to involve the exercise of judgment and discretion is rather plain. The second question is more easily answered, for not only does the act of 1889 show very plainly that the purpose was to accomplish a gradual rather than an immediate transition from the tribal relation and dependent withholding to full emancipation and individual responsibility, but Congress in many later acts—some near the time of the decision in question—has recognized the continued existence of the tribe.⁷ This recognition was accepted by the Secretary and is not open to question here.⁸ With the tribe still existing the criterion by which to judge the validity of the Secretary's decision in this particular case seems much of its force. (Pp 221-222)

¹ *United States v Schuy*, 102 U S 379, 402-403, *Wheeler v Union River Logging P R*, 137 U S 337, 371, *Garfield v Goldsby*, 211 U S 240, 261-262

² *Ward v Standard Oil Co*, 278 U S 200, 210, *Briley v Naph*, 104 U S 753, 761, *Knapp v U S Land Association*, 142 U S 101, 131-132, *Wig v Olin*, 197 U S 147 U S 201, 203, *Greenmeyer v Cook*, 212 U S 434, 442, *Pardee v Gillett*, 26 L D 44, 48, *Aspen Consolidated Mining Co v Williams*, 27 L D 1, 10-11, *And see Parsons v Williams*, 292 U S 281, 284-285

³ *Commissioners of Patents v Whitely*, 1 Wall 224, 334, *United States ex rel v Black*, 128 U S 40, 48, *Economic Oil Co v Hitchcock*, 190 U S 318 321-325, *Lanham v Alford*, 234 U S 627, 633, *Interstate Commerce Commission v Waste Merchant Ass'n*, 240 U S 33, 34

⁴ *Roberts v United States*, 178 U S 221, 271, *Lane v Hoeland*, 244 U S 174, 181, *Wick v Albrecht-Danahy Co*, 292 U S 200, 208, *Wick v Lunn*, 280 U S 161, 164, et seq, *Widau v Kuhnke*, 240 U S 303

⁵ *Ward v Standard Oil Co v Hitchcock*, 190 U S 318 321-325, *Ward v Fisher*, 22 L D 633, 637, *Knapp v Lunn*, 225 U S 8, 13, *Lane v Alford*, 241 U S 201, 203, 209, *Albrecht-Danahy Co v Lane*, 230 U S 549, 555, *Ward v Payne*, 234 U S 818, 841, *Wick v Lunn*, 280 U S 176, 183-184, *And see United States ex rel v Hitchcock*, 206 U S 80, 86

⁶ Acts of August 1, 1914, c 22, § 8, Stat 792, May 30, 1916, c 125, 49 Stat 137, March 2, 1917, c 146, 40 Stat 670, c 56, 40 Stat 672, June 30, 1919, c 4, 41 Stat 14, February 14, 1920, c 75, 41 Stat 110, November 10, 1921, c 146, 42 Stat 221, January 30, 1922, c 114, 43 Stat 798, February 19, 1923, c 22, 44 Stat P 2, March 4, 1924, c 705, 45 Stat 1334

⁷ *United States v Holiday*, 3 Wall 407, 419, *United States v Becker*, 188 U S 432, 445, *Tyler v Western Investment Co*, 221 U S 286, 315

The same principle has been applied to many discretionary acts of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, 24 L D 323 (1897). See also *Lane v Morrison*, 246 U S 211 (1918), *Quick Bear v Leupp*, 210 U S 50 (1908)

Generally a suit will fail if a subordinate officer and not the Secretary of Interior is made defendant. *Moss v Anderson*, 68 F 2d 191 (C C A 9, 1888). Hence a suit to compel the superintendent of an agency to supplement the tribal roll will be dismissed because the Secretary is a necessary party. *Wheeler v Felt*, 268 U S 507 (1925)

⁸ *Garfield v United States ex rel Goldsby*, 211 U S 240 (1908)

CHAPTER 6

THE SCOPE OF STATE POWER OVER INDIAN AFFAIRS

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SECTION 1. INTRODUCTION

That state laws¹ have no force within the territory of an Indian tribe in matters affecting Indians is a general proposition that has not been successfully challenged, at least in the United States Supreme Court, since that Court decided, in *Worcester v. Georgia*,² that the State of Georgia had no right to imprison a white man residing on an Indian reservation, with the consent of tribal and federal authorities, who refused to conform to state laws governing Indian affairs. In that case the court declared, *per Marshall, C. J.*

The Cherokee nation, then, is a distinct community, occupying its own territory, with boundaries inviolably decided, in which the laws of Georgia can have no force, and which the citizens of Georgia have no right to enter, but with the assent of the Cherokees themselves, or in conformity with treaties, and with the acts of congress (P. 560)

The State of Georgia never did enter on the mandate of the Supreme Court in this case,³ and many other state courts and state legislatures since the decision in this case have likewise refused to acknowledge the implications of the decision. Nevertheless, when critical cases have been presented to the United States Supreme Court, the principles laid down in *Worcester v. Georgia* have been repeatedly reaffirmed.⁴

The reasons judicially advanced for this monopoly of the states to legislate on Indian affairs have been variously formu-

lated in different cases, although the actual decisions of the Supreme Court have followed a consistent pattern. One of the most persuasive considerations as to the lack of state power is the inclusion in enabling acts and state constitutions of express disclaimers of state jurisdiction over Indian lands.⁵ One of the most famous statements explanatory of the limitations upon state power in this field is the statement in *United States v. Kagama*,⁶ a case which upheld the constitutionality of congressional legislation on offenses between Indians committed on an Indian reservation:

It seems to us that this is within the competency of Congress. These Indian tribes are the wards of the nation. They are communities dependent on the United States. Dependent largely for their daily food. Dependent for their political rights. They owe no allegiance to the States, and receive from them no protection. Because of the local ill feeling, the people of the States where they are found are often their deadliest enemies. From their very weakness and helplessness, so largely due to the course of dealing of the Federal Government with them, and the treaties in which it has been promised, there arises the duty of protection, and with it the power. This has always been recognized by the Executive and by Congress, and by this court, whenever the question has arisen.

* * * * * and Indian lands shall remain under the absolute jurisdiction and control of the Congress of the United States * * * " Act of July 16, 1894, sec. 8, 28 Stat. 307, 308 (Utah). Accord Act of June 20, 1910, sec. 3, 20, 36 Stat. 557 (New Mexico and Arizona). And by Act of June 16, 1906, sec. 28, 34 Stat. 267, 268 (Oklahoma). * 118 U. S. 375 (1886).

* The omission of this comma in the official United States Report has created some confusion as to the meaning of this sentence. Without the comma, the sentence seems to suggest that the weakness and helplessness of the Indians is due in part to treaties and that it is because of the weakness and helplessness of the Indians that the Federal Government may exercise the power of protection. With the comma, the sentence suggests rather that the actual situation of weakness and helplessness is only part of the basis of legal power, the other, and legally more important, basis being the obligations assumed by the United States towards Indian tribes by treaty. This comma is found in the Supreme Court Reports edition of the opinion (6 Sup. Ct. 1100).

¹ Specific bodies of state law are dealt with in other chapters of this work. Thus, state laws involving questions of discrimination against Indians, in the matter of franchises or in other respects, are dealt with in Chapter 8. State laws of inheritance are considered in Chapters 30 and 31. State laws on taxation are analyzed in Chapter 18. Those state laws which deal with Indian hunting and fishing rights are treated in Chapter 14, sec. 7. Chapter 15 touches upon state laws relating to recognition or protection of tribal property. Chapters 18 and 19 deal respectively with criminal and civil jurisdiction of state courts as well as federal and tribal courts.

² 6 Pet. 515 (1832).

³ See Chapter 7, sec. 2. Cf. Report and Remonstrance of the Legislature of Georgia, Sen. Doc. No. 69, 21st Cong., 1st sess. (March 8, 1880).

⁴ For an analysis of those cases, see P. 8 Cohen, Indian Rights and the Federal Courts (1940), 24 Minn. L. Rev. 146.

The power of the General Government over these remnants of a race more powerful, now weak and diminished in numbers, is necessary to their protection, as well as to the safety of those among whom they dwell. It must exist in that government, because it never has existed anywhere else, because the theater of its exercise is within the geographical limits of the United States, because it has never been denied, and because it alone can enforce its laws on all the tribes. (Pp 383-385)

Insofar as this argument relies upon treaties it is legally unsatisfactory, for the treaties made between the Federal Government and the Indian tribes are part of the supreme law of the land¹⁸ and, as we have already noted, these treaties quite generally promised the tribes, either expressly or by implication, that they would not be subject to the sovereignty of the individual states, but would be subject only to the Federal Government.

On the other hand, wherein is the opinion in the *Kayman* case relies upon the factual helplessness of the Indians, the equality of the state populations, and the impossibility of state control, serious questions must be raised both as to the validity of the argument and as to its scope and application, when the factual premises stated no longer correspond to the facts. If

¹⁸ *United States v. Fort-Thier Station of Whiskey*, 98 U. S. 189 (1870); *Worcester v. Georgia*, 6 Pet. 515 (1823); *Williams v. Blacksmith*, 39 How. 500 (1860); *United States v. New York Indians*, 178 U. S. 404 (1899). See *United States v. Wampan*, 103 U. S. 371, 77, 584 (1905); *United States v. Rio Grande Dam and Irrigation Co.*, 174 U. S. 800, 708 (1899); *United States v. Becker*, 188 U. S. 452, 437, 438 (1903); *United States v. Remond Notion*, 200 U. S. 417, 424 (1907); *Id.* granted 299 U. S. 510, *Wallace v. Adams*, 201 U. S. 415 (1907). See Chapter 3, sec. 9.

SECTION 2. FEDERAL STATUTES ON STATE POWER

It will be convenient to group the federal statutes which grant or recognize state power over Indian affairs into two categories: (a) Those that apply throughout the United States, and (b) those that apply only to particular tribes or areas.

A. GENERAL STATUTES

The most important field in which state laws have been applied to Indians by congressional fiat is the field of inheritance. In the absence of federal legislation, it is established that all questions relating to descent and distribution of the property of individual Indians are governed by the laws and customs of the tribe to which the Indians belong.¹⁹ A given tribe may, of course, adopt such state laws as it considers suitable, and it may do this either by ordinance²⁰ or, in conjunction with the Federal Government, by treaty.²¹ Without such action of the tribal or the Federal Government, state laws of inheritance have no application to Indians residing on an Indian reservation.

This situation, however, has been greatly changed by congressional legislation affecting Indians to whom reservation lands have been allotted in severalty. The most important por-

¹⁹ See Chapter 7, sec. 6 and Chapter 11, sec. 6.

²⁰ See 56 U. S. D. 14, 42 (1924). See also Chapter 7, sec. 6.

²¹ Thus, e. g., Article 8 of the Treaty of February 27, 1867, with the Potawatomi Indians, 15 Stat. 681, 638 provides:

Where allottees under the treaty of eighteen hundred and sixty-two shall have died or shall hereafter die, if any dispute shall arise in regard to heirship to their property, it shall be competent for the business committee to decide such question, taking for their rule of action the laws of inheritance of the State of Kansas * * *

tion, however, be a trespasser at this point to analyze the various doctrines advanced in support of the contention that, within the Indian country in matters affecting Indians, federal law applies to the exclusion of state law.²²

It is enough for the present to note that the domain of power of the Federal Government over Indian affairs marked out by the federal decisions is so complete that, as a practical matter, the federal courts and federal administrative officials are generally proved from the assumption that Indian affairs are matters of federal, rather than state, concern, unless the contrary is shown by act of Congress or special circumstance. Thus, without questioning the constitutional doctrine that states possess original and complete sovereignty over their own territories save insofar as such sovereignty is limited by the Federal Constitution, a sense of realism must compel the conclusion that control of Indian affairs has been delegated, under the Constitution, to the Federal Government and that state jurisdiction in any matters affecting Indians can be upheld only if one of two conditions is met: either that Congress has expressly delegated back to the state, or recognized in the state, some power of government respecting Indians, or that a question involving Indians involves non-Indians to a degree which calls into play the jurisdiction of a state government. Of these two situations, the former is undoubtedly more definite and therefore simpler to analyze. Such an analysis requires a listing of the acts of Congress which confer upon the states, or recognize in the states, specific powers of government with respect to Indians.

²² For further discussion of these doctrines see Chapter 4, sec. 2 and Chapter 5.

tion of this congressional legislation is contained in Section 5 of the General Allotment Act,²³ providing:

That upon the approval of the allotments provided for in this act by the Secretary of the Interior, he shall cause patents to issue therefor in the name of the allot-

²³ 21 Stat. 388, 399, amended Act of March 3, 1901, sec. 5, 31 Stat. 1058, 1067, 26 U. S. C. 845.

This section as originally enacted, also provided:

That the law of descent and partition in force in the State or Territory where such lands are situated shall apply thereto after patents therefor have been granted and delivered, except as herein otherwise provided; and the laws of the State or Territory regulating the descent and partition of real estate shall, so far as practicable, apply to all lands in the Indian Territory which may be allotted in severalty under the provisions of this act.

The General Allotment Act expressly exempted from its operation the territory occupied by the Five Civilized Tribes and the Miamis and Pottawamies and Mesquites, in the Indian Territory, now a part of the State of Oklahoma and also the reservation of the Seneca Nation of New York, Indians in the State of New York, to which see *United States v. Kennedy v. Tyler*, 269 U. S. 11 (1925), *aff'd*, *United States v. Tyler v. Hildon*, 294 Fed. 111 (D. C. W. D. N. Y. 1927). See also *New York v. Dobbie*, 21 How. 366 (1853).

The Confederated Wes, Kaskaskias, Pottaw, Piankeshaw, and Western Miamis were allotted under the Act of March 3, 1889, 25 Stat. 1018, but by that Act, the provisions of the General Allotment Act were extended to these tribes. The same is true as to other tribes allotted under special acts of Congress, such for instance as the Chippewas of Minnesota, who were allotted under the Act of January 14, 1889, 25 Stat. 642, in accordance with the provisions of the General Allotment Act. The Osage Indians were allotted under the Act of March 2, 1896, 28 Stat. 979, 997, without reference to the General Allotment Act, and would seem to have been extended from the provisions of that Act, so that the laws of Kansas did not apply to them.

The Mesquites and Pottaw were allotted under the Act of February 13, 1891, 26 Stat. 749, and under the provisions of that Act they became subject

tees, which patents shall be of the legal effect, and declare that the United States does and will hold the land thus allotted, for the period of twenty-five years, in trust for the sole use and benefit of the Indian to whom such allotment shall have been made, or, in case of his decease, of his heirs according to the laws of the State or Territory where such land is located, and that at the expiration of said period the United States will convey the same by patent to said Indian, or his heirs as aforesaid, in fee, discharged of said trust and free of all charge or incumbrance whatsoever. [Italics supplied.]

As will be readily perceived, these provisions entirely withdraw from the operation of tribal laws and customs all matters of descent and partition concerning allotments made to Indians under the General Allotment Act, and the laws of the state in which the land is situated must govern such matters, except insofar as those matters are otherwise covered by federal statutes.

The scope of state power in the matter of inheritance of allotments has been considerably limited however, by legislation which confers upon the Secretary of the Interior full power to determine heirs and to partition allotments.⁴ Thus, for example, the Supreme Court has held⁵ that a will made by an Indian woman in accordance with departmental regulations, and approved by the Secretary of the Interior, devising her restricted land to others than her husband, was valid, notwithstanding a provision in the Oklahoma law prohibiting a married woman from bequeathing more than two-thirds of her property away from her husband.

The Court said:

The Secretary of the Interior made regulations which were proper to the exercise of the power conferred upon him and the execution of the act of Congress, and it would seem that no comment is necessary to show that § 8341 [Oklahoma Code] is excluded from pertinence or operation. (P. 824.)

In a word, the act of Congress is complete in its control and administration of the allotment and of all that is connected with or made necessary by it, and is antagonistic to any right or interest in the husband of an Indian woman in her allotment under the Oklahoma Code. (P. 825.)

In a later case approving this decision,⁶ the Court sustained the validity of a lease made by an Indian on his family homestead which violated an Oklahoma statute requiring execution by both spouses. The Court said:

Nor is the validity of the extension lease affected by the provision in the Oklahoma constitution that nothing in the laws of the United States shall deprive any Indian or other allottee of the benefit of the homestead laws of the State. Whether or not this provision was intended to do more than to protect the allottees from the enforced seizure of their homesteads, it is sufficient to say that, whatever its purpose, it can have no more effect than the Oklahoma statute in giving validity to laws of the State repugnant to the reserved power of the United States in legislating in respect to the lands of Indians.

to the laws of the Territory of Oklahoma. And the Osages, were allotted under the Act of June 28, 1906, 34 Stat. 539, and under the provisions of that Act became subject to the laws of that Territory. See, however, sec. 6 of the Act of 1906, *supra*. See also sec. 8 of the Act of April 18, 1912, 37 Stat. 860, subjecting the persons and property of Osage Indians to the jurisdiction of the courts of Oklahoma, a probate matter. As to the Five Civilized Tribes of Oklahoma, see *Stout v. Hayes*, 285 U. S. 403 (1935), *per* rehearing den., 290 U. S. 961 (1935).

⁴ Act of June 25, 1910, 80 Stat. 856, 26 U. S. C. 871; Act of May 18, 1916, 90 Stat. 129, 22 U. S. C. 821. See Chapter 10, sec. 10; Chapter 11, sec. 8; Chapter 5, sec. 10.

⁵ *Blanes v. Gaudin*, 230 U. S. 310 (1912).

⁶ *Sperry Oil Co. v. Oklahoma*, 264 U. S. 488 (1924).

Neither the constitution of a State nor any act of its legislature, whatever rights it may confer on Indians or withhold from them, can withdraw them from the operation of an act which Congress passes concerning them in the exercise of its paramount authority. *United States v. Holliday*, 8 Wall. 407, 419 (P. 407.)

A second field in which state law has been extended to Indian reservations by congressional fiat is the realm of laws covering "inspection of health and educational conditions" and the enforcement of "sanitation and quarantine regulations" as well as "compulsory school attendance." By the Act of February 15, 1929,⁷ Congress authorized the enforcement of such laws upon Indian reservations by state officials "under such rules, regulations, and conditions as the Secretary of the Interior may prescribe."

A third body of state laws is extended over Indian reservations by section 280 of the Criminal Code⁸ which makes offenses by non-Indians against Indians and by Indians against non-Indians punishable in the federal courts in accordance with state laws existing at the time of the federal enactment in question.⁹

It will be noted that the foregoing statute is expressly made inapplicable to any offense committed by and against an Indian, by the terms of section 218 of title 25 of the U. S. Code.¹⁰

Apart from these three fields there has been no general congressional legislation authorizing the extension of state laws to Indians on Indian reservations.¹¹

Within those three fields it is probable that any devolution of authority from Congress to the states may be revoked at such time as Congress sees fit.¹²

B. SPECIAL STATUTES

Apart from the general statutes noted in the preceding section, a number of acts of Congress dealing with particular tribes or areas confer various powers upon state courts, state legislatures, and state administrative officials. These statutes deal most commonly with such subjects as crimes,¹³ taxation,¹⁴ pro-

⁷ 45 Stat. 1385, 25 U. S. C. 231. And see Taylor Grants Act of June 28, 1906, 48 Stat. 1250, amended June 26, 1930, 46 Stat. 1970, discussed in 55 U. S. D. 88 (1930).

⁸ 18 U. S. C. 408, derived from: R. S. 4530, Act of July 7, 1898, sec. 2, 30 Stat. 717, Act of June 15, 1933, 48 Stat. 152.

⁹ Congress has not attempted to give force to state laws later enacted, apparently having in mind the possibility that such legislation might be considered an unconstitutional delegation of power or a violation of Constitutional requirements of certainty in penal legislation. *Of Weyman v. Southard*, 10 Wheat. 1 (1825); *Field v. Clax*, 143 U. S. 649 (1901), *Wichita Railroad v. Public Utilities Com.*, 200 U. S. 48 (1922); *Hampton v. Okla. United States*, 270 U. S. 804 (1926), *Panama Refining Co. v. Ryan*, 293 U. S. 388 (1935).

¹⁰ R. S. 12144, amended by Act of February 18, 1875, 18 Stat. 318, 318 See Chapter 7, sec. 9, Chapter 13, sec. 8.

¹¹ Note, however, the legalization of state-federal administrative cooperation by the Johnson-O'Malley Act of June 16, 1934, 48 Stat. 600, amended Act of June 4, 1936, 49 Stat. 1455, 25 U. S. C. 432 *et seq.* And see Chapter 4, sec. 15; Chapter 12, sec. 1.

¹² See *Trusts v. Glosser*, 238 U. S. 228 (1915); *Ree v. Mayberry*, 2 F. Supp. 689 (D. C. W. D. N. Y. 1938), *People ex rel. Onak v. Daly*, 212 N. Y. 158, 199-197, 103 N. Y. 1048 (1914).

¹³ Act of February 21, 1893, sec. 6, 12 Stat. 653, 650 (Winneshago), Act of June 8, 1940 (Pub. No. 595, 76th Cong.) (State of Kansas).

¹⁴ Act of March 8, 1931, 41 Stat. 1240, 1251, authorizing State of Oklahoma to tax oil and gas production from Indian lands (upheld in 89 Op. A. G. 10 (1921) discussed in Op. Sol. I. D. M. 20872, September 22, 1931); Act of May 10, 1925, 43 Stat. 406, 406 (subjecting mineral production from Five Civilized Tribes' lands in Oklahoma to state taxes), *Op. Atty. Gen.* 13, 1930, sec. 1, 49 Stat. 1967. See Chapter 13, sec. 2, 5; Chapter 23, sec. 9.

bate," acquisition of water rights," recording laws," and liens upon cut timber."

In Oklahoma there has been a particularly broad devolution of powers to the state government.¹⁰ The organs of the state

¹⁰ Act of April 30 1888 25 Stat 94, 98 (Shaw), Act of March 2, 1889, 26 Stat 888, 891 (Shaw), Act of January 13, 1891, 26 Stat 712 (Mason), Act of February 19, 1891, 26 Stat 740, 791 (Saw and Fox), Act of June 28 1890, 24 Stat 630 (Osage), Act of April 18, 1913, 37 Stat 80 (Osage), Act of June 14, 1918, 40 Stat 608 (Fire Cracked Timber), Act of February 27, 1925, 43 Stat 1011 (Osage). For a discussion of the provisions of these acts see Op Sol I D, M 18008, December 18, 1937, Op Sol I D, October 4, 1939, Op Sol I D, 4-6029, September 30, 1922, Op Sol I D, M 54028, June 19, 1928.

¹¹ Act of March 3, 1905, 33 Stat 1010-1017 (Shoshone) discussed in *10 Parks*, 18 F 2, 642, 643 (D C D Wyo 1928).

¹² Act of February 10, 1876, 18 Stat 400, 881 (Seneca).

¹³ Act of March 31, 1883, 22 Stat 38, 47 (Wyandotte).

¹⁴ See Chapter 24, *supra*, sec 3-10.

government however, in exercising such powers have been considered federal agencies. Thus in *Parker v. Richard*¹¹ the Supreme Court, in relating to the authority of the county courts of Oklahoma under section 9 of the Act of May 27, 1908,¹² said

"That the agency which is to approve or not is a state court is not material. It is the agency selected by Congress and the authority conferred to it is to be exercised in giving effect to the will of Congress in respect of a matter within its control. Thus in a practical sense the court in exercising that authority acts as a federal agency, and thus is recognized by the Supreme Court of the State *Murray v. Board of Commissioners*, 45 Oklahoma 1 (P 230)." 1

¹⁵ 250 U S 245 (1919).

¹⁶ 35 Stat 312, 315.

SECTION 3. RESERVED STATE POWERS OVER INDIAN AFFAIRS

While the general rule, as we have noted, is that plenary authority over Indian affairs rests in the Federal Government to the exclusion of state governments, we have likewise noted two major exceptions to this general rule. First, where Congress has expressly declared that certain powers over Indian affairs shall be exercised by the states, and second, where the matter involves non-Indian questions sufficient to ground state jurisdiction.

In proceeding to analyze this latter exception to the general rule, we may note that in point of constitutional doctrine, the sovereignty of a state over its own territory¹³ is plenary and therefore the fact that Indians are involved in a situation, directly or indirectly, does not *ipso facto* terminate state power. State power is terminated only if the matter is one that falls within the constitutional scope of exclusive federal authority.¹⁴

A case in which the factors of situs, person and subject matter all point to exclusive federal jurisdiction, as, for example, in a transaction involving a transfer of restricted property between Indians on an Indian reservation, the basis of exclusive federal power is clear. On the other hand, where all three factors point away from federal jurisdiction, the power of the state is clear. There exists, however, a broad twilight zone in which one or two of the three elements noted—situs, person and subject matter—point to federal power and the remainder to state power. These are the situations which require analysis and the various combinations of these factors present six situations for consideration.

- (A) Indian outside Indian country engaged in non-federal transaction
- (B) Indian outside Indian country engaged in federal transaction
- (C) Indian within Indian country engaged in non-federal transaction
- (D) Non-Indian outside Indian country engaged in federal transaction
- (E) Non-Indian in Indian country engaged in federal transaction
- (F) Non-Indian in Indian country engaged in non-federal transaction

A brief discussion of these six type-situations is in order.

¹⁵ Ordinarily an Indian reservation is considered part of the territory of the state. *Trick and Northern Railway v. Fisher*, 210 U S 28 (1908). But in some cases, the enabling act or other congressional legislation, or the state constitution itself, declares that Indian reservations shall not be deemed part of the territory of the state. See, for example, *The Kansas Indians*, 5 Wall 787 (1860), *Worcester v. Hyde*, 98 U S 470 (1878), qualified in *Langford v. McIntosh*, 102 U S 245 (1880).

¹⁶ See sec. 1, *supra*; and see Chapter 5.

A INDIAN OUTSIDE INDIAN COUNTRY ENGAGED IN NON-FEDERAL TRANSACTION

It is undoubtedly true, as a general rule, that an Indian who is "off the reservation" is subject to the laws of the state or territory in which he finds himself, to the same extent that a non-Indian citizen or alien would be subject to those laws.¹⁵

B INDIAN OUTSIDE INDIAN COUNTRY ENGAGED IN FEDERAL TRANSACTION

To the general rule set forth in the preceding paragraph, an exception must be noted. If the subject matter of the transaction is a subject matter over which Congress has asserted its constitutional power, the state must yield to the superior power of the nation. For example, Congress has taken the position that its constitutional concern with Indian tribes requires a prohibition of sale of liquor to all "wand" Indians, even outside of Indian reservations, and the courts have upheld this exercise of power.¹⁶ Under the circumstances, any state interference with this prohibition would undoubtedly be held invalid.

A second example may be found in the realm of restricted personal property of Indians. Where, for example, a deed of title is held by an Indian or an Indian tribe subject to federal restrictions upon alienation,¹⁷ it seems clear that the removal of the property from the reservation would not free it from such federal restrictions, and any state laws or proceedings inconsistent with federal control would be clearly unconstitutional.¹⁸

The line between federal transactions which are of such concern to the Federal Government that the state cannot legislate in the matter and other transactions on which the state is permitted to legislate, is not always easy to draw. Where, for

¹⁷ *Hunt v. State*, 4 Kan 80 (1868) (murder of Indian by Indian), *In re Wolf*, 27 Fed 608, 610 (D C Ark 1886) (conspiracy by Indians to obtain money by false pretenses from Indian nation in D C), *State v. Williams*, 18 Mont 836, 48 Pac 15 (1896) (murder of Indian by Indian), *People v. People*, 29 Colo 134, 46 Pac 638 (1896) (murder of Indian by Indian), *State v. Spotted Hawk*, 23 Mont 83, 55 Pac 1038 (1890) (murder of white man by Indian), *State v. Little Whitehead*, 23 Mont 426, 50 Pac 820 (1896) (murder of white man by Indian), *Re parte Moore*, 28 S D 536, 133 N W 817 (1911) (murder of Indian by Indian on public domain allotment), commented on in Ann Cas 1914 B, 646, 652. And see state cases collected in Note 18, Ann Cas 192.

¹⁸ See Chapter 7, sec 9, in 213, and see Chapter 18, sec 2. *Of The Kansas Indians*, 5 Wall 787, 795, 796 (1860), "if under the control of Congress, then necessarily there can be no divided authority." * * *

There can be no question of State sovereignty in the case, * * *

¹⁹ See Chapter 17, sec 3.

²⁰ See Chapter 10, sec 12.

²¹ *Of United States v. Cook*, 19 Wall 601 (1875), *Pine River Logging Co v. United States*, 188 U S 279 (1902) (timber illegally alienated); discussed in Chapter 15, sec 12.

example, hunting or fishing rights off the reservation have been promised to Indians; the question has arisen whether such rights may be controlled by state conservation statutes. To the present state of the law, no simple answer can be given to the question.¹² Likewise, the question of whether taxable land purchased by Indians, outside of a reservation, and held subject to federal restrictions upon alienation, is immune from the tax laws of the state, has given rise to considerable litigation.¹³ In this situation it seems that despite the federal concern in the subject matter, the state may levy property taxes if Congress is silent, but may not do so if Congress prohibits such legislation.¹⁴

C INDIAN WITHIN INDIAN COUNTRY ENGAGED IN NON FEDERAL TRANSACTION

It is well settled that the state has no power over the conduct of Indians within the Indian country, whether or not the conduct is of special concern to the Federal Government.¹⁵ Thus Indian marriage and divorce, offenses between Indians, and sales of personal property between Indians are matters over which the state cannot exercise control, so long as the Indians concerned remain within the reservation.¹⁶ This disability has generally been explained in terms of tribal sovereignty and a federal policy of protecting such tribal sovereignty against state invasion.¹⁷ Thus, in denying state jurisdiction over adultery among Indians on an Indian reservation, the Supreme Court declared in *United States v. Quire*,¹⁸ per Van Devanter, J.

At an early period it became the settled policy of Congress to permit the personal and domestic relations of the Indians with each other to be regulated, and offenses by one Indian against the person or property of another Indian to be dealt with, according to their tribal customs and laws. . . . (17 603-604)

Whether the local state laws may be applied to the Indians of a tribe with their consent, expressed through agreement or otherwise, is a question which the Supreme Court does not seem to have passed upon squarely.¹⁹ There is no doubt that main tribes in the past have accepted "state laws." Indeed, in the early years of the Republic, it appears that various treaties were made between Indian tribes and the various states.²⁰ The validity, however, of such formal or informal arrangements, has not been definitely established. It would seem that if state laws are adopted by Indian tribes, they have effect as tribal laws and not simply as exercises of state sovereignty.²¹

¹² See Chapter 14, sec 7, and Chapter 15, sec 21.

¹³ See Chapter 18.

¹⁴ *Ibid.*

¹⁵ See Chapter 7.

¹⁶ *Ibid.*, and see Chapter 15, sec 6. And see Memo Sol I D, April 29, 1930 holding that the State of California is without jurisdiction to compel Indians residing on reservations within the state to take out licenses for dogs owned by them.

¹⁷ 211 U. S. 402 (1910).

¹⁸ 111 United States ex rel. *Keenley v. Tuley*, 200 U. S. 13 (1905).

¹⁹ See, for example, the discussion of New York Indians in Chapter 22, and the comments on the Eastern Cherokees of North Carolina in Chapter 14, sec 2.

²⁰ See *Cherokee Nation v. Georgia*, 5 Pet. 1, (1831); *Seneca Nation v. Chautauq*, 120 N. Y. 123, 27 N. D. 275 (1901), 2 Op. A. G. 110 (1828); *Rice*, The Position of the American Indian in the Law of the United States (1884), 10 J. Comp. Leg. 78, 85. While the Constitution forbids a state entering into any treaty, alliance, or confederation (Art. I, sec. 10, discussed in *Worcester v. Georgia*, 6 Pet. 515, 679 (1832)), the position has been taken by at least one state court that this did not prevent treaties or compacts for the extinguishment of Indian title between states and Indian tribes. *Seneca Nation v. Chautauq*, supra.

²¹ "An Indian tribe may, if it so chooses, adopt as its own the laws of the State in which it is situated and may make such modifications in those laws as it deems suitable to its peculiar conditions." 65 I. D. 14, 42 (1934).

D NON-INDIAN OUTSIDE INDIAN COUNTRY ENGAGED IN FEDERAL TRANSACTION

Although ordinarily a non-Indian outside of Indian country is in no way subject to federal law governing Indian affairs, and is wholly subject to state law, there are certain subject matters in which the federal interest is so strong that even with respect to non-Indians outside the Indian country, federal law will supersede state law. Such a matter, for instance, is the transfer from one non-Indian to another of restricted property unlawfully taken from an Indian reservation.²² Another example may be found in the realm of transactions between an employee of the Indian Bureau and a third party, consummated outside of the Indian country, which involve a personal interest in Indian trade.²³ This class of transactions in which non-Indians outside of the Indian country must take account of federal Indian law, is extremely limited in scope, applying primarily to matters involving property in which the Federal Government has an interest,²⁴ and to the personnel of the Indian Service itself.²⁵

E NON-INDIAN IN INDIAN COUNTRY ENGAGED IN FEDERAL TRANSACTION

If, where the subject matter is of federal concern, a non-Indian is subject to federal, rather than state jurisdiction, even for acts occurring outside of an Indian reservation, a *jurisdiction* he is subject to federal jurisdiction for acts of federal concern committed within an Indian reservation. Indeed, there is a very broad realm of conduct in which non-Indians on an Indian reservation are subject to federal rather than state power. With respect to all offenses committed by whites against Indians on an Indian reservation, state jurisdiction yields to federal jurisdiction, although in fact the Federal Government has adopted state laws in providing for the punishment of such offenses by the federal courts.²⁶ Likewise, there are various reservation offenses for which Congress has prescribed penalties enforceable in federal courts, which are applicable to non-Indians, and in some instances to Indians as well.²⁷ It has been administratively held that even a state officer cannot claim the protection of state law if he enters an Indian reservation without congressional authorization for the purpose of searching an Indian's home for property thought to be in the unlawful possession of the Indian.²⁸

Although the federal constitutional jurisdiction over matters affecting Indian affairs on an Indian reservation has generally been viewed as an exclusive jurisdiction, extending all state legislation, an exception to the general rule has been recognized where the state legislation supplements the protection of Indians provided by federal law. Such state legislation, which may be termed "auxiliary" to federal law, is upheld in *State of*

²² See Ch. 28, supra.

²³ See Chapter 2, sec. 43.

²⁴ See *Osage v. Hitchcock*, 202 U. S. 60, 68-69 (1906), *Nganah v. Hitchcock*, 202 U. S. 473 (1906), *Winters v. United States*, 207 U. S. 564 (1908), *United States v. Winans*, 198 U. S. 371 (1905), *Morrison v. W. & L. 206 U. S. 481, 487-488 (1925)*, *United States v. Morrison*, 205 Fed. 301 (C. C. Colo. 1913).

²⁵ See Chapter 2, sec. 38, and Chapter 18.

²⁶ See Chapter 18, sec. 6. There may be situations, however, in which a concurrent jurisdiction may be exercised by the state to protect Indians against non-Indians. *State of New York v. Dibble*, 162 U. S. 895 (1895), discussed in Chapter 15, sec. 10C.

²⁷ See sec. 24, supra.

²⁸ See Chapter 18, sec. 3.

²⁹ 66 I. D. 88 (1935).

CHAPTER 7

THE SCOPE OF TRIBAL SELF-GOVERNMENT¹

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SECTION 1. INTRODUCTION

The Indian's right of self-government is a right which has been consistently protected by the courts, frequently recognized and intermittently ignored by treaty-makers and legislators, and very widely disregarded by administrative officials. That such rights have been disregarded is perhaps due more to lack of acquaintance with the law of the subject than to any drive for increased power on the part of administrative officials.

The most basic of all Indian rights, the right of self-government, is the Indian's last defense against administrative oppression, for in a realm where the states are powerless to govern and where Congress, occupied with more pressing national affairs, cannot govern wisely and well, there remains a large no-man's-land in which government can emanate only from officials of the Interior Department or from the Indians themselves. Self-government is thus the Indians' only alternative to rule by a government department.

Indian self-government, the decided *en-cas* hold, includes the power of an Indian tribe to adopt and operate under a form of government of the Indians' choosing, to define conditions of

tribal membership, to regulate domestic relations of members, to prescribe rules of inheritance, to levy taxes, to regulate property within the jurisdiction of the tribe, to control the conduct of members by municipal legislation, and to administer justice.

Perhaps the most basic principle of all Indian law, supported by a host of decisions hereinafter analyzed, is the principle that *those powers which are lawfully vested in an Indian tribe are not, in general, delegated powers granted by express acts of Congress, but rather inherent powers of a limited sovereignty which has never been extinguished*. Each Indian tribe begins its relationship with the Federal Government as a sovereign power, recognized as such in treaty and legislation. The powers of sovereignty have been limited from time to time by special treaties and laws designed to take from the Indian tribes control of matters which, in the judgment of Congress, these tribes could no longer be safely permitted to handle. The statutes of Congress, then, must be examined to determine the limitations of tribal sovereignty rather than to determine its source or its positive content. What is not expressly limited remains within the domain of tribal sovereignty.

The acts of Congress which appear to limit the powers of an Indian tribe are not to be unduly extended by doubtful inference.²

² See *In re Mayfield, Petitioner*, 141 U. S. 107, 115, 116 (1891).

SECTION 2. THE DERIVATION OF TRIBAL POWERS

From the earliest years of the Republic the Indian tribes have been recognized as "distinct, independent, political communities,"³ and, as such, qualified to exercise powers of self-government, not by virtue of any delegation of powers from the Federal Government, but rather by reason of their original tribal sovereignty. Thus treaties and statutes of Congress have been looked to by the courts as limitations upon original tribal powers, or, at most, evidences of recognition of such powers, rather than as the direct source of tribal powers. This is but an application of the general principle that "It is only by positive enactments,

even in the case of conquered and subdued nations, that their laws are changed by the conqueror."⁴

In point of form it is immaterial whether the powers of an Indian tribe are expressed and excluded through customs handed down by word of mouth or through written constitutions and statutes. In either case the laws of the Indian tribe owe their force to the will of the members of the tribe.

³ *Walt v. Williamson*, 8 Ala. 48, 51 (1845), upholding tribal law of divorce. And see *Wharton, Conflict of Laws* (2d ed. 1906), vol. 1, sec. 9; *Wharton, Elements of International Law* (5th ed. by Philipson, 1915) 60-68.

¹ *Worcester v. Georgia*, 6 Pet. 515, 559 (1832)

The earliest complete expression of these principles is found in the case of *Worcester v. Georgia*.¹ In that case the State of Georgia, in its attempts to destroy the tribal government of the Cherokees, had imprisoned a white man living among the Cherokees with the consent of the tribal authorities. The Supreme Court of the United States held that his imprisonment was in violation of the Constitution, that the state had no right to infringe upon the federal power to regulate intercourse with the Indians, and that the Indian tribes were, in effect, subjects of federal law, to the exclusion of state law, and entitled to exercise their own inherent rights of sovereignty so far as might be consistent with such federal law. The court declared, per Marshall, C. J.

The Indian nations had always been considered as distinct, independent, political communities.² . . . (P. 559)

. . . and the settled doctrine of the law of nations is, that a weaker power does not surrender its independence—its right to self-government—by associating with a stronger, and taking its protection. A weak state, in order to provide for its safety, may place itself under the protection of one more powerful, without stopping itself of the right of government, and ceasing to be a state. Examples of this kind are not wanting in Europe. . . . Tributary and feudatory states," says Vattel, "do not thereby cease to be sovereign and independent states, so long as self-government, and sovereign and independent authority, are left in the administration of the state." At the present day, more than one state may be considered as holding its right of self-government under the guarantee and protection of one or more allies.

The Cherokee nation, then, is a distinct community, occupying its own territory, with boundaries accurately described, in which the laws of Georgia can have no force, and which the citizens of Georgia have no right to enter, but with the assent of the Cherokees themselves, or in conformity with treaties, and with the acts of congress. The whole intercourse between the United States and this nation, is by our constitution and laws, vested in the government of the United States. The act of the state of Georgia, under which the plaintiff in error was prosecuted, is, consequently void, and the judgment is affirmed. (P. 560)

John Marshall's analysis of the basis of Indian self-government in the law of nations has been conscientiously followed by the courts for more than a hundred years. The doctrine set forth in this opinion has been applied to an unfolding series of new problems in series of cases, that have come before the Supreme Court and the inferior federal courts. The doctrine has not always been so highly respected in state courts and by administrative authorities. It was of the decision in *Worcester v. Georgia* that President Jackson is reported to have said, "John Marshall has made his decision, now let him enforce it!" As a matter of history, the State of Georgia, unsuccessful defendant in the case, never did carry out the Supreme Court's decision, and the "successful" plaintiff, a guest of the Cherokee Nation, continued to languish in a Georgia prison, under a Georgia law which, according to the Supreme Court decision, was unconstitutional.

The case in which the doctrine of Indian self-government was first established has a certain prophetic character. Administrative officials for a century afterwards continued to ignore the broad implications of the judicial doctrine of Indian self-government. But again and again, as cases came before the federal courts, administrative officials, state and federal, were forced to reckon with the doctrine of Indian self-government and to surrender powers of Indian tribes which they sought to usurp.

¹ 9 Pet. 515 (1823)

² Greeley, *American Conflict* (1894), vol. 1, p. 100

Finally after 101 years, there appeared an administration that accepted the logical implications of Indian self-government.

The whole course of judicial decision on the nature of Indian tribal powers is marked by adherence to three fundamental principles: (1) All Indian title possesses, in the first instance, all the powers of any sovereign state. (2) Congress renders the title subject to the legislative power of the United States and, in substance, terminates the external powers of sovereignty of the tribe, *e. g.*, its power to enter into treaties with foreign nations, but does not by itself affect the internal sovereignty of the tribe, *e. g.*, its powers of local self-government. (3) These powers are subject to qualification by treaties and by express legislation of Congress, but, save as thus expressly qualified, full powers of internal sovereignty are vested in the Indian tribes and in their duly constituted organs of government.

A striking affirmation of these principles is found in the case of *Talton v. Mayes*.³ The question was presented in that case whether the Fifth Amendment of the Federal Constitution operated as a limitation upon the legislation of the Cherokee Nation. A law of the Cherokee Nation authorized a grand jury of five persons to institute criminal proceedings. A person indicted upon this procedure and held for trial in the Cherokee courts sued out a writ of habeas corpus, alleging that the law in question violated the Fifth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, since a grand jury of five was not a grand jury within the contemplation of the Fifth Amendment. The Supreme Court held that the Fifth Amendment applied only to the acts of the Federal Government, that the sovereign powers of the Cherokee Nation, although recognized by the Federal Government, were not created by the Federal Government, and that the judicial authority of the Cherokees was, therefore, not subject to the limitations imposed by the Bill of Rights.

The question, therefore, is, does the Fifth Amendment to the Constitution apply to the local legislation of the Cherokee nation so as to require all prosecutions for offences committed against the laws of that nation to be instituted by a grand jury organized in accordance with the provisions of that amendment? The solution of this question involves an inquiry as to the nature and origin of the power of local government exercised by the Cherokee nation and recognized to exist in it by the treaties and statutes above referred to. Since the case of *Benton v. Baltimore*, 7 Pet. 243, it has been settled that the Fifth Amendment in the Constitution of the United States is a limitation only upon the powers of the General Government, that is, that the amendment operates solely on the Constitution itself by qualifying the powers of the National Government which the Constitution called into being.

The case in this regard therefore depends upon whether the powers of local government exercised by the Cherokee

³ The most comprehensive piece of Indian legislation since the Act of June 30, 1881, 4 Stat. 715, is the Act of June 18, 1904, 48 Stat. 954, 25 U. S. C. 461-470, entitled "An Act to conserve and develop Indian lands and resources, to extend to Indians the right to form business and other organizations, to establish a credit system for Indians, to grant certain rights of home lots to Indians, to provide for vocational education for Indians, and for other purposes," and commonly known as the Wheeler-Howard Act or Indian Reorganization Act. Since its enactment, this statute has been amended in many particulars (Act of June 15, 1934, 49 Stat. 375, 25 U. S. C. 478a, 478b, Act of August 12, 1945, sec. 2, 49 Stat. 571, 569, 25 U. S. C. 478a, Act of August 28, 1937, 50 Stat. 862, 25 U. S. C. 468-490), and its most important provisions have been extended to Alaska (Act of May 1, 1936, 49 Stat. 1250, 48 U. S. C. 380) and Oklahoma (Act of June 20, 1936, 49 Stat. 1907, 25 U. S. C. 501-509).

⁴ Certain external powers of sovereignty, such as the power to make war and the power to make treaties with the United States, have been recognized by the Federal Government. See Chapter 14, sec. 8.

⁵ See for example, *Bell v. United States*, 408 U.S. 417 (1962) (C. A. 8, 1804). And see Chapter 5, sec. 6.

⁶ 168 U. S. 878 (1898)

ation are Federal powers created by and springing from the Constitution of the United States, and hence controlled by the Fifth Amendment to that Constitution, or whether they are local powers, not created by the Constitution, although subject to its general provisions and the paramount authority of Congress. The repeated indications of this court have long since answered the former question in the negative.

True it is that in many adjudications of this court the fact has been fully recognized, that although possessed of these attributes of local self-government, when exercising their tribal functions, all such rights are subject to the supreme legislative authority of the United States. *Cherokee Nation v. Georgia*, 5 Pet. 5, 135 U.S. 641, where the cases are fully reviewed. But the existence of the right in Congress to regulate the manner in which the local powers of the Cherokee nation shall be exercised does not render such local powers Federal powers arising from and created by the Constitution of the United States. It follows that as the powers of local self-government enjoyed by the Cherokee nation existed prior to the Constitution, they are not operated upon by the Fifth Amendment, which, as we have said, had for its sole object to control the powers conferred by the Constitution on the National Government. (19 Op. 882-384.)

The decision in *Tulsa v. Green* does not mean that Indian tribes are not subject to the Constitution of the United States. It remains true that an Indian tribe is subject to the Federal Constitution in the same sense that the city of New Orleans, for instance, is subject to the Federal Constitution. The Federal Constitution prohibits slavery absolutely. This absolute prohibition applies to an Indian tribe as well as to a municipal government and it has been held that slave-holding within an Indian tribe became illegal with the passage of the Thirteenth Amendment.¹¹ It is, therefore, always pertinent to ask whether an ordinance of a tribe conflicts with the Constitution of the United States.¹² Where, however, the United States Constitution leaves particular restraints upon federal courts or upon Congress, those restraints do not apply to the courts or legislatures of the Indian tribes.¹³ Likewise, particular restraints upon the states are inapplicable to Indian tribes.

It has been held that the guaranty of religious liberty in the First Amendment of the United States Constitution does not protect a resident of New Orleans from religious oppression by municipal authorities.¹⁴ Neither does it protect the Indian against religious oppression on the part of tribal authorities. As the citizen of New Orleans must write guarantees of religious liberty into his city charter or his state constitution, if he desires constitutional protection in this respect, so the members of an Indian tribe must write the guarantees they desire into tribal constitutions. In fact, many tribes have written such guarantees into tribal constitutions that are now in force.¹⁵

¹¹ *In re Shoshone*, 81 Fed. 297 (D. C. Alaska, 1888).

¹² *Off. Rep. v. Bureau*, 168 U.S. 218 (1897), discussed *infra*, sec. 4.

¹³ In *United States v. Benson*, 92 U.S. 254, 274 Fed. 948 (D. C. W. D. N. Y. 1892), it was held that federal courts have no power to set aside action of a tribal council allegedly contradictory of the property rights of a member of the tribe.

¹⁴ That the First Amendment guaranteeing religious liberty does not limit the action of a tribal council in the holding of *Memo. Sol. I D*, August 8, 1888 (*Lower House Sioux*).

¹⁵ *Permit v. Post Municipality*, 3 Nev. 559 (1845).

¹⁶ A typical Indian bill of rights is the following, taken from the constitution of the Blackfoot Tribe, approved December 18, 1885, by the Secretary of the Interior, pursuant to sec. 16 of the Act of June 16, 1894 (48 Stat. 984, 987, 26 U.S.C. 476).

ARTICLE VII.—BILL OF RIGHTS

SECTION 1. *Suffrage*.—Any member of the Blackfoot Tribe, twenty-one (21) years of age or over, shall be eligible to vote at

An extreme application of the doctrine of tribal sovereignty is found in the case of *Es parte Yun Dog*,¹⁶ in which it was held that the murder of one Sioux Indian by another upon an Indian reservation was not within the criminal jurisdiction of any court of the United States, but that only the Indian tribe itself could punish the offense.

The contention that the United States courts had jurisdiction in a case of this sort was based upon the language of a treaty with the Sioux, rather than upon considerations applicable generally to the various Indian tribes. The most important of the treaty clauses upon which the claim of federal jurisdiction was based provided:

"* And Congress shall, by appropriate legislation, secure to them an orderly government; they shall be subject to the laws of the United States, and each individual shall be protected in his rights of property, person, and life (P. 568).

Commenting upon this clause, the Supreme Court declared:

It is equally clear, in our opinion, that the words can have no such effect as that claimed for them. The pledge to secure to these people, with whom the United States was contracting as a distinct political body, and orderly government, by appropriate legislation, is a general one, to be framed and enacted, necessarily implied, having regard to all the circumstances attending the transaction, that among the aims of civilized life, which it was the very purpose of all these arrangements to introduce and maintain among them, was the highest and best of all, that of self-government, the regulation by themselves of their own domestic affairs, the maintenance of order and peace among their own members by the administration of their own laws and customs. They were nevertheless to be subject to the laws of the United States in the sense of citizens, but, as they had always been, as wards subject to a guardian, not as individuals, constituted members of the political community of the United States, with a voice in the selection of representatives and the framing

any election when he or she presents himself or herself at a polling place within his or her voting district.

Sec. 2. *Economic liberty*.—All members of the tribe shall be accorded equal opportunities to participate in the economic resources and activities of the reservation.

Sec. 3. *Civil liberties*.—All members of the tribe may enjoy without hindrance freedom of worship, conscience, speech, press, assembly, and association.

Sec. 4. *Right of accused*.—Any member of the Blackfoot Tribe accused of any offense shall have the right to a bond, open and public hearing, with due regard to the charges, and shall be permitted to summon witnesses on his own behalf. Trial by jury may be demanded by any prisoner accused of any offense punishable by more than thirty days imprisonment. Accused shall shall not be required and cruel punishment shall not be imposed.

Twenty-one other tribal constitutions adopted prior to June 1, 1940, contain more or less similar guarantees, as follows: Constitution of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes of the Flathead Reservation, Article VII; Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde Community, Article VII; Hopi Tribe, Article IX; Lower Brule Sioux Tribe, Article VII; Makah Tribe, Article VII; Nuckachiet Indian Tribe, Article VII; Northern Cheyenne Tribe, Article V; Papago Tribe, Article VI; Pariaul Tribe, Article VII; Quileute Tribe, Article VII; San Carlos Apache Tribe, Article VII; Shoshone-Bannock Tribes of the Fort Hall Reservation, Article VII; Shoshone-Plute Tribes of the Duck Valley Reservation, Article VII; Sisseton Indians of the Sisseton Reservation, Article VII; Tulap Tribes, Article VII; Ute Indian Tribe, Article VII; Sac and Fox Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma, Article IX; Pawnee Indians of Oklahoma, Article VII; Caddo Indian Tribe of Oklahoma, Article X; Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon, Article VII; Tonkawa Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma, Article IX; Skokomah Indian Tribe of the Skokomah Reservation, Article VII; Absentee-Shawnee Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma, Article IX; Alabama-Quasaw Tribe of Oklahoma, Article IX; Citizen Band of Potawatomi Indians of Oklahoma, Article X; Thlophloco Tribal Town of Oklahoma, Article VII; Fort Gibson Indian Community of Washington, Article V; Eastern Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma, Article IX; Shawnee Band of Potawatomi Indians of Shurtwaite Reservation, Utah, Article VI.

¹⁶ 109 U.S. 656 (1883). Also see Chapter 18.

of the laws, but as a dependent community who were in a state of juvenile dependence from the control of a savage tribe to that of a people who, through the discipline of labor and by education, it was hoped might become a self-sustaining and self-governed society. (Pp 508-509)

In finally rejecting the argument for federal jurisdiction the Supreme Court declared

"It is a case where, against an express exception in the law itself, that law, by argument and misceuse only, is sought to be extended over aliens and strangers; over the members of a community separated by race, by tradition, by the instincts of a free though savage life, from the authority and power which seeks to impose upon them the restraints of an external and unknown code, and to subject them to the responsibilities of civil conduct, according to rules and penalties of which they could have no previous warning, which judges them by a standard made by others and not for them, which takes no account of the conditions which should exempt them from its exactions, and makes no allowance for their inability to understand it." (P 571)

The force of the decision in *Ex parte Crow Dog* was not weakened, although the scope of the decision was limited, by subsequent legislation which withdrew from the rule of tribal sovereignty a list of 7 major crimes, only recently extended to 10.¹⁷ Over these specified crimes jurisdiction has been vested in the federal courts. Over all other crimes, including such serious crimes as kidnapping, attempted murder, receiving stolen goods, and forgery, jurisdiction resides not in the courts of nation or state but only in the Indian tribe itself.

We shall defer the question of the exact scope of tribal jurisdiction for more detailed consideration at a later point. We are concerned for the present only in analyzing the basic doctrine of tribal sovereignty. To this doctrine the case of *Ex parte Crow Dog* contributes not only an intimation of the vast and important content of criminal jurisdiction inherent in tribal sovereignty, but also an example of the convenient manner in which the United States Supreme Court has opposed the efforts of lower courts and administrative officials to intrude upon tribal sovereignty and to assume tribal prerogatives without statutory justification. The legal powers of an Indian tribe, measured by the decisions of the highest courts, are far more extensive than the powers which most Indian tribes have been actually permitted by executive officials to exercise in their own right.

The acknowledgment of tribal sovereignty or autonomy by the courts of the United States,¹⁸ has not been a matter of lip service

¹⁷ See sec 9, infra.

¹⁸ The doctrine of tribal sovereignty is well summarized in the following passage in the case of *In re Sah Quah*, 81 Fed 327 (D C Alaska 1898)

"From the organization of the government to the present time, the various Indian tribes of the United States have been treated as free and independent within their respective territorial boundaries by their tribal laws and customs, in all matters pertaining to their internal affairs, such as contracts and the manner of their enforcement, marriage, divorces, and the punishment for crimes committed against each other. They have been treated from all allegiance to the municipal laws of the whites as precedents or otherwise in relation to tribal affairs, subject, however, to such restraints as were from time to time deemed necessary for their own protection, and for the protection of the whites adjacent to them. *Ojibwa Xai v Georgia*, 5 Fed 1, 16, 17, *Johnson v Gordon*, 20 Johns 108. (P 329.)

And in the case of *Anderson v Matthews*, 174 Cal 537, 133 Pac 902, 905 (1917), it was said

"* * * The Indian tribes recognized by the federal government are not subject to the laws of the state in which they are situated. They are under the control and protection of the United States, but they retain the right of local self-government, and they regulate and control their internal affairs and rights of succession and property, except as Congress has otherwise specially provided by law.

See, also, to the same effect, Story, Commentaries on the Constitution of the United States (1891), sec 1000; Kent, Commentaries on American Law (14th ed., 1898), 883-888.

to a venerable but outmoded theory. The doctrine has been followed through the most recent cases, and from time to time carried to new implications. Moreover, it has been administered by the courts in a spirit of wholehearted sympathy and respect. The painstaking analysis by the Supreme Court of tribal laws and constitutional provisions in the *Cherokee Intermarriage Cases*,¹⁹ is typical, and exhibits a degree of respect proper to the laws of a sovereign state.²⁰

The sympathy of the courts towards the independent efforts of Indian tribes to administer the institutions of self-government has led to the doctrine that Indian laws and statutes are to be interpreted not in accordance with the technical rules of the common law, but in the light of the traditions and circumstances of the Indian people. An attempt in the case of *Ex parte Tiger*²¹ to construe the language of the Creek Constitution in a technical sense was met by the appropriate judicial retort

"If the Creek Nation desired its system of jurisprudence through the common law, there would be much plausibility in this reasoning. But they are strangers to the common law. They derive their jurisprudence from an entirely different source, and they are as unfamiliar with common-law terms and definitions as they are with Sanskrit or Hebrew. With them, 'to indict' is to file a written accusation charging a person with crime."

So, too, in the case of *McClintock v Gaudy*,²² the court had occasion to note that

"The Cherokee constitution was not drawn by geologists or for geologists, or in the interest of science, or with scientific accuracy. It was framed by plain people, who have agreed among themselves what meaning should be attached to it, and the courts should give effect to that interpretation which its framers intended it should have."

The realm of tribal autonomy which has been so carefully respected by the courts has been implicitly confirmed by Congress in a host of statutes providing that various administrative needs of the President or the Interior Department shall be carried out only with the consent of the Indian tribe or its chiefs or council.²³

The whole course of congressional legislation with respect to the Indians has been based upon a recognition of tribal autonomy, qualified only where the need for other types of governmental control has become clearly manifest. As was said in a report of the Senate Judiciary Committee in 1870

"Their right of self-government, and to administer justice among themselves, after their rude fashion, even to the extent of inflicting the death penalty, has never been questioned."²⁴

It is a fact that state governments and administrative officials have frequently trespassed upon the realm of tribal autonomy, presuming to govern the Indian tribes through state law or departmental regulation or arbitrary administrative fiat,²⁵ but these trespasses have not impaired the vested legal powers of local self-government which have been recognized again and again when these trespasses have been challenged by an Indian tribe. "Power and authority rightfully conferred do not nec-

¹⁹ 203 U S 78 (1906). And see *Ponoma Smith v United States*, 151 U S 60 (1894), 8 Op A G 300 (1887).

²⁰ And see sec 8, infra.

²¹ 2 Ind T 41, 47 S W 304, 305 (1898).

²² See *Weldron v United States*, 143 Fed 418 (C C S D 1905), *Henson v Johnson*, 346 Pac 308 (1935).

²³ Ind T 307, 28 S W 65, 71 (1899).
²⁴ See sec 10, infra, 25 U S C 130, 132, 136, 152, 154, 218, 225, 229, 271, 297, 398, 402. These provisions are discussed later under relevant headings.

²⁵ See Rep't No 288, 41st Cong., 2d sess., p. 10.
²⁶ See *Osborn*, In Governing the Indian, See the Indian? (1917), 28 Case & Comment 722.

matters entrusted to the tribe by Congress.³⁶ Some statutes confer upon the President or the Secretary of the Interior supervisory powers over certain named tribal councils.³⁷ Numerous appropriation acts specify the tribal governing bodies or officers recognized by the Federal Government, in making provisions for tribal approval of various expenditures or in appropriating tribal or federal funds to salaries of Indian councils, courts, or chiefs.³⁸ And treaties with Indian tribes frequently declare in express language, or show by the manner of Indian ratification, the character of tribal government.³⁹ Other treaties guarantee that such tribal governments will not be subjected to state or territorial law.⁴⁰ Other treaties guarantee to various Indian tribes

"the right to establish their own form of government, appoint their own officers, and administer their own laws, subject, however, to the legislation of the Congress of the United States regulating trade and intercourse with the Indians."⁴¹ Various other powers, including the power to pass upon various federal expenditures, the power to manage schools supported by the Federal Government, the power to allot land, and the power to designate missionaries to act in a supervisory capacity with respect to missionary distributions, are conferred or confirmed by special treaty provisions.⁴²

In accordance with the rule applicable to foreign treaties, the courts have repeatedly indicated that they will not go behind the terms of a treaty to inquire whether the representatives of the tribe accepted as such by the President and the Senate were proper representatives.⁴³

Treaties must be viewed not only as sources of exercising federal power, but equally as forms of exercising tribal power.⁴⁴ And from the standpoint of tribal law, a later ordinance may supersede a treaty, just as a later act of Congress may supersede a treaty, although in either case an international liability may result.⁴⁵

Recognition of tribal governments and tribal powers may be found not only in acts of Congress and in treaties but also in state statutes, which, when adopted with the advice and consent of the Indians themselves, have been recorded special weight.⁴⁶

Not only must states proceeding to act in the name of an Indian tribe show that their acts fall within their allotted function and authority, but likewise the procedural formalities, which tradition or ordinance require must be followed in executing an act within the acknowledged jurisdiction of the officer or set of officers.⁴⁷

Creek Tribe, 7 Stat. 460, 865, Art. V of the Treaty of December 20, 1865, with the Cherokee Tribe, 7 Stat. 178, 481.

³⁶ Art. IV of the Treaty of January 15, 1868, with the New York Indians, 7 Stat. 550, 551. Accord Art. 7 of the Treaty of June 22, 1865, with the Choctaw and Chickasaw, 11 Stat. 611, 612. Cf. 10 Op. A. G. 412 (1866) (holding establishment of national bank in Creek Nation unlawful). See Chapter 23, sec. 4.

³⁷ Treaty of January 4, 1763, with the Shawnee Nation, 7 Stat. 28, Treaty of June 4, 1828, with the Kansas Nation, 7 Stat. 244, Treaty of January 24, 1830, with the Creek Nation, 7 Stat. 286, Art. VII of Treaty of July 20, 1861, with the Shawnee and Seneca, 7 Stat. 821, 824, Art. VI of the Treaty of March 28, 1863, with the Ottawa and Chippewa, 7 Stat. 401, 403, Art. III of the Treaty of April 28, 1848, with the Wyandott, 7 Stat. 552, Art. I of the Treaty of January 4, 1816, with the Creek and Seminole, 9 Stat. 822, Art. II of the Treaty of August 6, 1840, with the Choctaw, 9 Stat. 871, Art. VI of the Treaty of June 22, 1865, with the Chickasaw, 10 Stat. 074, 076, Art. IV of the Treaty of March 17, 1842, with the Wyandott Nation, 11 Stat. 681, 592, Art. VI and Art. VII of the Treaty of June 22, 1865, with the Choctaw and Chickasaw tribes, 11 Stat. 611, 612, 613, Art. III of the Treaty of February 5, 1860, with the Blockade and Munsee nations, 11 Stat. 68, 695, Art. VI of the Treaty of August 7, 1866, with Creek and Seminole Indians, 11 Stat. 009, 704-701, Art. V of the Treaty of September 24, 1867, with the Ponca Indians, 11 Stat. 720, 721, Art. VII of the Treaty of March 12, 1868, with the Ponca Tribe, 11 Stat. 807, 809, Art. VII of the Treaty of May 7, 1864, with the Chippewa Indians, 11 Stat. 094, 604, Art. I of the Treaty of March 21, 1866, with the Seneca Indians, 14 Stat. 755, 756, Treaty of April 7, 1866, with the Fox, Pottaw and Chippewa Indians, 14 Stat. 785, Art. XXIV of the Treaty of April 28, 1868, with the Choctaw and Chickasaw Nations, 14 Stat. 760, 770-777, Treaty of June 14, 1868, with the Creek Nation, 11 Stat. 789, Treaty of July 19, 1868, with the Cherokee Nation, 14 Stat. 789, Treaty of February 18, 1867, with the Ramona and Wapshila lands of Dakota or Sioux Indians, 15 Stat. 506, Art. VIII of the Treaty of February 28, 1867, with the Shawnee Indians, 15 Stat. 513, 515.

³⁸ United States v. New York & Del. Nat., 178 U. S. 434 (1890), 30 Fed. v. Shawnee, 11 How. 368 (1866). See Chapter 8, sec. 1.

³⁹ See Chapter 14, sec. 2.

⁴⁰ The Cherokee v. The State, 198 U. S. 115 (1905). See Chapter 8, sec. 1.

⁴¹ United States v. Carroll & Noyes v. Tyler, 269 U. S. 18 (1925). And see Chapter 8.

⁴² Thus in *Weller v. McLeod*, 204 U. S. 802 (1907), the Supreme Court held invalid a claim of title under a sale by a sheriff of the Choctaw Nation,

³⁶ Act of March 3, 1880, 8 Stat. 840 (Shoshone), 8 Stat. 1706-1770, Act of March 4, 1848, 5 Stat. 948 (Stockbridge), 5 Stat. 1406, 9 Stat. 65 (Kickapoo), Act of May 28, 1872, 17 Stat. 802 (Pottawatomie and Abenaki Shawnee), Act of August 7, 1882, 22 Stat. 840 (Indian Territory), Act of March 8, 1885, 23 Stat. 840 (Omaha), Act of October 10, 1888, 25 Stat. 608 (Cheyenne), Act of February 25, 1889, 25 Stat. 687 (Shoshone and Banawack), Act of July 1, 1896, 80 Stat. 107 (Seminole), Act of July 1, 1902, 32 Stat. 030 (Kansas), Act of June 28, 1900, 34 Stat. 530 (Osage), Joint Res. of March 2, 1906, 34 Stat. 822 (Five Civilized Tribes), Act of February 8, 1918, 40 Stat. 435 (Choctaw and Chickasaw), Act of May 14, 1900, 34 Stat. 550 (Chippewa), Act of July 2, 1920, 44 Stat. 801 (Pottawatomie), Act of July 2, 1920, 44 Stat. 107 (Crow), Act of May 25, 1928, 45 Stat. 787 (Choctaw and Chickasaw), Act of March 1, 1920, 45 Stat. 1440 (Kiowa), Act of March 2, 1920, 45 Stat. 1479 (O-sage), Joint Res. of May 15, 1920, 46 Stat. 309 (Zanion Short Tribe), Act of June 10, 1930, 46 Stat. 798 (Choctaw and Chickasaw), Act of February 14, 1931, 46 Stat. 1109 (Kiowa), Act of April 21, 1932, 47 Stat. 88 (Choctaw and Chickasaw), Act of April 26, 1932, 47 Stat. 137 (Cheyenne), Act of April 27, 1932, 47 Stat. 240 (Seminole), Act of June 6, 1932, 47 Stat. 162 (Crows and Band of Lake Superior), Act of June 30, 1932, 47 Stat. 420 (Crow and Ponca), Act of June 30, 1934, 48 Stat. 010 (Quinnell), Act of June 10, 1935, 49 Stat. 488 (Timber and Illoa Indians of Alaska), Act of August 19, 1937, 50 Stat. 699 (Cheyenne), Act of June 25, 1938, 52 Stat. 1307 (Kiowa).

³⁷ See Act of June 7, 1897, 30 Stat. 82, 84 (Five Tribes), Act of March 8, 1901, 31 Stat. 1078, 1077 (Five Tribes), Act of June 28, 1900, 34 Stat. 550, 545 (containing power to remove members of Osage Council), upheld in *United States ex. v. Brown v. Lane*, 292 U. S. 508 (1934).

³⁸ Act of June 20, 1854, 4 Stat. 642, 645, Act of July 27, 1845, 15 Stat. 198, 210, 211, Act of July 15, 1870, 16 Stat. 885, 880, Act of March 3, 1871, 10 Stat. 544, 500, Act of May 20, 1872, 17 Stat. 165, 180, Act of February 14, 1874, 17 Stat. 487, 490, Act of June 22, 1874, 19 Stat. 146, 171, Act of March 8, 1875, 19 Stat. 430, 444, 441, Act of March 3, 1877, 10 Stat. 271, 280, Act of May 15, 1880, 24 Stat. 20, 22, Act of June 7, 1897, 30 Stat. 63, 81, 82, Act of March 3, 1901, 31 Stat. 1004, 1077, Act of March 8, 1904, 33 Stat. 828, 1008, Act of June 21, 1906, 34 Stat. 820, 842, Act of May 6, 1909, 35 Stat. 751, 805, Act of March 8, 1911, 36 Stat. 1068, 1085, Act of June 30, 1913, 38 Stat. 77, Act of August 1, 1914, 38 Stat. 892, Act of May 18, 1916, 39 Stat. 123, Act of March 2, 1917, 39 Stat. 980, Act of May 28, 1918, 40 Stat. 561, Act of June 30, 1919, 41 Stat. 8, Act of February 14, 1920, 41 Stat. 409, Act of March 8, 1921, 41 Stat. 1225, Act of May 24, 1922, 42 Stat. 659, Act of January 24, 1923, 42 Stat. 1174, Act of June 5, 1924, 43 Stat. 800, Act of March 8, 1926, 43 Stat. 1141, Act of May 10, 1926, 44 Stat. 453, 458, Act of January 12, 1927, 44 Stat. 954, 959, Act of March 4, 1928, 45 Stat. 1562, 1506, 1584, Act of April 29, 1929, 47 Stat. 91, 94, 119, Act of February 17, 1933, 47 Stat. 880, 884, 890, Act of March 2, 1934, 48 Stat. 302, 496, Act of May 6, 1935, 48 Stat. 176, 182, 195, Act of June 22, 1936, 49 Stat. 1707, 1708, Act of May 9, 1938, 52 Stat. 301, 314, 315.

³⁹ Treaty of August 7, 1700, with the Creek Nation, 7 Stat. 85, Treaty of September 14, 1816, with the Cherokee Nation, 7 Stat. 148, Treaty of July 8, 1817, with the Cherokee Nation, 7 Stat. 158, Treaty of February 12, 1825, with the Creek Nation, 7 Stat. 287, Treaty of September 23, 1832, with the Sac and Fox Indians, 7 Stat. 274, Treaty of April 1, 1850, with the Wyandott Tribe, 0 Stat. 087, Treaty of May 10, 1854, with the Shawnee Indians, 10 Stat. 1088, Treaty of January 17, 1867, with the Choctaw and Chickasaw, 11 Stat. 078, Treaty of July 8, 1868, with the Ottawa and Chippewa Indians, 11 Stat. 821, Treaty of August 2, 1868, with the Chippewa Indians, 11 Stat. 698, Treaty of July 19, 1868, with the Choctaw Nation, 14 Stat. 789, Treaty of June 30, 1902, with the Creek Tribe, 32 Stat. 800 and see *United States v. Anderson*, 225 Fed. 826 (D. C. B. D. Wis. 1915).

⁴⁰ Art. IV of Treaty of September 27, 1830, with the Choctaw Nation, 7 Stat. 832, 854, Art. XIV of the Treaty of March 24, 1832, with the

to the Cherokee,¹⁰⁰ Creek,¹⁰¹ and Choctaw¹⁰² constitutions. What is not generally known is that many other Indian tribes have organized under written constitutions.¹⁰³ The writing of Indian constitutions under the Wheeler-Howard Act of June 18 1884, is therefore no new thing in the legal history of this continent, and it is possible to hope that some of the political wisdom that has already shown the test of centuries of revolutionary change in Indian life has been embodied in the constitutions of the hundred or more tribes which have been organized under that act.¹⁰⁴

¹⁰⁰The constitution of the Cherokees was a wonderful adaptation to the circumstances and conditions of the time, and to a civilization that was yet to come. It was framed and adopted by a people some of whom were still in the savage state and the better portion of whom had just entered upon that stage of civilization which is characterized by individual pursuits, and it was framed during a period of extraordinary turmoil and civil discord when the greater part of the Cherokee people had just been driven by military force from their mountains and valleys in Georgia, and been brought by enforced migration into the country of the Western Cherokee. This condition of anxiety and civil war reigned in the territory—no condition which was to continue until the two branches of the nation should be united under the treaty of 1810 (27 C. Cl. R. 1)—yet in some things this condition of law and the requirements of a race steadily advancing in prosperity and civilization and civilization as well as law, had need, no far as they are concerned, no artificial alteration or amendment, though deserves to be placed among the great work of intelligent statesmanship which outline the own time and continue through succeeding generations, to invite the light, and guide the destinies of men, and it is not in the power of the constitution of the Cherokees that the judiciary of another nation are able, with entire confidence in the closeness and wisdom of its provisions, to administer justice in the present of the Cherokees and the maintenance of their personal and political rights. *Journal of the Cherokee Nation and United States*, 28 C. Cl. R. 281, 317-319 (1894).

¹⁰¹See *Re: People's Title*, 2 Ind. T. 47, 8 W. 804 (1898).

¹⁰²See *McArthur v. Gray*, 3 Ind. T. 167, 48 W. 65 (1900).

¹⁰³As of December 15, 1904, the following tribes, in the nature of constitutions, were provided in the Interior Department for the following tribes: Abenaki-Benewah, Abenaki-Benewah, Annette Islands Reserve, Blackfoot, Cherokee, Cheyenne and Arapaho, Cheyenne River, Cheyenne, Chickasaw of Michigan, Choctaw, Choctaw (Mississippi), Colorado River, Crow, Flathead, Gros Ventre, Flathead, Fort Belknap, Fort Belknap, Fort Hall, Fort McDowell, Fort Peck, Fort Tuma, Grand Portage, Grand Ronde, Hoopa Valley, Hopi, Hopewell Confederacy, Kickapoo, Kiowa, Klamath, Laguna Pueblo, Lovelock, Mahak, Menominee, Menominee, Mohave, Navajo, Navajo, Pima, Pine Ridge, Potowatomi (Kansas), Potowatomi (Oklahoma), Puyallup and Lake, Quinault, Red Lake, Rocky Boy, Rosebud, San Carlos, Sisseton, Seneca (N. Y.), Seneca (Oklahoma), Shoshone-Arapaho, Sisseton, Sisseton, Standing Rock, Swinomish, Tongue River, Turtle Mountain, Tushone and Ontonagon, Warm Springs, Western Shoshone, White Earth, Wapasho, Yakima.

¹⁰⁴As of May 15, 1904, the following tribes had adopted constitutions or charters under the Act of June 18, 1884, as amended:

Arizona—San Carlos Apache Tribe, constitution approved January 17, 1885, Gila River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community, May 14, 1890, charter issued February 28, 1898, Fort McDowell-Arizona Apache Community November 24, 1884, charter June 6, 1898, Hopi Tribe, December 19, 1890, Papago Tribe, January 6, 1887, Yavapai-Apache Indian Community February 12, 1897, Colorado River Indian Tribe of the Colorado River Reservation, Arizona and California, August 18, 1887, White Mountain Apache Tribe, August 20, 1898, Hualapai Tribe of the Hualapai Reservation December 17, 1898, Havasupai Tribe of the Havasupai Reservation March 27, 1890.

California—Big Valley Band of Pomo Indians of the Big Valley Rancheria, January 15, 1899, Upper Lake Band of Pomo Indians of the Upper Lake Rancheria, January 15, 1898, Mowuk Indian Community of the Willam Rancheria, January 15, 1880, Tule River Indian Tribe, January 15, 1890, Tulame Band of Mowuk Indians of the Tulame Rancheria, January 15, 1888, charter November 12, 1887, Fort Bidwell Indian Community, January 28, 1890, Kashia Band of Pomo Indians of the Stewart's Point Rancheria, March 11, 1898, Manchara Band of Pomo Indians of the Manchester Rancheria, March 11, 1898, charter February 27, 1887, Corvino Indian Community, December 10, 1888, charter November 6, 1887, Coalinga Tribe, December 10, 1888, Quins Valley Indian Community, June 10, 1880, charter March 12, 1890.

Colorado—Southern Ute Tribe of the Southern Ute Reservation, November 4, 1888, charter November 1, 1888.

Idaho—Shoshone-Bannock Tribes of the Fort Hall Reservation, April 26, 1888, charter April 17, 1887.

Iowa—Saw and Fox Tribe of the Mississippi in Iowa, December 20, 1887.

While the Act of June 18, 1884,¹⁰⁵ had little or no effect upon the substantive powers of tribal self-government vested in the

Kansas—Iowa Tribe in Nebraska and Kansas, February 26, 1887, Cherokee June 19, 1887, Kickapoo Tribe in Kansas, February 26, 1887, charter June 10, 1887, Sac and Fox Tribe of Missouri, March 2, 1887, charter June 18, 1887.

Michigan—Hannaburgh Indian Community July 28, 1886, charter August 21, 1887, Bay Mills Indian Community, November 4, 1886, charter November 27, 1887, Keweenaw Bay Indian Community, December 17, 1886, charter July 17, 1887, Sagawac Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan, May 6, 1887, charter August 28, 1887.

Minnesota—Lower Sioux Indian Community in the State of Minnesota, June 11, 1880, charter July 17, 1887, Prairie Island Indian Community in the State of Minnesota, June 20, 1898, charter July 23, 1897, Minnesota Chippewa Tribe, July 24, 1898, charter November 13, 1887.

Montana—Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes of the Flathead Reservation, October 28, 1893, charter August 25, 1880, Chippewa and Snake Tribes of the Rocky Boy's Reservation, November 24, 1890, charter July 25, 1890, Northern Cheyenne Tribe November 23, 1895, charter November 7, 1896, Blackfoot Tribe of the Blackfoot Indian Reservation, December 11, 1885, charter August 15, 1890, Fort Belknap Indian Community, December 11, 1895, charter August 25, 1887.

Nebraska—Omaha Tribe of Nebraska, March 20, 1898, charter August 22, 1890, Ponca Tribe of Native Americans, April 8, 1898, charter August 15, 1890, Santee Sioux Tribe of Nebraska, April 8, 1898, charter August 22, 1890, Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska, April 8, 1898, charter August 15, 1890.

Nebraska—Rose Spoke Indian Colony, January 15, 1890, charter January 7, 1888, Pyramid Lake Indian Tribe, January 15, 1890, charter November 21, 1886, Washoe Tribe, January 21, 1886, charter February 27, 1887, Shoshone-Plute Tribes of the Duck Valley Reservation, April 20, 1890, charter August 22, 1890, Fort Sherman Paiute and Shoshone Tribe, July 2, 1896, charter November 21, 1890, Yerington Paiute Tribe, January 4, 1897, charter April 10, 1897, Walker River Paiute Tribe, March 20, 1897, charter May 8, 1897, Toiyah-Band of Western Shoshone Indian, August 24, 1898, charter December 12, 1898, Yomba Shoshone Tribe, December 20, 1898, charter December 22, 1898.

New Mexico—Ute of Santa Clara, December 20, 1895, Apache Tribe of the Mescalero Reservation March 25, 1898, charter August 1, 1880, Jicarilla Apache Tribe of New Mexico, August 4, 1887, charter September 4, 1887.

North Dakota—Three Affiliated Tribes of the Fort Berthold Reservation, June 20, 1880, charter April 21, 1887.

Oregon—Confederated Tribes of the Grande Ronde Community, May 15, 1880, charter August 22, 1888, Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation, February 14, 1880, charter April 28, 1888.

North Dakota—Lower Brule Sioux Tribe, November 27, 1885, charter July 11, 1880, Rosebud Sioux Tribe, December 20, 1890, charter March 10, 1897, Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe, December 27, 1895, Ogala Sioux Tribe of the Pine Ridge Reservation, January 15, 1880, Flathead-Santa Clara Tribe, April 21, 1888, charter October 21, 1888.

Texas—Alamogordo-Chiricahua Tribes of Texas, August 19, 1888, charter October 17, 1890.

Utah—The Indian Tribe of the Timpan and Duvy Reservation, January 10, 1887, charter August 10, 1888, Shoshone Band of Paiute Indians of the Shoshone Reservation, March 21, 1890.

Washington—Tulip Tribes, January 24, 1890, charter October 3, 1880, Swinomish Indian Tribal Community, January 27, 1890, charter July 23, 1890, Puyallup Tribe, May 18, 1898, Muckleshoot Indian Tribe, May 18, 1896, charter October 21, 1880, Minkah Indian Tribe, May 10, 1890, charter February 27, 1887, Quileute Tribe of the Quileute Reservation, November 11, 1886, charter August 21, 1887, Shoshone Indian Tribe of the Skokomah Reservation, May 8, 1888, charter July 22, 1888, Kalispel Indian Community of the Kalispel Reservation, March 24, 1888, charter May 28, 1888, Fort Gamble Indian Community, September 1, 1880.

Wisconsin—Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians, June 1, 1888, charter October 24, 1888, Bad River Band of the Lake Superior Tribe of Chippewa Indians of the State of Wisconsin, June 20, 1888, charter May 21, 1888, Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians of Wisconsin, August 15, 1880, charter May 8, 1897, Oneida Tribe of Indians of Wisconsin, December 21, 1888, charter May 1, 1887, Forest County Potawatomi Community, February 6, 1887, charter October 30, 1887, Stockbridge-Munsee Community, November 8, 1887, charter May 21, 1888, Sisseton Chippewa Community, November 8, 1888, charter October 7, 1888.

¹⁰⁵48 Stat. 684, 26 U. S. C. 461, et seq.

various Indian tribes,⁴⁰ it did bring about the regularization of the proceedings of tribal government and a modification of the relations of the Interior Department to the activities of tribal government. Section 16 of the Act of June 18, 1934,⁴¹ established a basis for the adoption of tribal constitutions approved by the Secretary of the Interior, which could not thereafter be changed except by mutual agreement or by act of Congress. This section was explained in a circular letter of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs sent out almost immediately after the approval of the Act of June 18, 1934, in the following terms:

No. 10 Tribal Organization —

Under this section, any Indian tribe that so desires may organize and establish a constitution and by-laws for the management of its own local affairs.

Such constitution and by-laws become effective when ratified by a majority of all the adult members of the tribe,⁴² or the adult Indians residing on the reservation, at a special election. It will be the duty of the Secretary of the Interior to call such a special election when any responsible group of Indians has prepared and submitted to him a proposed constitution and by-laws which do not violate any Federal law, and are fair to all the Indians concerned. When such a special election has been called, all Indians who are members of the tribe, or residents on the reservation if the constitution is proposed for the entire reservation, will be entitled to vote upon the acceptance of the constitution.

If a tribe or reservation adopts the constitution and by-laws in this manner, such constitution and by-laws may thereafter be amended or entirely revoked only by the same process.

The process which may be exercised by an Indian tribe or tribal council include all powers which may be exercised by such tribe or tribal council at the present time, and also include the right to employ legal counsel (subject to the approval of the Secretary of the Interior) with respect to the choice of counsel and the fixing of fees, the right to exercise a veto power over any disposition of tribal funds or other assets, the right to negotiate with Federal, State and local governments, and the right to be advised of all appropriation estimates affecting the tribe before such estimates are submitted to the Bureau of the Budget and Congress.

The following Indian groups are entitled to take advantage of this section. Any Indian tribe, band, or pueblo in the United States (outside of Oklahoma) or Alaska, and also any group of Indians who reside on the same reservation, whether they are members of the same tribe or not.

The constitutions adopted pursuant to this section and those adopted pursuant to similar provisions of law applicable to Alaska⁴³ and Oklahoma⁴⁴ vary considerably with respect to the

form of tribal government, ranging from ancient and primitive times in tribes where such forms have been perpetuated, to models based upon progressive white communities.

The powers of self-government vested in these various tribes likewise vary in accordance with the circumstances, experience, and resources of the tribe.⁴⁵ The extent to which tribal powers are subject to departmental review is again a matter on which tribal constitutions differ from each other.

The procedure by which tribal ordinances are reviewed, where such review is called for, is a matter which in nearly all tribal constitutions has been covered in substantially identical terms. A typical provision is that of the constitution of the Blackfeet Tribe,⁴⁶ which reads as follows:

ARTICLE VI. POWERS OF THE COUNCIL.

Sec. 2. *Manner of review*—Any resolution or ordinance which, by the terms of this constitution, is subject to review by the Secretary of the Interior, shall be presented to the superintendent of the reservation, who shall, within ten (10) days thereafter, approve or disapprove the same. If the superintendent shall approve any ordinance or resolution, it shall thereupon become effective, but the superintendent shall transmit a copy of the same, bearing his endorsement, to the Secretary of the Interior, who may, within ninety (90) days from the date of enactment, rescind the said ordinance or resolution for any cause, by notifying the tribal council of such decision. If the superintendent shall refuse to approve any resolution or ordinance submitted to him, within ten (10) days after its enactment, he shall advise the Blackfeet Tribal Business Council of his reason therefor. If these reasons appear to the council insufficient, it may, by a majority vote, refer the ordinance or resolution to the Secretary of the Interior, who may, within ninety (90) days from the date of its enactment, approve the same in writing, whereupon the said ordinance or resolution shall become effective.

Under the procedure thus established, positive action is required to validate an ordinance that is subject to departmental review. Failure of the superintendent to act within the prescribed period operates as a veto.⁴⁷ Failure of the superintendent or other departmental employee to act promptly in transmitting to the Secretary an ordinance validly submitted and approved does not extend the period allowed for secretarial veto.⁴⁸ On the other hand, where a superintendent vetoes an ordinance, failure of the tribe to act in accordance with the prescribed procedure of referring the ordinance, after a new vote, to the Secretary of the Interior, will preclude validation of the ordinance.⁴⁹

Secretarial review of tribal ordinances, like Presidential review of legislation, involves judgments of policy as well as judgments of law and constitutionality. Only a small proportion of such ordinances have been vetoed. The serious most commonly advanced for such action by the Secretary of the Interior are

- 1 That the ordinance violates some provision of the tribal constitution,
- 2 That the ordinance violates some Federal law,
- 3 That the ordinance is unjust to a minority group within the tribe.

⁴⁰ It has been administratively determined that constitutions of groups not previously recognized as tribes, in the political sense, cannot include powers derived from sovereignty such as the power to tax, condemn land of members, and regulate inheritance. *Memo Sol. I D*, April 15, 1936. (Lower Sioux Indian Community, Prairie Island Indian Community.)

⁴¹ Approved December 13, 1935.

⁴² *Memo Sol. I D*, April 11, 1940 (Walker River Paiute).

⁴³ *Memo Sol. I D*, October 25, 1936 (San Carlos Apache).

⁴⁴ See *Memo Sol. I D*, April 11, 1940 (Walker River Paiute).

⁴⁵ See, for example, *Memo Sol. I D*, December 14, 1937 (Hopis).

⁴⁰ See *Memo Sol. I D*, March 25, 1939. Undoubtedly, the act had some effect upon the attitude of administrative agencies towards powers which had been theoretically vested in Indian tribes but frequently ignored in practice. See, for instance, division of the Comptroller General 4-86299, June 30, 1937, upholding tribal power to collect rents from tribal land and declining

* * * having in view the broad purposes of the act, as shown by its legislative history, to extend to Indians the fundamental rights of political liberty and local self-government, and these having been shown the fact that some of the powers so granted by the new act to the tribes would be the same as those which had been accomplished—being necessary incidents of such powers—and the fact that the act of June 26, 1906, 49 Stat. 1929, provides that section 20 of the Reorganization Appropriation Record Act, 48 Stat. 1283, shall not apply to funds held in trust for individual Indians, members of individual Indian or Indian corporations chartered under the act of June 18, 1934, this office would not be required to object to the procedure suggested in your memorandum for the handling of tribal funds of Indian tribes organized pursuant to the said act of June 18, 1934.

⁴¹ 49 Stat. 1934, 1935, 25 Stat. 476.
⁴² This rule was modified by the Act of June 18, 1936, sec. 1, 49 Stat. 378, 25 U. S. C. 478n, which substituted the requirement of majority vote of those voting in an election where 40 percent of the eligible voters cast ballots.

⁴³ See Chapter 21, sec. 9.

⁴⁴ For a list of Oklahoma constitutions and charters, see Chapter 23, sec. 18.

During the 8 years following the enactment of the Act of June 18, 1864, Congress found no occasion to amend any tribal constitution in existence, although it undoubtedly has power to do so,¹ nor was any tribal constitution adopted by an Indian tribe vetoed by the Secretary of the Interior. During this period, perhaps the chief threat to the integrity of tribal government has been the willingness of certain tribal officers to relinquish responsibilities vested in them by tribal constitutions. This tendency has been somewhat checked by rulings to the effect that the Interior Department will not approve or be party to such relinquishment of responsibility.²

An attempt to outline the probable future development of these Indian constitutions is made in a recent article on the subject *How Long Will Indian Constitutions Last?*³

Any answer to this question that is more than mere guesswork must square with the recorded history of Indian constitutions. Tribal constitutions, after all, are not a radical innovation of the New Deal. The history of Indian constitutions goes back at least to the Goyaneshawga (Great Binding Law) of the Iroquois Confederacy, which probably dates from the 15th century.⁴

So too, we have the written constitutions of the Creek, Cherokee, Choctaw, Chickasaw, and Osage nations, printed usually on tribal printing presses, which were in force during the decades from 1830 to 1900.

These constitutions are mostly in substantial accord today. Other Indian constitutions, however, retain their vitality. A good many tribes have had indimentary written constitutions, which simply recorded the procedure of their general council meetings, the method of electing or removing representatives, executive powers, and penalties, and brief statement of the duties of officers. Other tribes are governed by elaborate constitutions, which have never been recorded. The difference between a written and an unwritten constitution should not be exaggerated. The rules concerning council procedure, selection of officers, and official responsibilities, which have been followed by the Creek towns, or in the Rio Grande Pueblos, without substantial alteration across four centuries, certainly deserve to be called constitutions. They do not lose their primacy when they are reduced to writing, as the constitution of Laguna Pueblo was reduced to writing thirty years ago.

In all the recorded history of Indian constitutions, two basic facts stand out.

It is a fact of deep significance that no Indian constitution has ever been destroyed except with the consent of the governed. Congress has never legislated a tribal government out of existence except by treaty, agreement or plebiscite. Even so wholesale destruction of the governments of the Five Civilized Tribes, in the old Indian Territory, was accomplished only when the members of those tribes, by majority vote, had accepted the wishes of Congress. These governments ceased to exist as governments primarily because they had admitted to trespassing, and in rights of occupancy in tribal lands, so many white men that the original Indian communities could no longer maintain a national existence apart from the white settlers. The acts of Congress and the plebiscite votes of the

tribes, which were dominated by the "squaw-men" and mixed-bloods, reflected an existing fact. The constitution of the Iroquois Confederacy likewise was broken only by the Indians themselves when the Six Nations could not agree on the question of whether to support the American revolutionaries at the British.

The second basic fact that stands out in a survey of the life span of Indian constitutions is that the Indians themselves cease to want a constitution when their constituted government no longer satisfies important wants. When this happens, a tribal government, like any other government, either dissolves in chaos or yields, place to some other governing agency that commands greater power or promises to satisfy in greater measure the significant wants of the governed.

If we are to be realistic in seeking to answer the question, "How long will the new Indian Constitutions last?", we must focus attention on the human wants that tribal governments under these constitutions are able to satisfy rather than on guesses as to what future Congresses and future administrations may think of Indian self-government.

It is extremely likely that organized Indian tribes will continue to exist as long as American democracy exists and as long as the American people are unwilling to use the army to curtail Indian policies,—provided that the Indians themselves feel that tribal governments satisfy important human wants.

What are the wants that a tribal government can help to satisfy?

I

The most fundamental of the goods which a tribe may bring to its members is economic security. Few things bind men so closely as a common interest in the means of their livelihood. No tribe will dissolve so long as there are lands or resources that belong to the tribe or economic enterprises in which all members of the tribe may participate. The young man who in the plastic years of adolescence, goes to his tribal government to obtain employment in a tribal lumber mill, cooperative store, hotel, mine, farm, or factory, gives that government the most concrete kind of recognition. The returned student who applies to a committee of his tribal council for permission to build up his herds on tribal grazing land, or for the chance to establish a farm, or to build a home and garden upon tribal lands assigned to his occupancy, cannot ignore this tribal government.

It follows that governmental credit policies in making loans to Indian tribes are of critical importance. If, in such loans, special attention is given to encouraging tribal enterprises, a real basis of tribal solidarity is provided, all members of the tribe are interested in the success of the enterprises, in the efficiency and honesty of its management, the development of a tribal enterprise becomes a course of adult education in economics and government. On the other hand, if credit operations are entirely confined to individual enterprises, no such common interest is created. The struggle for a lion's share of tribal loan funds may prove, on the contrary, a disintegrating and faction-producing drive. The tribal officials involved in being judicious will be bankrupt. And there is no reason to believe that the bankers of an Indian tribe will be less coolly detected by their debtors than are bankers in any country of the world today.

Second in importance only to the reservation credit program is the reservation land-acquisition program. A landless tribe can evoke no more respect, among farmers, than a landless individual. But more than paper ownership of tribal land is here in question. The issue is whether the tribe that "owns" land will be allowed to exercise the powers of a landowner, to receive rentals and fees, to regulate land use, to withdraw land privileges from those who flout its regulations, or whether the Federal Government will administer "tribal" lands for the benefit of the Indians as administrators of National Monuments, for instance, for the benefit of posterity, with the Indians having perhaps as much actual voice in the matter as posterity has in the latter.

The tools of any tribal constitution are likely to be as deep as the tribe's actual control over economic resources.

¹ On Federal review of legislation of the Five Civilized Tribes, see Chapter 28, see 6.

² Memo Sol I D, May 14, 1938 (re: of Ogala Sioux resolution delegating taxation powers to superintendent). See also Memo Acting Sol I D, July 10, 1937 (disapproving proposal for indefinite review of actions of Business Committee of Chippewa-Cree Indians of the Rocky Boy's Reservation, affecting federally financed business but approving contractual provision to review of such ordinances during period of Indianism). Memo Sol I D, October 16, 1939 (re: of loan to Lower Sioux Sioux Tribe). Memo Sol I D, July 12, 1937 (re: Belknap, delegation of leasing power to superintendent disapproved), Memo Sol I D, May 28, 1938 (re: Hall, same).

³ P. S. Cohen, *How Long Will Indian Constitutions Last* (1939), 6 Indians at Work, No. 10. This article has been quoted before the cited publication except with respect to editorial abridgments and corrections made therein.

II

Less tangible than the possession of common property, but perhaps equally important in the continuity of a social group, is the existence of common enjoyments. In community life, as in marriage, community of interest in the powers and enjoyable things of life makes for stability and loyalty.

Any government organization must do a good many unpleasant jobs. Arresting law-breakers and collecting taxes are not activities that inspire gratitude and loyalty. Thus government comes to be looked upon as a necessary evil, at best, unless it actively sponsors some of life's every-day enjoyments. An Indian tribe that enriches the recreational life of its members through the development of community recreational facilities is building for itself a solid foundation in human loyalty.

There is no doubt that the remarkable tenacity of traditional government in the Pueblos of New Mexico derives in large part from the role which that government plays in the pointing of dances, communal hunts, and similar social activities. To relieve the burdens of life on some of the northern reservations is a task hardly less important than the reestablishment of the economic basis of life.

In this field, much will depend upon the attitude of Indian Service officials, and particularly upon the attitude of teachers, social workers, and extension agents. It will be hard for them to surrender the large measure of control that they now exercise over the recreational and social life of the reservations, but unless they are willing to yield control in this field to the tribal government, that government may find itself hamed from the hearts of its people.

III

Outside of Indian reservations, local government finds its chief justification in the performance of municipal services, and particularly the maintenance of law and order, the management of public education, the distribution of water, gas, and electricity, the maintenance of health and sanitation, the relief of the needy, and activities designed to afford citizen protection against fire and other natural calamities. On most Indian reservations all of these functions, if performed at all, are performed not by the tribal councils but by employees of the Indian Service. Thus the usual reason for the maintenance of local government is lacking.

The cure for this situation is, obviously, the progressive transfer of municipal functions to the organized tribe. Already some progress has been made in this direction in the field of law and order. Codes of municipal ordinances are being adopted by several organized tribes; judges are removable, in some cases by the Indians to whom they are responsible, and the despotic power of the Superintendent in this field have been substantially abolished. In the other fields of municipal activity no such change has yet taken place.

Where Indian schools are maintained, the Indians generally have nothing to say about school curricula, the appointment or qualifications of teachers, or even the programs to be followed in the commencement exercises. Many reasons will occur to the Indian Service employee why the tribal government should have nothing to say about Indian education. It will be said that the Federal Government pays for Indian education and should therefore exercise complete control over it—an ironic echo of the familiar argument that real-estate owners pay for public education and should therefore control it. It will be said that Indians are not competent to handle educational problems. It will be said that giving power to tribal councils will contaminate education with "politics."

None of these objections has any particular national force. In several cases teachers are now being paid not out of Federal funds but out of tribal funds. So far as the law is concerned, an act of Congress that has been on the statute books since June 30, 1894, specifically provides that the directors, teachers, and other employees, even though they be paid out of Federal funds, may be given to the proper tribal authorities wherever the Secretary of the Interior (originally, the Secretary of War) considers

the tribe competent to exercise such direction. Indians are considered competent enough to serve on boards of education where public schools have been substituted for Indian Service schools. And there is no good reason why tribal "politics" deserves to be suppressed, any more than national "politics." If these common arguments are without rational force, they are nevertheless significant because they symbolize the unwillingness of those who have power, position, and salaries, to jeopardize the status quo.

This is true not only in the field of education. It is true in the field of health, community planning, relief, and all other municipal services. It is true of government outside of the Indian Service, and perhaps it is true of all human enterprise. The shift of control from a Federal bureau to the local community is likely to come not through gifts of delegated authority from the Federal bureau, but rather as a result of unmet demands from the local community that it be entrusted with increasing control over its own municipal affairs.

Where this demand for local autonomy is found, there is ground to hope that a tribal constitution will prove to be a relatively permanent institution as numerous institutions go. Where this demand is not found, there is reason to believe that the tribal government will not be taken very seriously by the governed, that Indian Service control of municipal functions will continue until superseded by state control, and that the tribe will disappear as a political organization.

IV

A fourth source of vitality in any tribal constitution is the community of consequences which it reflects. Where many people think and feel as one, there is some ground to expect a stable political organization. Where, on the other hand, such unity is threatened either by factionalism within the tribe or by constant assimilation into a surrounding population, continuity of tribal organization cannot be expected.

V

A fifth source of potential strength for any tribal organization lies in the role which it may assume as protector of the rights of its members.

In most parts of the country, Indians are looked down upon and discriminated against by their white fellow-citizens. They are denied ordinary rights of citizenship—in several states even the right to vote—in a few states the right to intermarry with the white race or to attend white schools—in most states the right to sue state officials of relief, institutional care, etc. Discrimination against Indians in private employment is widespread. Social discrimination is almost universal. The story of Federal relations with the Indian tribes is filled with accounts of broken treaties, massacres, land sales, and practical enslavement of independent tribes under dictatorial rule by Indian agents.

It is not to be wondered at that this history of discrimination and oppression has left a bitter, rankling resentment in the hearts of most Indians. A responsible tribal government must express this resentment, and express it in more effective ways than are open to an individual; otherwise it has failed in one of its chief functions. Where there is a popular consciousness of grievance, the government of the community must seek their redress, whether against state officials, Indian Service employees, white traders, or any other group. To be in the pay of any such group is, on most reservations, a black mark against a popular representative.

In the field of activity, tribal governments can achieve significant results. A council, for instance, that employs an attorney to enjoin the enforcement of an unconstitutional statute depriving Indians of the right to vote is likely to secure a first lien on the respect of its constituents and materially increase the respectability of the tribal constitution. A tribal council that makes a determined fight to secure enforcement of laws—some of them more than a hundred years old—granting Indians

preference in Indian Service employment will win Indian support even if it lowers its immediate light. So with many other common grievances on which collective tribal action is possible. A rubber stamp council that simply takes what the Indian Office gives it is not likely to establish permanent foundations for tribal autonomy. Rubber is a peculiarly perishable material, and it gives off a bad smell when it decays.

There is, then, no single answer that can be given to the question, "How long will Indian constitutions last?" We may be sure that different constitutions will perish at different rates. No doubt, have been still-born. Such constitutions may exist in the eyes of the law but not in the hearts of the Indians, and at the first signal of official displeasure they will disappear. Other constitutions represent realities, viable as the reality that is the United States of America or the City of St. Louis.

SECTION 4. THE POWER TO DETERMINE TRIBAL MEMBERSHIP¹⁰

The courts have consistently recognized that in the absence of express legislation by Congress "to the contrary, an Indian tribe has complete authority to determine all questions of its own membership."¹¹ It may thus by usage or written law, or by treaty with the United States or intertribal agreement,¹² determine under what conditions persons shall be considered members of the tribe. It may provide for special families of recognition, and it may adopt such rules as seem suitable to it, to regulate the abandonment of membership, the adoption of non-Indians or Indians of other tribes, and the types of membership or citizenship which it may choose to recognize. The completeness of this power receives statutory recognition in a provision that the children of a white man and an Indian woman by blood shall be considered members of the tribe if, and only if, "said Indian woman was . . . recognized by the tribe."¹³ The power of the Indian tribes in this field is limited only by the various statutes of Congress defining the membership of certain tribes for purposes of allotment, or for other purposes,¹⁴ and by

One who seeks a mathematical formula can perhaps measure the life expectancy of various tribal constitutions in assigning numbers to the factors we have discussed—the extent to which the organized tribe ministers to the common economic needs of the people, the degree in which the organized tribe satisfies recreational and cultural wants, the extent and efficiency of municipal services, which the tribe renders, the general social solidarity of the community, and the vigor with which the tribal government expresses the dissatisfactions of the people and organizes popular resortment along rational lines.

More generally one can say that a constitution is the structure of a reality that exists in human hearts. An Indian constitution will exist as long as there remains in human hearts a community of interdependence, of common interests, aspirations, hopes, and fears, in realms of art and politics, work and play.

the statutory authority given to the Secretary of the Interior to promulgate a final tribal roll on the purpose of dividing and distributing tribal funds.¹⁵

The power of an Indian tribe to determine questions of its own membership derives from the character of an Indian tribe as a distinct political entity. In the case of *Patterson v. Council of Seneca Nation*¹⁶ the Court of Appeals of New York reviewed the many decisions of that court and of the Supreme Court of the United States recognizing the Indian tribe as a "distinct political society, separated from others, capable of managing its own affairs and governing itself," and, in reaching the conclusion that mandamus would not lie to compel the plaintiff's enrollment by the defendant council, declared:

Unless these expressions, as well as similar expressions many times used by many courts in various jurisdictions, are mere words of flattery designed to soothe Indian sensibilities, unless the last vestige of separate national life has been withdrawn from the Indian tribes by encroaching state legislation, then, surely, it must follow that the Seneca Nation of Indians has retained for itself that prerogative to their self-preservation and integrity as a nation, the right to determine by whom its membership shall be constituted. (P. 788.)

It must be the law, therefore, that, unless the Seneca Nation of Indians and the state of New York enjoy a relation more so peculiar to themselves, the right to the enrollment of the petitioner, with its attending property rights, depends upon the laws and usages of the Seneca Nation and is to be determined by that Nation for itself, without interference or dictation from the Supreme Court of the state. (P. 789.)

After examining the constitutional position of the Seneca Nation and finding that tribal autonomy has not been impaired by any legislation of the state, the court concludes:

The conclusion is inescapable that the Seneca Tribe remains a separate nation, that its powers of self-government are retained with the sanction of the state, that the ancient customs and usages of the nation except in a few particulars, remain, unaltered, the law of the Indian band, that in its capacity of a sovereign nation the Seneca Nation is not subversive to the orders and directions of

¹⁰ For an analysis of congressional power over tribal membership, see Chapter 5, sec. 6. For an analysis of federal administrative power on the same subject, see Chapter 5, sec. 13.

¹¹ "There is no dispute as to the primary power of Congress over the field of tribal membership. See *Wallace v. Adams*, 204 U. S. 415 (1907), and Chapter 5, sec. 6.

¹² It must be noted that property rights attached to membership are largely in the control of the Secretary of the Interior rather than the tribe itself. See, see *S. infra*, and see Chapters 5, 6, and 15.

¹³ See *Delaware v. Indians v. Cherokee Nation*, 194 U. S. 127 (1904).

¹⁴ 26 U. S. C. 184 declares:

" . . . all children born of a marriage heretofore solemnized between a white man and an Indian woman by blood and not by adoption, whose said Indian woman, at said time, or was at the time of her death, recognized by the tribe shall have the same rights and privileges, to the property of the tribe to which the mother belongs, or belonged at the time of her death, by blood, as any other member of the tribe, and no part of Act of Congress shall be construed as to deny such child of such right. (Act of June 7, 1907, c. 5, sec. 1, 30 Stat. 62, 90.)

The phrase "recognized by the tribe" is construed in *Osage v. United States*, 172 Fed. 805 (C. C. A. 9, 1909), *Fargo v. United States*, 19 F. 2d 219 (C. C. A. 9, 1927), *United States v. Rollins*, 85 F. 2d 806 (C. C. A. 9, 1980), *rev'd* 283 U. S. 768 (1931), 48 L. D. 146 (1914), 60 L. D. 561 (1924).

¹⁵ Various enactments of Congress provide for enrollment by chiefs, with departmental approval. Act of March 8, 1881, sec. 4, 21 Stat. 411, 433 (Miami), Act of March 2, 1880, 25 Stat. 1013 (United Pottawamies and Miamies), continued in 12 L. D. 108 (1890); Act of February 13, 1891, 26 Stat. 749, 753 (Sisseton, Fox and others). Cf. Act of June 18, 1906, 44 Stat. 1609 (requiring the Secretary to enroll for allotment a person adopted by the Kiowa tribe), Act of June 28, 1898, sec. 21, 30 Stat. 495, 602 ("Cherokee" . . . lawfully admitted to citizenship by the tribal authorities). Statutes provide for enrollment by the Secretary of the Interior, with the assistance of chiefs. Act of May 18, 1924, 48 Stat. 182 (Lac du Flambeau) and Act of June 16, 1924, 48 Stat. 905 (Menominee) (action by the Secretary after findings by Menominee Tribal Council).

Another procedure involved a commission including Indian members, acting with the approval of the Secretary of the Interior. See Act of

March 8, 1921, 41 Stat. 1865 (Pt. Belknap), construed in *Shooney v. Wilson*, 58 F. 2d 822 (App. D. C. 1932). Still other statutes provide for enrollment by the Secretary of the Interior. See Chapter 5, sec. 6.

Even in these cases, the Secretary sometimes utilized a roll prepared by officers of the tribe. See *Jump v. Mita*, 100 F. 2d 180 (C. A. 10, 1938), *cert. den.* 306 U. S. 646 (1938).

¹⁶ Occasionally Congress has specifically required that the Interior Department recognize a tribal adoption. See Act of April 4, 1916, sec. 15, 36 Stat. 905, 920 (Kiowa).

¹⁷ 26 U. S. C. 168 (June 30, 1919, c. 4, sec. 1, 41 Stat. 3, 0). See Chapter 5, sec. 13 and 18, Chapter 9, sec. 0, and Chapter 10, sec. 4.

¹⁸ 245 N. E. 458, 177 N. D. 784 (1927).

¹⁹ Marshall, C. J., in *Cherokee Nation v. Georgia*, 5 Pet. 1, 15 (1831).

the courts of New York state, that, above all, the Seneca Nation retains for itself the power of determining who are Senecas, and in that respect is above interference and challenge. (P. 78.)

In the case of *William v. United States*,¹⁴ it appeared that a woman of five-sixteenth Sioux Indian blood on her mother's side, her father being a white man, had been refused recognition as an Indian by the Interior Department although, by tribal custom, since the woman's mother had been recognized as an Indian, the woman herself was so recognized. The court held that the decision of the Interior Department was contrary to law, declaring:

In this proceeding the court has been informed as to the usages and customs of the different tribes of the Sioux Nation, and has found as a fact that the common law does not obtain among said tribes, as to determining the race to which the children of a white man, married to an Indian woman, belong; but that, according to the usages and customs of said tribes, the children of a white man married to an Indian woman take the race or nationality of the mother. (P. 419)

In the *Cherokee Intermarriage Cases*,¹⁵ the Supreme Court of the United States considered the claims of certain white men, married to Cherokee Indians, to participate in the common property of the Cherokee Nation. After carefully examining the constitutional articles and the statutes of the Cherokee Nation, the court reached the conclusion that the claims in question were invalid, since, although the claimants had been recognized as citizens for certain purposes, the Cherokee Nation had complete authority to qualify the rights of citizenship which it offered to its "naturalized" citizens, and had, in the exercise of this authority, provided for the revocation or qualification of citizenship rights so as to defeat the claims of the plaintiffs. The Supreme Court declared, *per Fuller, C. J.*:

¹⁴ 148 Fed. 418 (C. C. S. D. 1905). Also see Chapter 1, sec. 2.

¹⁵ To the effect that tribal action on recognition of members is conclusive "as there was no treaty, agreement or statute of the United States imposing upon any officer of the United States the power to make a complete roll, and declaring that the acts of said officer should be conclusive upon the questions involved," see *Bully v. United States*, 186 Fed. 318, 128 (C. C. S. D. 1912) (affirmed).

The same view is maintained in 19 Op. A. G. 115 (1888), in a case in which exclusive power to determine membership was vested in the tribal authority by treaty.

* * * It was the Indians, and not the United States, that were interested in the determination of what was peculiarly coming to them from the United States. It was proper then that they should determine for themselves, and finally, they were entitled to membership in the confederated tribe and to participate in the emoluments belonging to that relation.

The entrance of the courts and counselors referred to is possibly as high a grade of evidence as can be procured of the fact of the determination by the chiefs of the right of membership under the treaty of February 23, 1887, and seems to be such as is warranted by the usage and custom of the Government in its general dealings with these people and other similar tribes (P. 118.)

See to the same effect: *In re William Banks*, 26 L. D. 71 (1888); *Black Tomelash v. Wadson*, 19 L. D. 811 (1894); 86 L. D. 649 (1897); 48 L. D. 128 (1914); 20 Op. A. G. 711 (1894); *Western Cherokees v. United States*, 27 C. C. 1, 51 (1891), mod. 148 U. S. 427, 28 C. C. 657; *United States v. Hayfron* (two cases), 138 Fed. 964, 908 (C. C. Mont. 1905); Memo. Sol. I. D., May 14, 1895 (Red Lake Chippewas) and see Memo. Sol. I. D., December 18, 1887 (Kanas and Wacongan Potawatamies). As was said in the last cited memorandum:

* * * However, if the Prairie Band still refuses, in the light of this information, to accept the children into membership, the Department is without authority to enroll the children of its own accord, and the Bureau Commission should be so informed. While the Department may approve or disapprove adoptions into the tribe and explain the reasons by the tribal authorities, no case holds that the Department, in the absence of express statutory authority, has the power to grant a person tribal status over the protest of the tribal authorities. Such action would be contrary to the rules announced in the cases and to the position taken by the Department in the drafting of tribal constitutions.

¹⁶ 208 U. S. 78 (1906).

The distinction between different classes of citizens was recognized by the Cherokees in the differences in their intermarriage law, as applicable to the whites and to the Indians of other tribes, by the provision in the intermarriage law that a white man intermarried with an Indian by blood acquires certain rights as a citizen, but no provision that if he marries a Cherokee citizen not of Indian blood he shall be regarded as a citizen at all, and by the provision that if, once having married an Indian by blood, he marries the second time a citizen of the United States, he loses all of his rights as a citizen. And the same distinction between citizens as such and citizens with property rights has also been recognized by Congress in enactments relating to other Indians that the Five Civilized Tribes. Act August 8, 1885, 25 Stat. 892, c. 518, act May 2, 1890, 26 Stat. 96, c. 182, act June 7, 1897, 30 Stat. 60, c. 8 (P. 88.)

* * * The laws and usages of the Cherokees, their earliest history, the fundamental principles of their national policy, their constitution and statutes, all show that citizenship rested on blood or marriage; that the man who would assert citizenship must establish marriage, that when marriage ceased (with a special reservation in favor of widows or widowers) citizenship ceased, that when an intermarried white married a person having no rights of Cherokee citizenship by blood it was conclusive evidence that the two which bound him to the Cherokee people was severed and the very basis of his citizenship obliterated. (P. 95.)

An Indian tribe may classify various types of membership and qualify not only the property rights, but the voting rights of certain members. Similarly, an Indian tribe may revoke rights of membership which it has granted. In *Hoff v. Bailey*,¹⁷ the Supreme Court upheld the validity of an act of the Chickasaw legislature depriving a Chickasaw citizen of his citizenship, declaring:

The citizenship which the Chickasaw legislature could confer it could withdraw. The only restriction on the power of the Chickasaw Nation to legislate in respect to its internal affairs is that such legislation shall be consistent with the Constitution or laws of the United States, and we know of no provision of such Constitution or laws which would be set at naught by the action of a political community like this in withdrawing privileges of membership in the community once conferred. (P. 222.)

The right of an Indian tribe to make express rules governing the recognition of members, the adoption of new members, the procedure for abandonment of membership, and the procedure for redemption, is recognized in *Smith v. Bonser*.¹⁸ In that case the plaintiff's right to allotments depended upon their membership in a particular tribe. The court held that such membership was demonstrated by the fact of tribal recognition, declaring:

Indian members of one tribe can sever their relations as such, and may form affiliation with another or other tribes. And so they may, after their relation with a tribe has been severed, rejoin the tribe and be again recognized and treated as members thereof, and tribal rights and privileges attach according to the habits and customs of the tribe with which affiliation is presently cast. As to the manner of breaking off and rejoining tribal affiliations, we are meagerly informed. It was and is a thing, of course, dependent upon the peculiar usages and customs of each particular tribe, and therefore we may assume that no general rule obtains for its regulation.

¹⁷ See, to the same effect, 19 Op. A. G. 109 (1888).

¹⁸ Thus in 19 Op. A. G. 389 (1889), the view is expressed that a tribe may by law restrict the rights of tribal usage, excluding white citizens from voting, although by treaty they are guaranteed rights of membership. Accord 8 Op. A. G. 800 (1887).

¹⁹ 198 U. S. 218 (1907). And see Memo. Sol. I. D., February 18, 1888, to the effect that a tribal roll may be amended pursuant to a tribal constitution.

²⁰ 154 Fed. 883 (C. C. Ore. 1907), aff'd sub. nom. *Bonsfer v. Smith*, 168 Fed. 846 (C. C. A. 9, 1906), a. c. 182 Fed. 886 (C. C. Ore. 1904).

Now, the first condition presented is that the mother of Philomine was a full blood Walla Walla Indian. She was consequently a member of the tribe of that name. Was her status changed by marriage to Tawaklon, an Iloguon Indian? This must depend upon the tribal usage and customs of the Walla Wallas and the Iloguons. It is said by Hon. William A. Latta, Assistant Attorney General, in an opinion rendered the Department of the Interior in a matter involving this very controversy:

"That subsistence among these Indians is through the mother and not through the father, and that the true test in these cases is to ascertain whether parties claiming to be Indians and entitled to allotments have by their conduct expatriated themselves or changed their citizenship."

But we are told that

"Among the Iloguon tribes, kinship is traced through the blood of the woman only. Kinship means membership in a family, and thus in turn constitutes citizenship in the tribe, conferring certain social, political, and religious privileges, duties, and rights, which are denied to persons of alien blood." Handbook of American Indians, edited by Frederick Webb Hodge, Smithsonian Institute, Government Printing Office, 1907

Marriage, therefore, with Tawaklon would not of itself constitute an affiliation on the part of his wife with the Iloguon tribe, of which he was a member, and a renunciation of membership with her own tribe. (P 886)

Considering a second marriage of the plaintiff to a white person, the court went on to declare

"... But notwithstanding the marriage of Philomine to Smith, and her long residence outside of the limits of the reservation, she was acknowledged by the chiefs of the confederated tribes to be a member of the Walla Walla tribe. From the testimony adduced herein, read in connection with that taken in the case of *Hypu-lac-muk-lan v Smith*, supra, it appears that Miss Smith was, advised by Homily and Shove-away, chiefs, respectively, of the Walla Walla and Chinoyu tribes, to come upon the reservation and make selections for allotments to herself and children, and that thereafter she was recognized by both these chiefs, and by Peo, the chief of the Umatillas, as being a member of the Walla Walla tribe. It is true that she was not so recognized at first, but she was finally, and by a general council of the Indians held for the special purpose of determining the matter. (P 888)

Where tribal laws have not expressly provided for some certificate of membership," the court, in cases not clearly controlled by recognized tribal custom, have looked to recognition by the tribal chiefs as a test of tribal membership."

The weight given to tribal action in relation to tribal membership is shown by the case of *Noble v United States*.¹⁰ In that case the jurisdiction of the Cherokee courts in a murder case, the defendants being Cherokee Indians, depended upon whether the deceased, a white man, had been duly adopted by the Cherokee Tribe. Finding evidence of such adoption in the official records of the tribe, the Supreme Court held that such adoption deprived the federal court of jurisdiction over the murder and vested such jurisdiction in the tribal courts.

A similar decision was reached in the case of *Raymond v Raymond*¹¹ in which the jurisdiction of a tribal court over an adopted Cherokee was challenged. The court declared, per Sanborn, J.

"... It is conceded that under the laws of that nation the appellee became a member of that tribe, by adoption,

through her intermarriage with the appellant. It is settled in the decisions of the supreme court that her adoption into that nation vested the federal court of jurisdiction over any suit between her and any member of that tribe, and vested the tribal courts with exclusive jurisdiction over every such action. *Alberty v U S*, 102 U S 480, 10 Sup Ct 814, *Noble v U S*, 101 U S 637, 638, 17 Sup Ct 212 (P 723)

It is of course recognized throughout the cases that tribal membership is a bilateral relation, depending for its existence not only upon the action of the tribe but also upon the action of the individual concerned. Any member of any Indian tribe is at full liberty to terminate his tribal relationship whenever he so chooses," although it has been said that such termination will not be inferred "from light and tiding circumstances."

Apart from the foregoing cases, there are a number of decisions excluding from rights of tribal membership persons claiming to be members who have been recognized neither by the tribal nor in the federal authorities.¹² Such cases, of course, cast little light on the scope of tribal power.

The tribal power recognized in the foregoing cases is not overthrown by anything said in the case of *United States ex rel West v Hitchcock*.¹³ In that case, an adopted member of the Wichita tribe was refused an allotment by the Secretary of the Interior because the Department had never approved his adoption. Since the Secretary, according to the Supreme Court, had an unreviewable discretionary authority to grant or deny an allotment even to a member of the tribe by blood, it was unnecessary for the Supreme Court to decide whether refusal of the Interior Department to approve the relation's adoption was within the authority of the Department. The court, however, intimated that the general authority of the Interior Department under section 483 of the Revised Statutes¹⁴ was broad enough to justify a regulation requiring departmental approval of adoptions, but added that since the latter would have no legal right of appeal even if his adoption without Department approval were valid, "it hardly is necessary to pass upon that point."¹⁵

While the actual court decisions in the field of tribal membership are all consistent with the view that complete power over tribal membership rests with the tribe, except where Congress otherwise provides, the opinion in the West case appears to diverge from this view. Several alternative ways of reconciling the apparent conflict of judicial views in this field have been suggested. The Interior Department has expressed its view in these terms:

The power of an Indian tribe to determine its membership is subject to the qualification, however, that in the distribution of tribal lands and other property under the supervision and control of the Federal Government, the action of the tribe is subject to the supervisory authority of the Secretary of the Interior.¹⁶ The original power to

¹⁰ See Chapter 8, see 108(1). And see Chapter 14, cases 1 and 2, on termination of tribal relations by group.

¹¹ See *Yelma v United States*, 246 Fed 411, 420 (C C A 9, 1917) (suit for allotment). Accord *Wu-ma-quay v Aldrich*, 28 Fed 489 (C C Ind 1888). But of *Sao and Poe Indians v United States*, 45 C Cls 287 (1910), aff'd 220 U S 481 (1911).

¹² See, for example, *Reynolds v United States*, 205 Fed 885 (D C R D 1913), *Oakey v United States*, 173 Fed 305 (C C A 8, 1909); 20 S L D 107 (1895), 42 L D 489 (1913).

¹³ 203 U S 80 (1907).

¹⁴ *Duties of Commissioners*—The Commissioner of Indian Affairs shall, under the direction of the Secretary of the Interior, and agreeably to such regulations as the President may prescribe, have the management of all Indian affairs and of all matters relating out of Indian relations. 25 U S C § 2.

¹⁵ Accord *LaOlive v United States*, 184 Fed 128 (C C 2d Wash. 1910) (declining to pass on necessity of departmental approval of adoption in allotment case).

¹⁶ Citing *United States ex rel West v Hitchcock*, 205 U S 80 (1907); *Mitchell v United States*, 22 F. 2d 771 (C C A 9, 1927); *United*

¹⁰ See 19 Op A G 118 (1888).

¹¹ *Hypu-lac-muk-lan v Smith*, 194 U S 401, 411 (1904); *United States v Higgins*, 108 Fed 848 (C C D Mont 1900).

¹² 164 U S 657 (1901).

¹³ 83 Fed 721 (C C A 8, 1897). Accord 7 Op A G 174 (1890). But of 2 Op A G 402 (1880).

determine membership, including the regulation of membership by adoption, nevertheless remains with the tribe. * * * (pp 39-40)

An alternative formula for reconciling the cases in this field is suggested in the case of *Sloan v. United States*,²⁰⁰ in which the distinction was drawn between adoption, which is a tribal matter, and departmental action in recognizing such adoption. The court declined.

* * * claimants who would bring themselves within the provisions of the act of 1882 by showing that when that act took effect, they were residing on the reservation in the tribal nation, but who claim that, as a matter of fact, they were recognized by the tribe to be members thereof, cannot rightfully expect that the courts will refuse to accept and follow the ruling of the department upon the question of such recognition. The agents charged with the duty of making the allotments, who visit the tribe, have a much better knowledge of the action taken by the tribe than can be gained by the court, and their decision upon a fact of this nature, especially when duly affirmed by the officers of the interior department, should ordinarily be accepted as conclusive. In the numerous reports of the allotting agents introduced in evidence in these cases it is reported that none of the several claimants are recognized by the tribe as members entitled to allotments, and these findings of fact have been approved by the secretary of the interior, and they will, for the reasons stated, be accepted as final by this court in the further consideration of these suits. (p 202)

Another basis, not radically different from the two views above suggested, that would permit a reconciliation of all the cases and dicta, is the idea of tribal membership as a relative affair, existing in some cases for certain purposes and not for others. Precedent for this idea may be found in *United States v. Bogert*,²⁰¹ where Chief Justice Taney held that although a white man, by arrangement with an Indian tribe, might become a member thereof, he could not thereby divest the federal courts of jurisdiction over him as a "white man." On this view it might be said that for purposes in which the tribe has the last word, tribal adoption is valid without reference to departmental approval,²⁰² while for those purposes in which departmental action is authorized, the department may demand the right to approve or disapprove adoption.

Whatever may be the exact extent of departmental power in this field, in view of the broad provisions of the Wheeler-Howard Act it has been administratively held that the Secretary of the Interior may define and confine his power of supervision in accordance with the terms of a constitution adopted by the tribe itself and approved by him.

The written constitutions of tribes which have organized under the Act of June 18, 1894, contain provisions on membership which vary considerably. Generally these constitutions provide that descendants of two parents, both of whom are mem-

bers of the tribe, shall be deemed members of the tribe. With respect to the offspring of mixed marriages, constitutions differ. Some make the membership of such offspring dependent upon whether his degree of Indian blood is more than one-half or one-quarter. Others make the membership of such offspring depend upon whether its parents maintain a residence on the reservation. Nearly all tribal constitutions provide for adoption through special action by the tribe, subject to review by the Secretary of the Interior. The general trend of the tribal enactments on membership is away from the older notion that rights of tribal membership run with Indian blood, no matter how dilute the stream. Instead it is recognized that membership in a tribe is a political relation rather than a racial attribute. Those who no longer take part in tribal affairs, who do not live upon the reservation, who marry non-Indians, may retain their claims upon tribal property, but most Indian tribes now deny such individuals the opportunity to claim a share of tribal assets for each child produced. The trend is toward making the sharing in tribal property correlative with the obligations that fall upon the members of the Indian community.²⁰³

One conclusion is clear, from the cases and developments above discussed, that a number of generalities in common currency on the subject of tribal membership must be severely qualified before they can be accepted as sound statements of law. For it is clear that such power as rests in the tribes with respect to membership has been and is being exercised along widely divergent lines.

²⁰⁰ Typical membership provisions in tribal constitutions are the following:

Article III of the Constitution of the Jicarilla Apache Tribe, approved August 1, 1937

Membership in the Jicarilla Apache Indian Tribe shall extend to all persons of Indian blood who are named on the official census roll of the Jicarilla Apache Reservation of 1897, and to all children of one-fourth or more Indian blood, as affiliated with another tribe, born after the completion of the 1897 census roll to any member of the tribe who is a resident of the Jicarilla Apache Reservation. Membership by adoption may be acquired by a three-fourths majority vote of the tribal council and the approval of the Secretary of the Interior.

Article II of the Constitution of the Hopi Tribe, approved December 10, 1938

Section 1. Membership in the Hopi Tribe shall be as follows: (a) All persons whose names appear on the census roll of the Hopi Tribe as of January 1st, 1890, but within one year from the time that this Constitution takes effect corrections may be made to the roll by the Hopi Tribal Council, with the approval of the Secretary of the Interior.

(b) All children born after January 1, 1890, whose father and mother are both members of the Hopi Tribe.

(c) All children born after January 1, 1890, whose mother is a member of the Hopi Tribe, whose father is a member of some other tribe.

(d) All persons adopted into the tribe as provided in Section 2.

Sec 2. Nonmembers of one-fourth degree of Indian blood or more, who are married to members of the Hopi Tribe, and adult persons of one-fourth degree of Indian blood or more whose fathers are members of the Hopi Tribe, may be adopted in the following manner. Such person may apply to the Kikmongwi of the village in which he is to become a member. According to the way of doing established in that village, the Kikmongwi may accept him, and shall tell the Tribal Council. If accepted, he may then by a majority vote have that person's name put on the roll of the tribe, but before he is enrolled he must officially give up membership in any other tribe.

Article III of the Constitution of the Seneca-Cayuga Tribe of Oklahoma, ratified May 10, 1937

The membership of the Seneca-Cayuga Tribe of Oklahoma shall consist of the following persons:

1. All persons of Indian blood whose names appear on the official census roll of the Tribe as of January 1, 1897.

2. All children born since the date of the said roll, both of whose parents are members of the Tribe.

3. Any child born of a marriage between a member of the Seneca-Cayuga Tribe and a member of any other Indian tribe who chooses to affiliate with the Seneca-Cayuga Tribe.

4. Any child born of a marriage between a member of the Seneca-Cayuga Tribe and any other tribe, who is so accepted and admitted to membership by the Council of the Seneca-Cayuga Tribe.

Tribal constitutional provisions on membership are contained in Memo. Sol. I. D., April 12, 1938 (Rosebud Sioux), and Memo. Sol. I. D., July 12, 1938 (Rosebud Sioux).

²⁰¹ *States v. Proctor*, 28 F.2d 790 (C. C. A. 9, 1930), rev'd on other grounds, 288 U. S. 758 (1931). See also *Widius v. United States*, ex rel. *Kuvis*, 281 U. S. 208 (1930).

²⁰² 55 I. D. 14, 39 (1964).
²⁰³ 113 Fed. 285 (C. C. D. Neb. 1902), *app. dismissed*, 198 U. S. 614 (1904).

²⁰⁴ 4 How. 567 (1846). Accord *Westonland v. United States*, 165 U. S. 545 (1905), *United States v. Ragsdale*, 27 Fed. Cas. No. 16,213 (C. C. Ark. 1847).

²⁰⁵ *White* made support in such cases as *Katsenbecker v. United States*, 225 Fed. 628 (C. C. A. 7, 1915), holding that for purposes of applying federal liquor laws, application for adoption and approval by the tribe establish tribal membership. And of *United States v. Higgins*, 110 Fed. 909 (C. C. Mont. 1902).

²⁰⁶ Theoretical justification for this view is offered by Wharton, *A Treatise on the Conflict of Laws or Private International Law* (3d ed. 1905), vol. 1, sec. 262.

Thus, for example, it is frequently said that a person cannot be a member of two tribes at once. This undoubtedly represents a well-established policy with respect to allotment and other distribution of tribal property or federal benefits.¹⁰⁰ It cannot, however, be validly inferred from this that two tribes could not formally recognize the membership of a single individual, for voting or other purposes. So, too, the generalities to be found in several cases as to the tribal membership of offspring of mixed marriages fail to correspond to the realities of tribal

¹⁰⁰ See *Udell v. United States*, 49 F.2d 243 (C.C.A. 10, 1931), rehearing den., 62 F.2d 713 (C.C.A. 10, 1931), 10 L. Ed. 820 (1934).

SECTION 5. TRIBAL REGULATION OF DOMESTIC RELATIONS

The Indian tribes have been accorded the widest possible latitude in regulating the domestic relations of their members.¹⁰¹ Indian custom marriage has been specifically recognized by federal statute, so far as such recognition is necessary for purposes of inheritance.¹⁰² Indian custom marriage and divorce has been generally recognized by state and federal courts for all other purposes.¹⁰³ Where federal law or written laws of the tribe do not cover the subject, the customs and traditions of the tribe are accorded the force of law, but these customs and traditions may be changed by the statutes of the Indian tribes.¹⁰⁴ In defining and punishing offenses against the marriage relationship, the Indian tribes have complete and exclusive authority in the absence of legislation by Congress upon the subject.¹⁰⁵ No law of the state controls the domestic relations of Indians living in tribal relationship,¹⁰⁶ even though the Indians concerned are citizens of the state.¹⁰⁷ The authority of an Indian tribal council to appoint guardians for incompetent and minors is specifically recognized by statute,¹⁰⁸ although this statute at the same time deprives such guardians of the power to administer fed-

¹⁰¹ On the application of tribal custom in domestic relations to the natives of Alaska, see 64 U.S. (1862). And see Chapter 21, sec. 6.

¹⁰² See 5, Act of February 28, 1861, 26 Stat. 791, 798, as embodied in 26 U.S.C. § 771, provided:

Divorce of land.—For the purpose of determining the descent of land to the heirs of any deceased Indian under the provisions of section 498, of this title, whenever any male and female Indian shall have cohabited together as husband and wife according to the custom and manner of Indian life the issue of such cohabitation shall be, for the purpose aforesaid taken and deemed to be the legitimate issue of the Indians, so living together.

And see Act of March 3, 1878, sec. 11, 17 Stat. 700-770 (penons, to "widows of colored or Indian soldiers").

¹⁰³ See Note (1901) 14 Yale L.J. 236 and cases cited.

¹⁰⁴ It has been held that a tribal ordinance authorizing divorce by tribal action does not by implication exclude tribal custom divorce. *Benett v. Prairie Oa. & Gas Co.*, 16 F.2d 504 (C.C.A. 8, 1927), aff'd sub nom. *Kunkel v. Barnett*, 10 F.2d 804, cert. den. 276 U.S. 668.

¹⁰⁵ *In re Litch-pur-ha-thee*, 98 Fed. 439 (D.C.N.D. Iowa, 1899), holding state court without jurisdiction to appoint guardian of tribal Indian. See Chapter 12, sec. 2. *Of Devotion v. Gibson*, 56 Fed. 443 (C.C.A. 8, 1898), holding law of forum applicable to question of married woman's property if tribal law is not shown.

¹⁰⁶ *Yakima Joe v. Yaw-wah-pah*, 191 Fed. 516 (C.C.D. Ore. 1910).

¹⁰⁷ 28 U.S.C. § 2108, 26 U.S.C. § 100.

Adoption on the Crow Reservation is governed by the Act of March 8, 1881, c. 413, 46 Stat. 1494.

Appointment of guardians among the Pottawatomies was governed by Act 8 of the Treaty of February 27, 1867, 15 Stat. 581, among the Ottawas by Act 8 of the Treaty of June 24, 1862, 12 Stat. 1237. And of Act of February 13, 1891, 26 Stat. 749, 752 (Sacs, Foxes, Iowas), Act of March 2, 1889, 26 Stat. 950, 954 (Pawnee, etc.).

¹⁰⁸ To the effect that state court action in the matter of adoptions is not entitled to departmental recognition if the tribe has set up its own procedure for adoption, see Memo. Re I.D., December 3, 1937.

The Interior Department has taken the position that guardians appointed by a Court of Indian Offenses are "legal guardians" within the meaning of such legislation as the Act of February 26, 1888, 47 Stat.

action. One may find, in the divided cases, two principles which, between them, cover the held *patris sequitur ventrem*¹⁰⁹ and *patris sequitur patrem*¹¹⁰. This pair of principles is, of course, totally useless when it comes to reaching or predicting particular decisions.

¹⁰⁹ *United States v. Hendrix*, 27 Fed. Cas. No. 16320 (C.C.A. Ark. 1847), *Albert v. United States*, 162 U.S. 8 400 (1896).

¹¹⁰ *See ante Reynolds* 20 Fed. Cas. No. 11710 (D.C. Ark. 1879), *United States v. Ward*, 12 Fed. 830 (C.C. S.D. Cal. 1900), *United States v. Moffitt*, 90 Fed. 117 (C.C. Wash. 1900), *United States v. Higgins*, 110 Fed. 600 (C.C. Mont. 1901).

eral trust funds. Property relations of husband and wife, or parent and child, are likewise governed by tribal law and custom.¹¹¹

The case of *United States v. Quince*¹¹² provided a critical test of the doctrine of Indian self-government in the field of domestic relations. The case arose through a prosecution for adultery in the United States District Court for South Dakota. Both of the individuals involved were Sioux Indians and the offense was alleged to have been committed on one of the Sioux reservations. The Department of Justice authorized prosecution on the theory that Congress had, by section 3 of the Act of March 3, 1887,¹¹³ terminated the original tribal control over Indian domestic relations.

The question was: Did this statute, which applied to all areas within the exclusive jurisdiction of Congress, apply to the conduct of Indians on an Indian reservation? The Supreme Court held that it did not. The analysis of the subject by Mr. Justice Van Devanter is illuminating, not only on the immediate question of jurisdiction over adultery, but on the broader question of the civil jurisdiction of an Indian tribe.

At an early period it became the settled policy of Congress to permit the personal and domestic relations of the Indians with each other to be regulated, and offenses by one Indian against the person or property of another Indian to be dealt with, according to their tribal customs and laws. Thus the Indian Intercourse Acts of May 19, 1796, c. 30, 1 Stat. 480, and of March, 1802, c. 18, 2 Stat. 139, provided for the punishment of various offenses by white persons against Indians and by Indians against white persons, but left untouched those by Indians against each other, and the act of June 80, 1834, c. 101, Sec. 2, 4 Stat. 723, 733, while providing that "so much of the laws of the United States as provides for the punishment of crimes committed within any place within the sole and exclusive jurisdiction of the United States shall be in force in the Indian country," qualified its action by saying, "the same shall not extend to crimes committed by one Indian against the person or property of another Indian." That provision with its qualification was later carried into the Revised Statutes, as Secs. 2145 and 2146. This was the situation when this court, in *Wau-pate Oso Dog*, 109 U.S. 550, held that the murder of an Indian by another Indian on an Indian reservation was not punishable under the laws of the United States and could be dealt with only according to the laws of the tribe. The first change came when, by the act of March 8, 1885, c. 341, Sec. 9, 23 Stat. 302, 305, now Sec. 828 of the Penal Code, Congress pro-

907, governing payments of funds by governmental agencies "to incompetent adult Indians or minor Indians, who are recognized wards of the federal government, for whom no legal guardians or other fiduciaries have been appointed." Memo. Re I.D., March 25, 1908.

¹¹² *Ward v. United States*, 12 Fed. Cas. No. 6168 (C.C.D. Kan. 1875).

¹¹³ 24 U.S.C. § 602 (1861).

¹¹⁴ That section provides:

That whoever commits adultery shall be punished by imprisonment in the penitentiary not exceeding three years, . . . (24 Stat. 683, 18 U.S.C. § 615).

It is, however, a matter of state law whether state courts will recognize the validity of such divorces. In the absence of reported decisions on this point it is not possible to say with any certainty how states are likely to treat such tribal divorces in cases that come up in state courts. So far as the Federal Government is concerned, the validity of such divorces is conceded.¹⁴ The current Law and Order Regulations of the Indian Service, approved by the Secretary of the Interior on November 27, 1935,¹⁵ recognize the validity of Indian custom marriage and divorce and leave it to the governing authorities of each tribe to define what shall constitute such marriage and divorce.¹⁶ These regulations

also authorize decrees by Courts of Indian Offenses compelling payment for support¹⁷ and judgments on the issue of paternity.¹⁸

The constitutions of tribes organized under the Act of June 18, 1934, generally provide for the exercise by the tribal council and tribal court of general jurisdiction over domestic relations.¹⁹ Generally no departmental review of such tribal action is required.

A few of these tribal constitutions provide that all marriages shall be in conformity with state law.²⁰ Several tribes have adopted special ordinances governing domestic relations.²¹

¹⁴ C. F. R. 101.40, 101.41. A supplemental memo enforce such a judgment against the delinquent restricted funds. Memo Ser. I. D., September 8, 1938.

¹⁵ 25 C. F. R. 161.20.

¹⁶ Thus, for example, the Constitution of the Fort Belknap Indian Community, Montana, approved on December 18, 1935, provides:

Article V, Section 1. *Domestic relations*—The council of the Fort Belknap Community shall have the following powers, the exercise of which shall be subject to popular referendum as provided hereafter:

(a) To regulate the domestic relations of members of the community.

¹⁷ See, e. g., the Constitution of the San Carlos Apache Tribe, approved January 17, 1936, which provides:

Article V, Section XII. *Domestic relations*—The council shall have the power to regulate the domestic relations of members of the tribe but all marriages in the future shall be in accordance with the State Law.

¹⁸ The Code of Ordinances of the Gila River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community (1936) provides:

Chapter 4. *Domestic Relations*.
Sec. 1. *Marriage*—The Community Court may issue marriage licenses to Indian persons, both of whom are members of the Community. Any tribal custom marriage not so licensed shall not be recognized as valid.

Sec. 2. *Divorce*—The Community Court may issue decrees of divorce for causes which it deems sufficient, where both parties are members of the Community.

Sec. 3. *Restoration of Marriages and Divorces*—All Indian marriages and divorces, whether consummated in accordance with the State law or in accordance with Community Ordinances, shall be recorded within thirty days at the agency.

court. All that need be decided at this time is that under the accepted divorce law a tribal member may obtain a tribal divorce from a white spouse who has consented to the jurisdiction of the tribal court or who has abandoned his tribal spouse and his marital domicile on the reservation. It might be pointed out that an unopposed abandonment is itself implied consent to a divorce action by the abandoned spouse in the court of the latter's domicile. (See *Henry v. Divorce*, supra, at 511.)

¹⁴ The Committee General however ruled otherwise in a case where a divorce action was pending in a state court. Settlement Certificate, Case No. 015-58 (25), January 24, 1935.
¹⁵ See 37 I. D. 403 (1935).

¹⁶ Chapter I, Sec. 2.

Tribal Custom Marriage and Divorce—The Tribal Council shall have authority to determine whether Indian custom marriage and Indian custom divorce for members of the tribe shall be recognized in the future as lawful marriage and divorce upon the reservation, and it shall be so recognized, to determine what shall constitute such marriage and divorce and whether action by the Court of Indian Offenses shall be required. When so determined in writing one copy shall be filed with the Court of Indian Offenses, one copy with the Superintendent in charge of the reservation, and one copy with the Commissioner of Indian Affairs. Thereafter, Indians who desire to become married or divorced in the custom of the tribe shall conform to the custom of the tribe as so determined. Indians who assume to claim divorce by Indian custom shall not be entitled to inquiry until they have complied with the determined custom of their tribe until they have received such divorce at the agency office.

Pending any determination by the Tribal Council on these matters, the validity of Indian custom marriage and divorce shall continue to be recognized as heretofore. (36 I. D. 401, 407 (1935).)

SECTION 6. TRIBAL CONTROL OF DESCENT AND DISTRIBUTION

It is well settled that an Indian tribe has the power to prescribe the manner of descent and distribution of the property of its members, in the absence of contrary legislation by Congress.²² Such power may be exercised through unwritten customs and usages,²³ or through written laws of the tribe. This power extends to personal property as well as to real property. By virtue of this authority an Indian tribe may restrict the descent of property on the basis of Indian blood or tribal membership, and may provide for the descent of property to the tribe where there are no recognized heirs. An Indian tribe may, if it so chooses, adopt as its own the laws of the state in which it is situated and may make such modifications in these laws as it deems suitable to its peculiar conditions.

The only general statutes of Congress which restrict the power of an Indian tribe to govern the descent and distribution of property of its members are section 5 of the General Allotment Act,²⁴ which provides that allotments of land shall descend "according to the laws of the State or Territory where such land is located," the Act of June 25, 1910,²⁵ which provides that the Sec-

retary of the Interior shall have unreviewable discretion to determine the heirs of an Indian in ruling upon the inheritance of individual allotments issued under the authority of the General Allotment Law, and section 2 of the same act, as amended by the Act of February 14, 1918,²⁶ which gives the Secretary of the Interior final power to approve and disapprove Indian wills devising restricted property.

These statutes abolished the former tribal power over the descent and distribution of property, with respect to allotments of land made under the General Allotment Act, and rendered tribal rules of testamentary disposition subject to the authority of the Secretary of the Interior, when the estate includes restricted property. They do not, however, affect testamentary disposition of unrestricted property or intestate succession to personal property or to interests in land other than allotments (e. g., possessory interests in land to which title is retained by the tribe).²⁷ With respect to property other than allotments of land made under the General Allotment Act and similar special legislation, the inheritance laws and customs of the Indian tribe are still of supreme authority.²⁸

²² See Chapter 5, sec. 11, Chapter 11, sec. 6.

²³ See Baglehole, *Ownership & Inheritance in an Indian Tribe* (1926), 20 *L. & Rev.* 304; Hagan, *Tribal Law of the American Indian* (1917), 28 *Cole & Conn.* 735; and authorities cited *supra*, sec. 8, fn. 55.

²⁴ Act of February 8, 1887, 24 Stat. 885, 889, 25 U. S. C. 845.

Treaties and special statutes occasionally stipulated that state laws were to apply to descent of allotments. See, for example, Article 5 of the Treaty of February 27, 1867, with the Pottawatomies, 16 Stat. 551, 553.

²⁵ See 1, 36 Stat. 855, 25 U. S. C. 872.

²⁶ 37 Stat. 578. See 25 U. S. C. 873.

²⁷ *Gooding v. Williams*, 142 Fed. 112 (C. C. A. 8, 1905). See Chapter 5, sec. 11 and Chapter 11, sec. 6.

²⁸ The foregoing general analysis is inapplicable to the Five Civilized Tribes, and Osage, Congress having expressly provided that state probate courts shall have jurisdiction over the estates of allotted Indians of the Five Civilized Tribes leaving restricted heirs (Act of June 14, 1918, c. 301, sec. 1, 40 Stat. 699, 25 U. S. C. 870), and over the estates of Osage Indians (Act of April 18, 1912, sec. 8, 37 Stat. 88). See Chapter 28, sec. 6, 12.

The authority of an Indian tribe in the matter of inheritance is clearly recognized by the United States Supreme Court in the case of *Jones v. Meehan*.¹¹¹ Land had been allotted to Chief Moose Dung. After his death, the Chief's eldest son, Moose Dung the Younger, leased the land in 1891 for 30 years, to two white men, the plaintiffs, on the assumption that he was, by the custom of his tribe, the sole heir to the property and entitled, in his own right, to dispose of it. Thereafter, in 1891, a second lease of the same land was executed in favor of another white man, the defendant. The Secretary of the Interior took the view that the earlier lease was invalid. The Secretary of the Interior approved the second lease, pursuant to a joint resolution of Congress specifically authorizing the approval of the second lease. Under the second lease, the Secretary of the Interior held, the rentals were to be divided among six descendants of the older Chief Moose Dung, and Moose Dung the Younger was to receive only a one-sixth share. Thus the Supreme Court was faced with a clear question: Did Moose Dung the Younger have the right, in 1891, to make a valid lease which neither the Secretary of the Interior nor Congress itself could thereafter annul? Faced with this question, the Court declared, *per* Gray, J.

The Department of the Interior appears to have assumed that, upon the death of Moose Dung the elder, in 1872, the title in his land descended by law to his heirs general, and not to his eldest son only.

But the elder Chief Moose Dung being a member of an Indian tribe, whose tribal organization was still recognized by the Government of the United States, the right of inheritance in his land, at the time of his death, was controlled by the laws, usages and customs of the tribe, and not by the law of the State of Minnesota, nor by any action of the Secretary of the Interior. (P. 20)

The title to the strip of land in controversy, having been granted by the United States to the elder Chief Moose Dung by the treaty itself, and having descended, upon his death, by the laws, usages and customs of the tribe, to his eldest son and successor as chief, Moose Dung the Younger, passed by the lease executed by the latter in 1891 to the plaintiffs for the term of that lease, and their rights under that lease could not be divested by any subsequent action of the lessee, or of Congress, or of the Executive Departments. (P. 32)

The opinion of the Supreme Court in *Jones v. Meehan* cites a long series of cases in federal and state courts which likewise uphold the validity of tribal laws and customs of inheritance.¹¹² The upshot of the cases cited is summarized in the words of a New York court:

When Congress does not act no law runs on an Indian reservation save the Indian tribal law and custom.¹¹³

The decision of the Supreme Court in *Jones v. Meehan* is a clear refutation of the theory that in the absence of law plenary power over Indian affairs rests with the Interior Department.¹¹⁴ The case holds not only that power over inheritance, in the absence of congressional legislation, rests with the Indian tribe, but that Congress itself cannot disturb rights which have vested under tribal law and custom.

Other decisions confirm the rule laid down in the *Moose Dung* case.¹¹⁵

¹¹¹ 175 U. S. 1 (1899).

¹¹² *United States v. Shauks*, 15 Minn. 399 (1870). *Dole v. Irish*, 2 Barb. (N. Y.) 689 (1848). *Hastings v. Pomo*, 4 N. Y. 203, 204 (1850). *The Kansas Indians*, 5 Wall. 737 (1863). *Wau-pa-man-tu v. Aldob*, 28 Fed. 489 (C. C. Ind., 1886). *Brown v. Steele*, 23 Kans. 672 (1880). *Reichardt v. Thompson*, 28 Fed. 52 (C. C. Kans., 1886).

¹¹³ *Woodin v. Seelye*, 141 Mar. 207, 252 N. Y. Supp. 818 (1901).

¹¹⁴ See 20 L. D. 157 (1895), and 20 L. D. 928 (1900). See Chapter 5, sec. 7, 8.

¹¹⁵ See Chapter 10, sec. 10, and *see* *Dembia, Land Titles* (1898), vol. 1, p. 498.

In the case of *Gray v. Collman*,¹¹⁶ the court held that the validity of the will of a member of the Wyandot tribe depended upon its conformity with the written laws of the tribe. The court declared:

The Wyandot Indians, before their removal from Ohio had adopted a written constitution and laws, and among others, laws relating to descent and will. These are in the record, and are shown to have been copied from the laws of Ohio, and adopted by the Wyandot tribe, with certain modifications, to adapt them to their customs and usages. One of these modifications was that only living children should inherit, excluding the children of deceased children, or grandchildren. The Wyandot council, which is several times referred to in the treaty of 1855, was an executive and judicial body, and had power, under the laws and usages of the nation, to receive proof of wills, etc., and this body continued to act, at least to some extent, after the treaty of 1855. . . . under the circumstances, the court must give effect to the well-established laws, customs, and usages of the Wyandot tribe of Indians in respect to the disposition of property by descent and will. (Pp. 1005-1006)

In the case of *O'Brien v. Bugbee*,¹¹⁷ it was held that a plaintiff in ejectment could not recover without positive proof that under tribal custom he was lawful heir to the property in question. In the absence of such proof, it was held that title to the land escheated to the tribe, and that the tribe might dispose of the land as it saw fit.

Tribal autonomy in the regulation of descent and distribution is recognized in the case of *Woodin v. Seelye*¹¹⁸ and in the case of *Patterson v. Council of Shona Nation*.¹¹⁹

In the case of *Y-Ta-Tah-Wah v. Rebeck*,¹²⁰ the plaintiff, a medicine-man imprisoned by the federal Indian agent and county sheriff for practicing medicine without a license, brought an action of false imprisonment against those officials, and died during the course of the proceedings. The court held that the action might be continued, not by an administrator of the decedent's estate appointed in accordance with state law, but by the heirs of the decedent by Indian custom.¹²¹ The court declared, *per* Shiras, J.

If it were true that, upon the death of a tribal Indian, his property, real and personal, became subject to the laws of the state directing the mode of distribution of estates of decedents, it is apparent that irreconcilable confusion would be caused thereby in the affairs of the Indians. . . . (P. 202)

In a case¹²² involving the right of an illegitimate child to inherit property, the authority of the tribe to pass upon the status of illegimates was recognized in the following terms:

The Creek Council, in the exercise of its lawful function of local self-government, saw fit to limit the legal rights of an illegitimate child to that of sharing in the estate of his putative father, and not to confer upon such child

¹¹⁶ 10 Fed. Cas. No. 5,714 (C. C. Kan. 1874). Accord, *Gooding v. Watkins*, 142 Fed. 112 (C. C. A. 8, 1906).

¹¹⁷ 46 Kan. 1, 30 Pac. 429 (1891).

¹¹⁸ 141 N. Y. 207, 262 N. Y. Supp. 818 (1901), discussed in Note

(1902) 8 N. Y. U. L. Q. Rev. 498.

¹¹⁹ 246 N. Y. 488, 187 N. Y. 784 (1927).

¹²⁰ 108 Fed. 287 (C. C. N. D. Iowa 1900).

¹²¹ Compare, however, the decision of the Supreme Court of New Mexico in *Thyself v. Prison*, 32 N. M. 287, 78 P. 2d 146 (1928), holding that an administrator of a Pueblo Indian appointed by a state court was empowered to sue under a state wrongful death statute. The Solicitor for the Interior Department, and the Special Attorney for the Pueblo Indians supported the position which the Supreme Court of New Mexico finally adopted, on the ground that the action was not an action over which the tribal courts would have jurisdiction, but was entirely a creature of state legislation operating on events that occurred outside of any reservation. Memo. Ser. I D., September 21, 1927.

¹²² *Oklahoma Land Co. v. Thomas*, 84 Okla. 681, 127 Pac. 8 (1912).

generally the status of a child born in lawful wedlock (P 13) ¹⁵

In the case of *Daley v. Irish*,¹⁶ it was held that a surrogate of the State of New York has no power to grant letters of administration to control the disposition of personal property belonging to a deceased member of the Seneca tribe. The Court declared:

I am of the opinion that the private property of the Seneca Indians is not within the jurisdiction of our laws respecting administration, and that the letters of administration granted by the surrogate to the plaintiff are void. I am also of the opinion that the distribution of Indian property according to their customs passes a good title, which our courts will not disturb, and therefore that the defendant has a good title to the house in question, and must have judgment on the special verdict (Pp 642-643)

In *United States v. Charles*,¹⁷ the distribution of real and personal property of the decedent through the Trogon custom of the "dead feast" is recognized as controlling all rights of inheritance.

In the case of *Aluker v. Cozart*,¹⁸ the Supreme Court held that letters of administration issued by a Cherokee court were entitled to recognition in another jurisdiction, on the ground that the status of an Indian tribe was in fact similar to that of a federal territory.

In the case of *Miles v. Kachin*,¹⁹ the court recognized the validity of tribal custom in determining the descent of real and personal property and indicated that the tribal custom of the Puyallup band prescribed different rules of descent for real and for personal property.

The applicability of tribal law in matters involving determination of heirs²⁰ is recognized in the Law and Order Regulations of the Indian Service.²¹ These regulations provide that when any member, of a tribe dies,

leaving property other than an allotment or other trust property subject to the jurisdiction of the United States, any member claiming to be an heir of the decedent may bring a suit in the Court of Indian Offenses to have the Court determine the heirs of the decedent and to divide among the heirs such property of the decedent.²²

In such suits, the regulations provide

In the determination of heirs, the Court shall apply the custom of the tribe as to inheritance if such custom is proved. Otherwise the Court shall apply State law in deciding what relatives of the decedent are entitled to be his heirs.²³

A general provision covers the situation where the statutory jurisdiction of the Department attaches to part of an estate that is otherwise subject to tribal jurisdiction:

Where the estate of the decedent includes any interest in restricted allotted lands or other property held in trust by the United States, over which the Examiners of Inheritance would have jurisdiction, the Court of Indian

Offenses may distribute only such property as does not come under the jurisdiction of the Examiner of Inheritance, and the determination of heirs by the court may be reviewed, on appeal, and the judgment of the court modified or set aside by the said Examiner of Inheritance, with the approval of the Secretary of the Interior, if law and justice so require.²⁴

The Law and Order Regulations of the Indian Service further provide that Courts of Indian Offenses shall have jurisdiction to probate wills of tribal Indians,

disposing only of property other than an allotment or other trust property subject to the jurisdiction of the United States.²⁵

Tribal custom is recognized in the provision

If the Court determines the will to be validly executed, it shall order the property described in the will to be given to the persons named in the will or to their heirs, but no distribution of property shall be made in violation of a proved tribal custom which restricts the privilege of tribal members to distribute property by will.²⁶

Indian Service regulations covering the determination of heirs and approval of wills²⁷ provide that the activity of examiners of inheritance in cases of intestate succession shall not extend to unallotted reservations.²⁸

Tribal constitutions generally provide that the governing body of the tribe shall have power—

to regulate the inheritance of real and personal property, other than allotted lands, within the Territory of the Community.²⁹

A typical tribal inheritance law, adopted by the Gila River Maricopa Indian Community on June 4, 1935, is set forth in the footnote below.³⁰

¹⁵ *Ibid*

¹⁶ 23 C F R 101-42

¹⁷ 23 C F R 101-42

¹⁸ Approved by Secretary of the Interior May 31, 1935, 25 C F R, Part 81

¹⁹ 25 C F R 81-13, 81-28

²⁰ Constitution of the Fort Belknap Indian Community of the Fort Belknap Reservation, Mont., approved December 23, 1935, Art. V, Sec 1(m)

²¹ *See* 6 *Approval of Wills*—When any member of the tribe dies, leaving a will disposing only of property other than an allotment or other trust property subject to the jurisdiction of the United States, the Court shall, at the request of any member of the tribe named in the will or any interested party, determine the validity of the will after giving notice and full opportunity to appeal in court to all persons who might be heirs of the decedent. A will shall be deemed to be valid if the decedent had a sane mind and understood what he was doing when he made the will and was not subject to any undue influence of any kind from another person and if the will was made in writing and signed by the decedent in the presence of two witnesses who also signed the will. If the Court determines the will to be validly executed, it shall order the property described in the will to be given to the persons named in the will or to their heirs, if they are dead.

²² *See* 7 *Determination of Heirs*—Property of members of the Community other than allotted lands, if not disposed of by will shall be inherited according to the following rules:

- 1 The just debts and funeral expenses of the deceased shall be paid before the heirs take any property.
- 2 If the deceased leaves a surviving spouse, all the property shall go to the surviving spouse, who shall make such disposition as seems proper.
- 3 If the deceased leaves children or grandchildren, but no spouse, all the property shall go to them.
- 4 If the deceased leaves no spouse nor descendants, all the property shall go to his or her parents, if either or both are alive.
- 5 In any other case, the nearest relatives shall inherit.

Where there is more than one heir, all the heirs shall meet and agree among themselves upon the division of the property. If no agreement can be reached among all the interested parties any party may, upon depositing a fee of five dollars with the Community Court, require the Court to pass on the distribution of the estate.

When the interested parties agree among themselves on the disposition of the estate, they shall file a report of such distribution with the Community Court.

²³ *Accord*, *Butler v. Wilson*, 54 Okla. 229, 193 Pac. 828 (1915)

²⁴ 2 Barb. (N. Y.) 630 (1848)

²⁵ 23 P. Supp. 340 (D. C. W. D. N. Y. 1935), *accord*, *George v. Peto*, 148 N. Y. Supp. 800 (1914)

²⁶ 18 How. 100 (1855) *See* Chapter 1, sec. 8

²⁷ 274 Fed. 218 (C. C. W. D. Wash. 1909)

²⁸ Recognition of tribal rules of descent is found in such special legislation as the Act of February 19, 1878, 18 Stat. 830, dealing with leases of Seneca lands, and the Act of March 1, 1901, 31 Stat. 861, dealing with Creek allotments.

To the effect that inheritance of a house on tribal land is governed by tribal rather than state law, *see* Memo. Sol. I. D., November 18, 1935, 25 C F R 161-31-161

²⁹ Law and Order Regulations, approved November 27, 1935, c. 3, sec. 5, 25 C F R 161-81

³⁰ *Ibid*

SECTION 7. THE TAXING POWER OF AN INDIAN TRIBE

One of the powers essential to the maintenance of any government is the power to levy taxes. That this power is an inherent attribute of tribal sovereignty which continues unless withdrawn or limited by treaty or by act of Congress¹¹¹ is a proposition which has never been successfully disputed.

A landmark in this field is the case of *Buster v. Wright*.¹¹² The Creek Nation, one of the Five Civilized Tribes, had imposed a tax or license fee upon all persons, not citizens of the Creek Nation, who traded within the borders of that nation. The Interior Department sought the advice of the Attorney General as to the legality of this tax, and was advised that the tax was legal and that the Interior Department was under an implied duty to assist in its enforcement.¹¹³ Thereupon the Interior Department promulgated appropriate regulations to assist the tribe in making collections of license fees. The plaintiffs in the case of *Buster v. Wright* were traders doing business on town sites within the boundaries of the Creek Nation, who sought to enjoin officers of the Creek Nation and of the Interior Department from closing down their business and ordering them for nonpayment of taxes. On demurrer, the plaintiff's bill was dismissed by the trial court. The decision of the trial court was affirmed by the Court of Appeals of the Indian Territory,¹¹⁴ again by the Circuit Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit,¹¹⁵ and finally by the United States Supreme Court.¹¹⁶ The learned opinion of Judge Sanborn in the Circuit Court of Appeals illuminates the entire subject.

The authority of the Creek Nation to prescribe the tax upon which defendants now transact business within its borders, did not have its origin in act of Congress, treaty, or agreement of the United States. It was one of the inherent and essential attributes of its original sovereignty. It was a natural right of that people, indispensable to its autonomy as a distinct tribe or nation, and it must remain an attribute of its government until by the agreement of the nation itself or by the superior power of the republic it is taken from it. Neither the authority

nor the power of the United States to remove its citizens to trade in the Creek Nation, with or without the consent of that tribe, is in issue in this case, because the complainants have in such respects. The plaintiff power and lawful authority of the government of the United States in license, in treaty or by act of Congress to take from the Creek Nation every vestige of its original or acquired governmental authority and power may be admitted, and for the purposes of this decision are here conceded. The fact remains nevertheless that every original attribute of the government of the Creek Nation still remains intact, which has not been destroyed or impaired by act of Congress or by the contracts of the Creek tribe itself.

Originally an independent tribe, the superior power of the republic early reduced this Indian people to a "dependent nation" (*Cherokee Nation v. State of Georgia*, 5 Pet. 1-20, 8 L. Ed. 25), yet left it a distinct political entity, clothed with ample authority to govern its inhabitants and to manage its domestic affairs through officers of its own selection, who under a Constitution modeled after that of the United States, exercised legislative, executive and judicial functions within its territorial jurisdiction for more than half a century. The governmental jurisdiction of this nation was neither conditioned nor limited by the original title of occupancy to the lands within its territory. Founded in its original national sovereignty, and secured by those treaties, the governmental authority of the Creek Nation, subject always to the superior power of the republic, remained practically unimpaired until the year 1880. Between the years 1888 and 1901 the United States by various acts of Congress deprived this tribe of all its judicial power, and entrained its remaining authority into its power of government have become the mere shadows of their former selves. Nevertheless its authority to fix the terms upon which homesteads might conduct business within its territorial boundaries guaranteed by the treaties of 1832, 1856, and 1866, and sustained by repeated decisions of the courts and opinions of the Attorney General of the United States, remained undisturbed.

It is said that the sale of these lots and the incorporation of cities and towns upon the sites in which the lots are found authorized by act of Congress to collect taxes for municipal purposes segregated the town sites, and the lots sold from the territory of the Creek Nation, and deprived it of governmental jurisdiction over this property and over its occupants. But the jurisdiction to govern the inhabitants of a country is not conditioned or limited by the title to the land which they occupy in it, or by the existence of municipalities therein endowed with power to collect taxes for city purposes, and to enact and enforce municipal ordinances. Neither the United States, nor a state, nor any other sovereignty loses the power to govern the people within its borders by the existence of towns and cities therein endowed with the usual powers of municipalities, nor by the ownership nor occupancy of the land within its territorial jurisdiction by citizens or foreigners. (Pp. 950-952.)

The case of *Buster v. Wright* dealt with what may be called a license or privilege tax, but the principles therein affirmed are equally applicable to a tax on property. Such a tax was upheld in *Morris v. Hitchcock*.¹¹⁷ This case dealt with a tax levied by the Chickasaw Nation on cattle owned by noncitizens of that nation and grazed on private land within the national boundaries. The opinion of the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia declares

A government of the kind necessarily has the power to maintain its existence and effectiveness through the exercise of the usual power of taxation upon all property within its limits, save as may be restricted by its organic law. Any restriction in the organic law in respect of this ordinary power of taxation, and the property subject

¹¹¹ No treaty provisions or special statutes dealing with tribal taxation have been found. But *Act of August 2, 1882*, 22 Stat. 181, empowering Congress to tax certain railroad right-of-way to the benefit of tribal citizens.

¹¹² 185 Fed. 547 (C. C. 8, 1905), app. dismissed 203 U. S. 590.

¹¹³ "The legal right to purchase land within an Indian nation given to the purchaser no right of exemption from the laws of such nation, nor does it authorize him to do any act in violation of the treaties with such nation. These laws require a permit to trade or carry on business in the Indian country created long before and at the time this act was passed. And if any outsider were present to purchase a town lot under the act of Congress, he did so with full knowledge that he could occupy it for residence or business only by permission from the Indians."

The laws and laws of the United States make all persons, with a few specified exceptions, who are not citizens of an Indian nation or members of an Indian tribe, and are found within an Indian nation without permission, there, require their removal by the United States. This closes the whole matter absolutely excludes all but the excepted classes, and fully authorizes these nations to absolutely exclude outsiders or to permit them to reside on homesteads upon such terms as they may choose to impose, and it must be borne in mind that citizens of the United States have, as such, no more right or business to be there than they have to any other nation, and can lawfully be there at all only by Indian permission, and that they must be there for certain or only on business there depends solely upon whether they have such permission.

As to the power or duty of your Department in the revenues, there can hardly be a doubt. Under the treaties of the United States with these Indian nations this Government is under the most solemn obligation, and for which it has received ample consideration, to remove and keep removed from the territory of these tribes, all that class of persons who are there without Indian permission. The performance of this obligation, in its various matters concerning the Indians and their affairs, has long been devolved upon the Department of the Interior.

TRANSMISSION ON INDIAN LANDS, 23 Op. A. G. 214, 217-218 (1900).

¹¹⁴ *Buster v. Wright*, 82 S. W. 826 (1904).

¹¹⁵ 185 Fed. 547 (C. C. 8, 1905).

¹¹⁶ 203 U. S. 590 (1906), app. dismissed, without opinion.

¹¹⁷ 23 App. D. C. 605 (1903), aff'd 104 U. S. 884 (1904).

thereof, ought to appear by express provision or necessary implication. *Boyd Trusts v. Indiana*, 14 How. 26, 252 *Talbot v. Silver Burd* 33 U. S. 438, 446. Where the reservation upon this exercise of power by a recognized government, is claimed under the stipulations of a treaty with another, whether the former be dependent upon the latter or not, it would seem that its evidence ought to appear here and a reasonable doubt. We discover no such restriction in the clause of Article 7 of the Treaty of 1855, which excepts white persons from the reservation thereof of the unextinguished right of self-government by the Chickasaw Nation, and its full jurisdiction over persons and property within its limits. The conditions of that exception may be fully met without going to the extreme of saying that it was also intended to prevent the exercise of the power to consent to the entry of nonmembers on the location of property actually within the limits of that government and enjoying its benefits.²⁵ (P. 763)

The power to tax does and depend upon the power to remove and has been upheld where there was no power in the tribe to remove the taxpayer from the tribal jurisdiction.²⁶ Where, however, the tribe does have power to remove a person from its jurisdiction, it may impose conditions upon his remaining within tribal territory, including the condition of paying license fees. An opinion of the Attorney General dated September 17, 1890, quoted with approval in *Morris v. Hitchcock*,²⁷ declines

"Under the treaties with the Five Civilized Tribes of Indians, no person not a citizen or member of a tribe, or belonging to the exempted classes, can be lawfully within the limits of the territory occupied by these tribes without their permission, and they have the right to impose the taxes upon which such permission will be granted" (P. 391)

It is therefore pertinent, in analyzing the scope of tribal taxing powers, to inquire how far an Indian tribe is empowered to remove nonmembers from its reservation. This question is the more important today because statutes authorizing the Commissioner of Indian Affairs to remove "undesirable" persons from Indian country were repealed, at the urging of the present administration, in the interests of civil liberty.²⁸ Because of its peculiar jurisdictional status, an Indian reservation is sometimes infected with white criminals or simple trespassers, and the problem of what effective legal action can be taken by a tribe to remove such persons from its reservation is a serious one.

The law as to the power of a tribe to exclude nonmembers from its territory is clearly stated in a series of authorities running back to the earliest days of the Republic. We find in the first volume of the Opinions of the Attorney General the following answer to a question raised by the Secretary of War

²⁵ Other authorities supporting the power of an Indian tribe to levy taxes on license fees are *Graber v. Madden*, 64 Fed. 420 (C. C. A. 8, 1893); *Macey v. Wright*, 8 Ind. T. 243, 64 S. W. 807, 104 106 Fed. 1007 (C. C. A. 8, 1900); 14 Op. A. G. 34, 66 (1864); 28 Op. A. G. 214, 219, 220, (1900), and p. 328 (1901).

²⁶ *Bustin v. Wright*, *supra*.

²⁷ 104 U. S. 384 (1904).

²⁸ Act of May 21, 1934, 48 Stat. 787, repealing 26 U. S. C. 220 et seq.

as to the right of the Seneca Nation to exclude trespassers from its lands.

So long as a tribe exists and remains in possession of its lands, its title and possession are sovereign and exclusive, and there exists an authority to enter upon their lands, for any purpose whatever without their consent.²⁹

The present state of the law on the power to remove nonmembers is thus summarized in the Solicitor's Opinion of October 25, 1931, on "Powers of Indian Tribes."

Over tribal lands, the tribe has the rights of a landowner as well as the rights of a local government dominion as well as sovereignty. But over all the lands of the reservation whether owned by the tribe, by members thereof, or by outsiders, the tribe has the sovereign power of determining the conditions upon which persons shall be permitted to enter its domain to reside therein, and to do business, provided only such determination is consistent with applicable Federal laws and does not infringe any vested rights of persons now occupying reservation lands under lawful authority.³⁰

The power of an Indian tribe to levy taxes upon its own members and upon nonmembers doing business within the reservation has been affirmed in many tribal constitutions approved under the Wheeler Howard Act. It has the power to remove nonmembers from land over which the tribe exercises jurisdiction. The following clauses are typical statements of these tribal powers:

(h) To levy taxes upon members of the tribe and to require the performance of reservation labor in lieu thereof, and to levy taxes or license fees, subject to review by the Secretary of the Interior, upon nonmembers doing business within the reservation.

(i) To exclude from the restricted lands of the reservation persons not legally entitled to reside therein, under conditions which shall be subject to review by the Secretary of the Interior.³¹

Under such provisions, tribal tax ordinances imposing poll taxes, vehicle and other license taxes on members of the tribe, and permit and license taxes on nonmembers occupying tribal property have been held valid by the Interior Department.³² And as the payment of a tax or license fee may be made a condition of entry upon tribal land, it may also be made a condition to the grant of other privileges, such as the acquisition of a tribal lease.³³

It has been held that the Fifth Amendment does not restrict tribal taxation of tribal members,³⁴ but tribal constitutional requirements were held violated when a tribal council tried to delegate its taxing powers to a reservation independent³⁵

²⁹ 1 Op. A. G. 145 409 (1821). Accord: *United States v. Rogers*, 23 Fed. Cl. 18 (D. C. W. D. Ark. 1905). And see Chapter 15, sec. 30.

³⁰ 25 U. S. 14, 30, citing *Morris v. Hitchcock*, 104 U. S. 384 (1904), and other cases. See also *Memo Sol. I. D.*, August 7, 1937.

³¹ Constitution of the Rosebud Band, Trib. approved December 20,

1935, Art. IV, sec. 7.

³² *Memo Sol. I. D.*, February 17, 1939 (Rosebud Sioux).

³³ *Memo Sol. I. D.*, March 28, 1939.

³⁴ *Memo Sol. I. D.*, February 17, 1939 (Rosebud Sioux).

³⁵ *Memo Sol. I. D.*, May 14, 1938 (Ojibwa Sioux).

SECTION 8. TRIBAL POWERS OVER PROPERTY

The powers of an Indian tribe with respect to property derive from two sources. In the first place, the tribe has, with respect to tribal property, certain rights and powers commonly incident to property ownership. In the second place, the Indian tribe has, among its powers of sovereignty, the power to regulate the use and disposition of individual property among its members.

While the distinction between these two sorts of power must remain largely conventional³⁶ and, in most concrete situations, even academic those rights and powers which Indian tribes

³⁶ M. R. Cohen, *Property and Sovereignty*, in *Law and the Social Order* (1934), 41.

share with other property owners are sufficiently distinguishable to deserve treatment in a separate chapter.¹²⁰ On this subject it will be sufficient for our present purposes to note that the powers of an Indian tribe with respect to tribal land are not limited by any rights of occupancy which the tribe itself may grant to its members, that occupancy of tribal land does not create any vested rights in the occupant as against the tribe,¹²¹ and that the extent of any individual's interest in tribal property is subject to such limitations as the tribe may see fit to impose.¹²²

The power of a tribe over hunting and fishing on tribal territory may be analyzed either in governmental or in proprietary terms.¹²³

In holding that a Pueblo is a stockowner, within the Taylor-Grazing Act, the Acting Solicitor in the Interior Department, after citing the foregoing cases, declared:¹²⁴

It thus is clear that a determination whether a Pueblo is a "stock owner" within the meaning of the Taylor Act and the Federal Range Code must be made by reference

to the internal structure of the community and to its laws and customs. In this respect in my opinion, the Commanches are not.

"It is impossible, intelligibly or practically, to apply either to Pueblo livestock or to Pueblo range or water, concepts of ownership familiar in white life; the only way that redism can be achieved is by a concept treating all of these properties as properties of the community, whose occupancy is vested by formal or informal community and/or religious decree in an individual or family."

It appears that the emphasis is that certain individuals are designated by the governing body of the Pueblo to carry on the function of livestock raising. While in a limited sense and for certain purposes the livestock may be regarded as the personal property of these individuals, the livestock are subject to call by either the secular community, through the Governor and Council, the religious community, or the kiva or secret society organizations, indicating that the ultimate responsibility of the individual, as to the community and that the ultimate interest is that of the community. The individual's rights are basically in usufructure and always subject to the higher demand of the community itself. In these circumstances I am unable to see that any reluctance is done Anglo-Saxon legal concepts in holding that a Pueblo is an owner of livestock within the meaning of the Taylor Act and the Federal Range Code (pp 15-14.)

The chief limitation upon tribal control of membership rights in tribal property is that found in acts of Congress guaranteeing to those who sever tribal relations to take up homesteads on the public domain,¹²⁵ and to children of white men and Indian women, under certain circumstances,¹²⁶ a continuing share in the tribal property. Except for these general limitations and other specific statutory limitations found in enrollment acts and other special acts of Congress, the proper authorities of an Indian tribe have full power to regulate the use and disposition of tribal property by the members of the tribe.

The authority of an Indian tribe in matters of property is not restricted to these lands or funds over which it exercises the rights of ownership. The sovereign powers of the tribe extend over the property as well as the person of its members.

Thus, in *Crabtree v. Meadon*,¹²⁷ it is recognized that questions of the validity of contracts among members of the tribe are to be determined according to the laws of the tribe.¹²⁸

In *Jones v. Loney*,¹²⁹ the question arose whether a deed of manumission freeing a Negro slave, executed by a Chickasaw Indian within the territory of the Chickasaw Nation was valid. The lower court had charged the jury "that if they (Chickasaw) laws and customs and usages, within the limits defined to them, governed all property belonging to anyone domesticated and living with them." Approving this charge, upon the basis of

¹²⁰ See Chapter 15. See also Chapters 9, 10 and 11.

¹²¹ *McGregor v. Brady*, 235 U.S. 441 (1915), *Prunkai v. Tague*, 233 U.S. 299 (1914); *Gritts v. Fisher*, 224 U.S. 940 (1912), *Jomurovsky v. Cherokee Nation*, and *United States*, 291 U.S. 291 (1933), *See and For Indians of the Mississippi in Iowa v. Roe and For Indians of the Mississippi in Oklahoma*, 220 U.S. 481 (1911) and 45 C. Cls. 287 (1910), *Harvey v. Harberger*, 108 Fed. 221 (C.C.A. 8, 1900), *Whitman, Justice v. Cherokee Nation*, et al., 30 C. Cls. 158 (1875), *Indian v. Wolfelt*, 6 Ind. T. 145, 22 S.W. 702 (1904), *In re Navajo Indian*, 20 B.R. 715, 40 All. 847 (1898), *Terrance v. Gray*, 150 N.Y. Supp. 615 (1916), *Recreation Gas Co. v. Snyder*, 88 Misc. 200, 150 N.Y. Supp. 210 (1914); *Apprentice of Parker*, 237 N.Y. Supp. 141 (1929), *McCurran v. Brady*, 1 Ind. T. 287, 35 S.W. 65 (1900), *Myers v. Mathis*, 2 Ind. T. 8, 46 S.W. 178 (1908).

In the case of *Recreation v. Brady*, *supra*, the Supreme Court declared: "lands and funds belonged to the tribe as a community, and not to the members severally or as tenants in common" (p. 446).

Similarly, in *Prunkai v. Tague*, *supra*, the Supreme Court declared: "As the tribe could not sell, neither could the individual members, for they had neither an individual interest in the tribal land nor vendible interest in any particular tract" (p. 271).

In the case of *Hogan v. Barings*, *supra*, the court declared, in considering the status of Choctaw and Chickasaw tribal lands:

"* * * At the time these were the lands of the Choctaw and Chickasaw Nations, held by them, as they held all their lands, in trust for the individual members of their tribes, in the sense in which the public property of representative governments is held in trust for its people. But these were public lands and, while the tribe as a whole had the right to dispose of them, a vested equitable right to their just share of them against strangers and fellow members of their tribes, they had no separate or individual right to equity in any of these lands which they could maintain against the legislation of the United States or of the Indian Nations. *Winchee v. Cherokee Nation*, 174 U.S. 846, 468, 10 Sup. Ct. 722, 48 L. Ed. 124, 1341, *Cherokee Nation v. Hitchcock*, 187 U.S. 206, 28 Sup. Ct. 116, 47 L. Ed. 185, *Lone Wolf v. Hitchcock*, 187 U.S. 368, 28 Sup. Ct. 210, 47 L. Ed. 209, *Wafford v. Adams*, 143 Fed. 716, 74 C.C. 540, *Lupon v. Johnston* (C.C.A. 1) 104 Fed. 670 (7p. 225-228).

So, too, in *United States v. Lucero*, 1 N.M. 422, (1899), title to lands within a pueblo is recognized to be in the pueblo itself, rather than in the individual members thereof.

¹²² In *United States v. Chase*, 246 U.S. 89 (1917), the Supreme Court held that assignments made pursuant to treaty might be revoked by congressional action taken at the instance of tribal authorities. And of *Gritts v. Fisher*, 224 U.S. 940 (1912) and Chapter 5, see 5, Chapter 28, see 8.

In the case of *McCurran v. Brady*, *supra*, a provision of the Choctaw Constitution conferring upon the discoverer of coal the right to mine all coal within a mile radius of the point of discovery was upheld as a valid exercise of tribal power.

In *Whitman, Justice v. Cherokee Nation*, *supra*, the Court of Claims held that the general property of the Cherokee Nation, under the provisions of the Cherokee Constitution, might be used for public purposes, but could not be diverted to per capita payments to a favored class.

On the power of the tribe with respect to arrangements of tribal land to members, see Memo. Sol. I. D., October 20, 1937 (McGowanston Shunt), Memo. Sol. I. D., April 14, 1939 (Santa Clara Pueblo). And see Chapter 9, sec. 1, Chapter 15, see 20.

¹²³ See Chapter 14, see 7.

¹²⁴ Op. Acting Sol. I. D., M. 29797, May 24, 1938.

¹²⁵ 48 U.S.C. 189 (Act of March 3, 1875, c. 131, sec. 15, 15 Stat. 420) provides that an Indian severing tribal relations to take up a homestead upon the public domain "shall be entitled to his distributive share of all annuities, tribal funds, lands and other property, the same as though he had maintained his tribal relations." For a discussion of this and related statutes, see *Oakes v. United States*, 172 Fed. 305 (C.C.A. 8, 1909), *Trabert v. United States*, 268 U.S. 765 (1925). And see sec. 4 *supra*, and Chapter 9, sec. 8.

¹²⁶ 26 U.S.C. 184.

¹²⁷ 64 Fed. 426 (C.C.A. 8, 1903).

¹²⁸ See, to the same effect, *In re Shoshone*, 81 Fed. 827 (D.C. Alaska, 1890). Chattel mortgages forms approved by the Interior Department to use for tribes making loans to members regularly provide:

"This mortgage and all questions and controversies arising thereunder shall be subject to the laws of the United States and of the State of Any question or controversy which cannot be decided under such laws shall be dealt with according to the laws of the State of"

See Memo. Sol. I. D., December 22, 1938; and see Memo. Adv. Sec. I. D., August 17, 1938.

¹²⁹ 2 Tex. 842 (1844).

which the jury had found the deed to be valid, the appellate court declared

Then laws and customs regulating property, contracts, and the relations between husband and wife, have been respected, when drawn into controversy, in the courts of the State and of the United States. (P 915.)

In the case of *Delaware Indians v. Cherokee Nation*,⁶⁶ it is said

The law of real property is to be found in the Law of the State. The law of real property in the Cherokee country therefore is to be found in the constitution and laws of the Cherokee Nation (P 251.)

In the case of *James H. Hamilton v. United States*,⁶⁷ it appeared that land, buildings, and personal property owned by the claimant, a licensed trader, within the Chickasaw Reservation, had been confiscated by an act of the Chickasaw Legislature. The plaintiff brought suit to recover damages on the theory that such confiscation constituted an "Indian depredation." The Court of Claims dismissed the suit, declaring

The claimant by applying for and accepting a license to trade with the Chickasaw Indians, and subsequently acquiring property within the limits of their reservation, subjected the same to the jurisdiction of their laws (P 287.)

The authority of an Indian tribe to impose license fees upon persons engaged in trade with its members within the boundaries of the reservation is confirmed in *Zavaly v. Wemyer*,⁶⁸ as well as in the various cases cited under section 7 of this chapter dealing with "The Taxing Power of an Indian Tribe."

⁶⁶ 78 C. Cls. 234 (1908), decree mod. 193 U. S. 127.

⁶⁷ 12 C. Cls. 282 (1907). Cf. sec. 29 of Act of May 2, 1890, 26 Stat. 81, 95 (tribal law made applicable to contracts between Indian and non-Indian in Indian Territory).

⁶⁸ 10 Ind. T. 646, 82 S. W. 941 (1904).

SECTION 9. TRIBAL POWERS IN THE ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

The powers of an Indian tribe in the administration of justice derive from the substantive powers of self-government which are legally recognized to fall within the domain of tribal sovereignty. If an Indian tribe has power to regulate the marriage relationships of its members, it necessarily has power to adjudicate, through tribunals established by itself, controversies involving such relationships.⁶⁹ So, too, with other fields of local government in which our analysis has shown that tribal authority endures. In all these fields the judicial powers of the tribe are coextensive with its legislative or executive powers.⁷⁰

The decisions of Indian tribal courts, rendered within their jurisdiction and according to the forms of law or custom recognized by the tribe, are entitled to full faith and credit in the courts of the several states.

As was said in the case of *Stanley v. Roberts*:⁷¹

* * * the judgments of the courts of these nations, in cases within their jurisdiction, stand on the same footing with those of the courts of the territories of the Union and are entitled to the same faith and credit (P 845.)

And in the case of *Raymond v. Raymond*, the court declared:

The Cherokee Nation * * * is a distinct political society, capable of managing its own affairs and governing

The power of an Indian tribe to regulate the inheritance of individual property owned by members of the tribe likewise has been analyzed under a separate heading.⁷²

Within the scope of local self-government, it has been held, that such powers as the power to charter corporations.⁷³

Repeatedly, in the situations above discussed, federal and state courts have declined to interfere with the decisions of tribal authorities on property disputes internal to the tribe.⁷⁴

It clearly appears, from the foregoing cases, that the powers of an Indian tribe are not limited to such powers as it may exercise in its capacity as a landowner. In its capacity as a sovereign, and in the exercise of local self-government, it may exercise powers similar to those exercised by any state or nation in regulating the use and disposition of private property, save insofar as it is restricted by specific statutes of Congress.

The laws and customs of the tribe, in matters of contract and property generally (as well as on questions of membership, domestic relations, inheritance, taxation, and residence), may be lawfully administered in the tribunals of the tribe and such laws and customs will be recognized by courts of state or nation in cases coming before these courts.⁷⁵

⁷¹ See 9.

⁷² See, for example, the Cherokee resolution of March 8, 1818, chartering a corporation, embodied in the Treaty of February 27, 1819, with the Cherokee Nation, 7 Stat. 595. And see *Mingo Sol I D*, May 21, 1917 (Port Hall), *Mingo Sol I D*, March 14, 1918 (Blackfoot).

⁷³ *Washington v. Parker*, 7 F. Supp. 120 (D. C. W. D. N. Y., 1934), *Alukins v. Shook*, 175 N. Y. Supp. 41 (1919), and 178 N. Y. Supp. 605, reversed in *Note* (1922) 31 Yale L. J. 381, accord 7 Op. A. G. 174 (1887).

⁷⁴ See *Pound, Nationalism without a Nation* (1923), 22 Col. L. Rev. 97, *Reis, The Position of the American Indian in the Law of the United States* (1934), 16 J. Comp. Leg. 78.

itself. If any enacted its own laws, though they may not be in conflict with the constitution of the United States.

If any maintain its own judicial tribunals, and their judgments and decrees upon the rights of the persons and property of members of the Cherokee Nation as against each other are entitled to all the faith and credit accorded to the judgments and decrees of territorial courts (P 722.)

The question of the judicial powers of an Indian tribe is particularly significant in the field of law and order. For in the fields of civil controversy the rules and decisions of the tribe and its officers have a force that state courts and federal courts will respect.⁷⁶ But in accordance with the well-settled principle that one sovereign will not enforce the criminal laws of another sovereign, state courts and federal courts alike must decline to enforce penal provisions of tribal law. Responsibility for the maintenance of law and order is therefore squarely upon the Indian tribe, unless this field of jurisdiction has been taken over by the states or the Federal Government.

It is illuminating to deal with the question of tribal criminal jurisdiction as we have dealt with other questions of tribal authority, by asking, first, what the original sovereign powers of

⁷⁵ The power of an Indian tribe over the administration of justice has been held to include the power to prescribe conditions of practice in the tribal courts. *Mingo Sol I D*, August 7, 1937. And see 28 C. F. R. 161.9.

⁷⁶ *Washington v. Parker*, 7 F. Supp. 120 (D. C. W. D. N. Y., 1934), *Raymond v. Raymond*, 88 Fed. 721 (C. C. A. 8, 1907), 19 Op. A. G. 106 (1889), 7 Op. A. G. 174 (1886).

⁷⁷ 69 Fed. 986 (C. C. A. 8, 1894), app. dism. 17 Sup. Ct. 999 (1900), and see Chapter 14, sec. 8.

⁷⁸ 88 Fed. 721 (C. C. A. 8, 1907). Accord, *Noble v. United States*, 164 U. S. 937 (1907), *Alukins v. Shook*, 65 Fed. 12 (C. C. A. 8, 1903).

⁷⁹ Note, however, that courts have sometimes taken the position that tribal law or custom must be shown by the party relying thereon, and that otherwise the common law will be applied. See *Hookett v. Alukins*, 119 Fed. 919 (C. C. A. 8, 1903), *Wright v. Omaha*, 88 Fed. 675 (C. C. A. 8, 1898), *Pysant v. Forest*, 51 Fed. 551 (C. C. A. 8, 1892). And see Chapter 14, sec. 5.

the tribes were, and then, how far and in what respects these powers have been limited.

So long as the complete and independent sovereignty of an Indian tribe was recognized, its criminal jurisdiction, no less than its civil jurisdiction, was that of any sovereign power. It might punish its subjects for offenses against each other or against alien and for public offenses against the peace and dignity of the tribe. Similarly, it might punish aliens within its jurisdiction according to its own laws and customs.¹⁰ Such jurisdiction continues to this day save as it has been expressly limited by the acts of a superior government.

It is clear that the original criminal jurisdiction of the Indian tribes has never been transferred to the states. Sporadic attempts of the states to exercise jurisdiction over offenses between Indians, or between Indian and whites, committed on an Indian reservation, have been held invalid assumption of authority.

The principle that a state has no criminal jurisdiction over offenses involving Indians committed on an Indian reservation is now well established to require argument, asserted as it is in a line of cases that reaches back to the earliest years of the Republic.¹¹

A state, of course, has jurisdiction over the conduct of an Indian off the reservation.¹² A state also has jurisdiction over some, but not all, acts of non-Indians within a reservation.¹³ But the relations between whites and Indians in "Indian country" and the conduct of Indians themselves in Indian country are not subject to the laws of the courts of the several states.

The denial of state jurisdiction, then, is dictated by principles of constitutional law.¹⁴

¹⁰ This power is expressly recognized, for instance, in the Treaty of 1817, with the Choctaws, 7 Stat. 89, providing:

If any citizen of the United States, or other person not being an Indian, shall settle on any of the Choctaw lands, such person shall forfeit the protection of the United States, and the Choctaws may punish him or not, as they please. (See 429.)

Other treaties acknowledging tribal jurisdiction over white trespassers on tribal lands are: Treaty of January 21, 1795, with the Delaware, 7 Stat. 16, Treaty of January 10, 1795, with the Chickasaws, 7 Stat. 24, Treaty of January 9, 1795, with the Winthrops, Delaware, and others, 7 Stat. 25, Treaty of August 7, 1795, with the Choctaws, 7 Stat. 85, Treaty of July 2, 1793, with the Choctaws, 7 Stat. 30, Treaty of August 3, 1795, with the Winthrops, Delaware, and others, 7 Stat. 49. Later provisions require the tribes to sue and surrender trespassers "without other injury result, or molestation" to designated federal officials. Treaty of November 10, 1805, with Osage Indians, 7 Stat. 107. Cf. *Leah Ochoe Nienah v. Nierde*, 60 Fed. 68 (C. C. A. 8, 1895), and see Chapter 24.

¹¹ *Worcester v. Georgia*, 6 Pet. 515 (1822), *United States v. Kagama*, 118 U. S. 875 (1886), *United States v. Shoshone*, 153 U. S. 877 (1894), *Tyng v. Thompson*, 212 U. S. 512 (1908), *United States v. Orlentine*, 218 U. S. 275 (1909), *Donnelly v. United States*, 228 U. S. 243 (1913), *United States v. Feilan*, 232 U. S. 442 (1914), *United States v. Ramsey*, 271 U. S. 407 (1926), *United States v. Kipp*, 81 Fed. 625 (C. C. B. D. Wis., 1897), *In re Blackbird*, 160 Fed. 189 (D. C. W. D. Wis., 1901), *In re Lincoln*, 120 Fed. 247 (D. C. N. D. Cal., 1904), *United States ex rel. Lujan v. Hamilton*, 283 Fed. 950 (D. C. W. D. N. Y., 1915), *James H. Hamilton v. United States*, 42 C. Cls. 282 (1907), *Yohpohan v. Looe*, 291 Fed. 425 (D. C. B. D. Wash., 1937), *State v. Campbell*, 93 Minn. 354, 95 N. W. 553 (1894), *State v. Sky Sheep*, 15 Mont. 210, 248 Pac. 1067 (1920), *Ex parte Coates*, 20 Neb. 437, 50 N. W. 428 (1888), *People ex rel. Quack v. Daly*, 212 N. Y. 138, 105 N. E. 1018 (1914), *State v. Cloud*, 228 N. W. 611 (1880), *State v. Rufus*, 205 Wis. 317, 237 N. W. 87 (Wis.) (1931). And see *United States v. Ba ooo Saool*, 21 Fed. Cas. No. 15212 (C. C. Neb., 1870). See also Chapter 6.

¹² See *Polley v. People*, 28 Colo. 154, 48 Pac. 688 (1890) (upholding state jurisdiction over murder of Indian by Indian outside of reservation). And see Chapters 6, 18.

¹³ See *United States v. McIntyre*, 104 U. S. 821 (1881) (declining federal jurisdiction over murder of non-Indian by non-Indian on reservation). And see Chapter 6, 18.

¹⁴ See *Willoughby*, The Constitutional Law of the United States (2d ed. 1929), c. 21.

In these respects the territories occupy a legal position similar to the states.¹⁵

On the other hand, the constitutional authority of the Federal Government to press the laws and to administer justice upon the Indian reservations is plenary. The question remains how far Congress has exercised its constitutional powers.¹⁶

The basic provisions of federal law with regard to Indian offenses are found in sections 217 and 218 of U. S. Code, title 25.

Sec. 217. *Criminal laws as to punishment extended to Indian country*—Except as in times the punishment of which is expressly provided for in this title, the criminal laws of the United States as to the punishment of crimes committed in any place within the sole and exclusive jurisdiction of the United States, except the District of Columbia, shall extend to the Indian country.

Sec. 218. *Exceptions as to extension of general laws*—The preceding section shall not be construed to extend to crimes committed by one Indian against the person or property of another Indian, nor to any Indian committing any offense in the Indian country who has been punished by the local law of the tribe, or to any case where, by treaty stipulations, the exclusive jurisdiction over such offenses is or may be secured to the Indian tribes respectively.¹⁷

These provisions recognize that, with respect to crimes committed by one Indian against the person or property of another Indian, the jurisdiction of the Indian tribe is plenary. These provisions further recognize that, in addition to this general jurisdiction over offenses between Indians, an Indian tribe may possess, by virtue of treaty stipulations, other fields of exclusive jurisdiction (necessarily including jurisdiction over cases involving non-Indians). "The local law of the tribe" is fairly recognized to the extent that the punishment of an Indian under such law must be deemed a bar to further prosecution under any applicable federal laws, even though the offense be one against a non-Indian.

Such was the law when the case of *Ex parte Dog*,¹⁸ which has been discussed in an earlier connection, arose. The United States Supreme Court here held that federal courts had no jurisdiction to prosecute an Indian for the murder of another Indian committed on an Indian reservation, such jurisdiction never having been withdrawn from the original sovereignty of the Indian tribe.

¹⁵ *United States v. Kie*, 58 Fed. Cas. No. 15528a (D. C. D. Alaska 1885) and see Chapter 21.

¹⁶ See Chapter 5.

¹⁷ These provisions are derived from the Act of March 3, 1817, 3 Stat. 338 which, in extending federal criminal laws to territories belonging to an Indian tribe, specifies:

"That nothing in this act shall be so construed as to affect any treaty now in force between the United States and any Indian nation, or to extend to any offense committed by one Indian against another, within any Indian boundary."

Similar provisions were contained in sec. 25 of the Act of June 30, 1884, c. 161, 4 Stat. 729, 733, see 8 of the Act of March 27, 1884, 10 Stat. 260, 270, and 281 2143-2146, amended by sec. 1 of the Act of February 18, 1876, 18 Stat. 816, 818.

¹⁸ 119 U. S. 876 (1883). Shortly before the decision in this case an opinion had been rendered by the Attorney General in another Indian murder case holding that where an Indian of one tribe had murdered an Indian of another tribe on the reservation of a third tribe, even though it was not shown that any of the tribes concerned had any machinery for the administration of justice, the federal courts had no right to try the accused. The opinion concluded:

If no demand for justice is presented, but be made by one or others of the tribes concerned, founded largely upon a violation of some law of one or other of them having jurisdiction of the offense in question according to general principles, and by forms substantially conformable to natural justice, it seems that nothing is required except to discharge him. (7 Op. A. G. 505 (1883).)

A similar decision had been reached in state courts. See *State v. McKonny*, 18 Nev. 182, 2 Pac. 171 (1886). See also, *Anonymous*, 1 Fed. Cas. No. 447 (C. C. D. Mo. 1848) (robbery).

Although the right of an Indian tribe to inflict the death penalty had been recognized by Congress,¹ so much consideration was created by the Supreme Court's decision in *Ex parte Crow Dog* that within 2 years Congress had enacted a law making it a federal crime for one Indian to murder another Indian on an Indian reservation.² This law also prohibited manslaughter, rape, assault with intent to kill, arson, burglary and larceny. In later years notorious cases of robbery, murder and assault with a dangerous weapon resulted in the piecemeal addition of the three offenses to the federal code of Indian crimes.³ There are thus, at the present time, 10 major offenses for which federal jurisdiction has displaced tribal jurisdiction. Federal courts also have jurisdiction over the ordinary federal crimes applicable throughout the United States (such as counterfeiting, smuggling,⁴ and offenses relative to the mail), over violations of special laws for the protection of Indians,⁵ and over offenses committed by an Indian against a non-Indian or by a non-Indian against an Indian which fall within the special code of offenses for territory "within the exclusive jurisdiction of the United States."⁶ All offenses other than these remain subject to tribal law and custom and to tribal courts.

Although the statute covering the "10 major crimes" does not expressly terminate tribal jurisdiction over the enumerated crimes, and may be interpreted as conferring only a concurrent jurisdiction upon the federal courts, it is arguable that the statute removes all jurisdiction over the enumerated crimes from the Indian tribal authorities.

Some support is given to this argument by the decision in *United States v. White*.⁷ In this case, which arose soon after the passage of the statute in question, it had appeared fitting to the tribal council of the Pine River Reservation that a homicide man who was believed to have poisoned some 21 deceased patients should be executed, and he was so executed. The four tribal exonerations were found guilty of manslaughter, in the federal court, on the theory, apparently, that the Act of

¹ See report cited above, p. 25.

² Act of March 8, 1885, 24 Stat. 402, 408, 18 U. S. C. § 14.

³ Earlier attempts, to extend federal criminal laws to crimes by Indians against Indians (e. g. Letter from Secretary of the Interior, March 11, 1874, 805 Mine Dot, No. 05, 45d Cong., 1st sess.) had failed. On May 20, 1874, the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs, rejecting the proposed bills, declared:

"... The Indians, while they [tribal tribunals] submit, generally maintain law courts, and decide of their own for the punishment of offenses. They have no knowledge of the law of the United States, and the attempt to enforce their own old laws, might bring them in direct conflict with existing statutes and subject them to prosecutions for their violation." (See Report No. 87, 45d Cong., 1st sess., Vol. 2.)

This same report condemned other provisions of the proposed bill as "leading in Indian agents" "a very dangerous and formidable direction" (cf. Chapter 2, see 2C).

⁴ Act of March 4, 1908, see 428, 97 Stat. 1085, 1151, Act of June 28, 1932, 47 Stat. 450, 837.

⁵ See *Bailey v. United States*, 47 F. 2d 702 (C. C. 9 1917), confirming conviction of tribal Indian for offense of smuggling.

⁶ See 18 U. S. C. § 104 (Timber depredations on Indian lands), 107 (Starting fires on Indian lands), 110 (Shooting fences or driving cattle on inclosed public lands), 118 (Inducing convictees by Indians to turn convicts in lands), 25 U. S. C. § 88 (Receipt of money under prohibited contracts), 177 (Purchases of goods of land from Indians), 178 (Deriving stock to live on Indian lands), 180 (Stealing sheep or swine from lands belonging to Indians by treaty), 195 (Sale of cattle purchased by Government to nontribal members), 212 (Arson), 213 (Assault with intent to kill), 214 (Dispossession or removing cattle), 216 (Trespass on Indian lands), 241 (Intoxicating liquors, sale to Indians on introducing into Indian country), 241a (Sale, etc., of liquors in former Indian territory), 244 (Possession of intoxicating liquors in Indian country), 251 (Selling or supplying), 254 (Trading without license), 255 (Prohibited purchases and sales), 296 (Sale of arms).

⁷ See 18 U. S. C., Chap. 13 and 18.

⁸ 67 Fed. 145 (C. C. 8 D. Cal. 1888). See also dictum in *United States v. Cordeau*, 145 Fed. 242 (D. C. 8 D. Wis. 1906).

March 4, 1885, had reexamined tribal jurisdiction over murder cases. Whether tribal authorities may still inflict the death penalty for offenses other than the enumerated 10 major crimes is a matter of some doubt.

In opposition to the argument that the 1885 act limits tribal jurisdiction over crimes, it may be said that concurrent jurisdiction of federal and tribal authorities is clearly recognized by section 218 of title 25 of the United States Code, above set forth, which exempt from federal punishment otherwise mentioned persons who have been punished by the local law of the tribe,⁸ and that the current Indian Law and Order Regulations recognize concurrent federal-tribal jurisdiction over crime.⁹

The language in this last (criminal code of 10 commodities) are serious and indicate the importance of tribal jurisdiction in the field of law and order.

"Assault" cases that do not involve a "dangerous weapon" or where "intent to kill" cannot be proven, cannot be prosecuted in the federal court, no matter how brutal the attack may be, or how near death the victim is placed, if death does not in actuality ensue, men usually beating their wives and children are, therefore, exempt from prosecution in the federal courts, and as above shown, the State courts do not have jurisdiction. Then assault with intent to commit a rape or great bodily injury is not punishable under any federal statute.¹⁰

Aside from rape and incest, the various offenses involving the relation of the sexes (e. g., adultery, seduction, bigamy, and solicitation), as well as those involving the responsibility of a man for the support of his wife and children, are not within the cases that can be prosecuted in federal courts.¹¹

Other offenses, which may be mentioned, to which no state or federal laws now have application, and over which no state or federal court now has any jurisdiction, are kidnapping, receiving stolen goods, poisoning (if the victim does not die), obtaining money under false pretenses, embezzlement, blackmail, libel, forgery, fraud, trespass, mayhem, bribery, killing of another's livestock, setting fire to private or timber, use of false weights and measures, carrying concealed weapons, gambling, disorderly conduct, malicious mischief, pollution of water supplies, and other offenses against public health.¹²

The difficulties of this situation have prompted agitation for the extension of federal or state laws over the Indian country, which has continued for at least five decades, without success.¹³ The propriety of the objective sought is not here in question, but the agitation itself is evidence of the large area of human conduct which must be left in anarchy if it be held that tribal authorities to deal with such conduct has disappeared.

Fortunately, such tribal authority has been repeatedly recognized by the courts, and although it has not been actually exercised always and in all tribes, it remains a proper legal basis

⁸ *Almon St. v. H.*, November 17, 1928 (7th Cir.).

⁹ *United States v. Kemp*, 31 Fed. 625 (D. C. 8 D. Wis. 1897).

¹⁰ See *United States v. Quinn*, 241 U. S. 602 (1916), discussed above under sec. 5.

¹¹ Cf. statement of Assistant Commissioner Morris, before House Committee on Indian Affairs, 80th Cong., on H. R. 7936, Hearings (Reservation Council of Indian Officers), p. 61.

¹² See *Marshall, Law for the Indians* (1882), 184 N. A. Rev. 272, Thayer, *A People Without Law* (1891), 88 Am. Month. 540, 576, Austin Abbott, *Indians and the Law* (1888), 2 Harv. Law Rev. 197, Hornblower, *Legal Status of Indians* (1891), 14 A. B. A. Rep. 201, Report of Comm. on Law and Courts for Indians (1892), 16 A. B. A. Rep. 428, Pound, *Nations Without a Nation* (1922), 22 Col. L. Rev. 97, Morsam and Associates, *Problem of Indian Administration* (1928), chap. 18, Ray A. Brown, *The Indian Problem and the Law* (1930), 80 Yale L. J. 307, Report of Brown, Mack, Cloud, and Meriam on "Law and Order on Indian Reservations of the Northwest," Hearings Subcomm. of Comm. on Ind. Aff., 72d Cong., 1st sess., pt. 26, p. 14187, et seq. (1942).

for the tribal administration of justice wherever an Indian tribe desires to make use of its legal powers.

"The recognition of tribal jurisdiction over the offenses of tribal Indians accorded by the Supreme Court in *Ex parte Crow Dog*, *supra*, and *United States v. Quiver*, *supra*, indicates that the criminal jurisdiction of the Indian tribes has not been curtailed by the failure of certain tribes to exercise such jurisdiction, or by the inadequacy of its attempted exercise, or by any historical changes that have come about in the habits and customs of the Indian tribes. Likewise it has been held that a gap in a tribal criminal code does not confer jurisdiction upon the federal courts.²¹ Only specific legislation terminating or transferring such jurisdiction can limit the force of tribal law.

A recent writer,²² after carefully analyzing the relation between federal and tribal law, concludes:

This gives to many Indian tribes a large measure of continuing autonomy, for the federal statutes are only a fragment of law, principally providing some educational, hygienic, and economic assistance, regulating land ownership, and punishing certain crimes committed by or upon Indians on a reservation. Where these statutes do not reach, Indian custom is the only law. As a matter of convenience, the regular courts (white man's courts) tacitly assume that the general law of the community is the law in civil cases between Indians; but these courts will apply Indian custom whenever it is proved. (P. 90)

A careful analysis of the relation between a local tribal government and the United States is found in an early opinion of the Attorney General,²³ in which it is held that a court of the Choctaw Nation has complete jurisdiction over a civil controversy between a Choctaw Indian and an adopted white man, involving rights to property within the Choctaw Nation.

On the other hand, it is argued by the United States Agent, that the courts of the Choctaws can have no jurisdiction of any case in which a citizen of the United States is a party.

In the first place, it is certain that the Agent errs in assuming the legal impossibility of a citizen of the United States becoming subject, in civil matters, or criminal either, to the jurisdiction of the Choctaws. It is true that no citizen of the United States can, while he remains within the United States, escape their constitutional jurisdiction, either by adoption into a tribe of Indians, or any other way. But the error in all this consists in the idea that any man, citizen or not citizen, becomes divested of his allegiance to the United States, or throws off their jurisdiction or government, in the fact of becoming subject to any local jurisdiction whatever. This idea misconceives entirely the whole theory of the Federal Government, which theory is, that all the inhabitants of the country are, in regard to certain limited matters, subject to the federal jurisdiction, and in all others to the local jurisdiction, whether political or municipal. The citizen of Mississippi is also a citizen of the United States; and he owes allegiance to, and is subject to the laws of, both governments. So also an Indian, whether he be Choctaw or Chickasaw, and while subject to the local jurisdiction of the councils and courts of the nation, yet is not in any possible relation or sense divested of his allegiance and obligations to the Government and the laws of the United States. (Pp. 177-178.)

In effect, then, an Indian tribe bears a relation to the Government of the United States similar to that which a territory bears to such government, and similar again to that relationship which a municipality bears to a state. An Indian tribe may exercise a complete jurisdiction over its members and

within the limits of the reservation,²⁴ subordinate only to the expressed limitations of federal law.

Some tribes have exercised a similar jurisdiction, under express departmental authorization, over Indians of other tribes found on the reservation.²⁵ This has been justified on the ground that the original tribal sovereignty extends over visiting Indians and also on the ground that the Department of the Interior may transfer the jurisdiction vested in the Courts of Indian Offenses to tribal courts, so far as concerns jurisdiction over members of recognized tribes.²⁶

On the other hand, attempts of tribes to exercise jurisdiction over non-Indians, although permitted in certain early treaties,²⁷ have been generally condemned by the federal courts since the end of the treaty-making period, and the writ of habeas corpus has been used to discharge white defendants from tribal custody.²⁸

Recognition of tribal authority in the administration of justice is found in the statutes of Congress, as well as in the decisions of the federal courts.

U. S. Code, title 23, section 220, provides that redress for a civil injury committed by an Indian shall be sought in the first instance by the "Nation or tribe to which such Indian shall belong."²⁹ This provision for collective responsibility evidently assumes that the Indian tribe or nation has its own resources for exercising disciplinary power over individual wrongdoers within the community.

We have already referred to title 23, section 218, of the United States Code, with its express assurance that persons "imprisoned by the law of the tribe" shall not be tried again before the federal courts.

What is even more important than these statutory recognitions of tribal criminal authority is the persistent silence of Congress on the general problem of Indian criminal jurisdiction. There is nothing to imply an alternative to the conclusion that the Indian tribes retain sovereignty and jurisdictions over a vast area of ordinary offenses over which the Federal Government has never presumed to legislate and over which the state governments have not the authority to legislate.

Attempts to administer a rough-and-ready sort of justice through Indian courts commonly known as Courts of Indian Offenses, or directly through superintendents, cannot be held to have impaired tribal authority in the field of law and order. These agencies have been characterized, in the only reported case squarely upholding their legitimacy, as "mere educational and disciplinary instrumentalities by which the Government

²¹ "The jurisdiction of the Indian tribe ceases at the border of the reservation (see 18 Op. A. G. 440 (1888)), holding that the authority of the Indian police is limited to the territory of the reservation, and Congress has never authorized appropriate extradition procedure whereby an Indian tribe may secure jurisdiction over fugitives from its justice. See *Re gente Kogon*, 20 Fed. 526 (11, C. W. D. Ark., 1888).

²² See Memo. Sol. I. D., February 17, 1939 (Rocky Boy's Blackfeet). But cf. Memo. Sol. I. D., October 15, 1938 (Pi Botbold). For a full discussion of the question of jurisdiction of the person, raised in such cases as *Re gente Kogon*, 14 Fed. Cas. No. 7720 (C. C. W. D. Ark., 1878), see Chapter 18.

²³ *Ibid.*

²⁴ See Chapter 1, sec. 8.

²⁵ *Re gente Kogon*, 14 Fed. Cas. No. 7720 (C. C. W. D. Ark., 1878), and see Chapter 18.

²⁶ This provision was apparently first enacted as sec. 14 of the Trade and Intercourse Act of May 19, 1790, 1 Stat. 489, 472, reenacted as sec. 14 of the Trade and Intercourse Act of March 8, 1790, 1 Stat. 743, 747, reenacted as sec. 14 of the Trade and Intercourse Act of March 30, 1802, 2 Stat. 139, 148, and finally embodied in sec. 17 of the Trade and Intercourse Act of June 30, 1834, 4 Stat. 720, 731.

²⁷ Of a similar character are treaty provisions in which tribes undertake to punish certain types of Indian offenders. See, e. g., Art. 7 of Treaty

^{21a} *In re Mayfield*, 141 U. S. 107 (1891).

^{22a} Rice, *The Position of the American Indian in the Law of the United States* (1934), 16 J. Comp. Leg. (5d series), pt. 1, 78.

^{23a} 7 Op. A. G. 174 (1855).

of the United States is endeavoring to improve and elevate the condition of these dependent tribes to whom it sustains the relation of guardian."¹⁴ Perhaps a more satisfactory defense of their legality is the doctrine put forward by a recent writer that the Comits of Indian Offenses "derive their authority from the tribe, rather than from Washington."¹⁵

Whichever of these explanations be offered for the existence of the Comits of Indian Offenses, their establishment cannot be held to have destroyed or limited the powers vested by existing law in the Indian tribes over the province of law and order and the administration of civil and criminal justice.

Today the administration of law and order is being taken over as a local responsibility by most of the tribes, that since the enactment of the Wheeler-Howard Act of June 18, 1934, have adopted constitutions for self-government.¹⁶

Faced with a tremendous problem, the Indian tribes have done an admirable job of maintaining law and order, wherever they have been permitted to function.¹⁷ There are some reservations in which the moral sanctions of an integrated community are so strong that apart from occasional drunkenness and accompanying violence, crime is unknown. Crime is more of a problem

on reservations where the social sanctions based on tribal control of property have been broken down through the allotment system, and the efforts of these tribes to meet their law and order problem through tribal codes, tribal courts, and tribal police, are worthy of serious attention.

The earliest codes adopted by tribes which have organized under the Act of June 18, 1934, generally differ from comparable state penal codes in the following respects:

1 The number of offenses specified in a tribal code generally runs between 40 and 50, whereas a state code (exclusive of local municipal ordinances) generally specifies between 800 and 2,000 offenses.¹⁸

2 The maximum punishment specified in the Indian penal codes is generally more humane, seldom exceeding imprisonment for 6 months, even for offenses like kidnapping for which state penal codes impose imprisonment for 20 years or more, or death.

3 Except for fixing a maximum penalty, the Indian penal codes leave a large discretion to the court in adjusting the penalty to the circumstances of the offense and the offender.

4 The form of punishment is typically forced labor for the benefit of the tribe or of the victim of the offense, rather than imprisonment.

5 The tribal penal codes, for the most part, do not contain the usual catch-all provisions to be found in state penal codes (vagrancy, conspiracy, criminal syndicalism, etc.), under which almost any unpropitious individual may be convicted of crime.

6 The tribal penal code is generally put into the hands of every member of the tribe, and widely read and discussed, which is not the case with state penal codes.

On the basis of this comparison it seems fair to say that the confidence which the United States Supreme Court imputed in the *Crow Dog* case,¹⁹ in the ability of Indian tribes to master "the highest and best of all . . . the arts of civilized life . . . that of self-government . . . the maintenance of order and peace among their own members by the administration of their own laws and customs" has been amply justified in the half century that has passed since that case was heard.

¹⁴ The Penal Code of New York State (30 McKinney's Cons. Laws of N. Y. 1936 sup.) has 64 offenses under the letter "A." The Penal Code of Montana (Rev. Codes of Montana, 1921) contains 871 sections defining crimes.

¹⁵ See *partic Crow Dog*, 160 U. S. 560 (1895).

of November 15, 1967, with Confederated Tribes at Middle Oregon, 14 Stat. 781, 782, Act 12 of Treaty of February 6, 1850, with Stockbridge and Miamis, 11 Stat. 661, 660.

Tribal responsibility for surrender or extradition of Indian horse thieves, murderers, or "bad men" generally was imposed by various treaties: Treaty of January 25, 1787, with Wampanoag, Delaware, and others 7 Stat. 16, Treaty of January 10, 1780, with the Chickasaw, 7 Stat. 24, Treaty of January 9, 1789, with Wampanoag, Delaware, and others 7 Stat. 28, Treaty of August 7, 1790, with the Creek Nation, 7 Stat. 36, Treaty of July 2, 1793, with Cherokee Nation, 7 Stat. 39, Treaty of November 4, 1804, with Sars and Paws, 7 Stat. 84, Treaty of November 10, 1808, with Great and Little Osage Nations, 7 Stat. 107, Treaty of September 30, 1809, with Delaware and others 7 Stat. 118, Treaty of May 16, 1846, with Comanches and others, 9 Stat. 844.

¹⁶ United States v. *Chapman*, 30 Fed. 575 (D. C. Ore., 1888), and of *partic Crow Dog*, 12 Ala. 160, 100 Pac. 430 (1909).

¹⁷ See, The Position of the American Indian in the Law of the United States (1934), 16 J. Comp. Leg. (8d Ser.), pt. 1, pp. 78, 93.

¹⁸ See, for example, Code of Ordinances of the Gila River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community, adopted June 4, 1946, and approved by the Secretary of the Interior on August 24, 1946, Revised Code of Offenses, adopted April 8, 1937, and approved by the Secretary of the Interior July 7, 1937.

¹⁹ See *partic*, *supra*, p. 17 (" . . . on the whole they work well"). On aboriginal penitentiary systems, see MacLeod, *Tribes and Punishment among Native Americans of the Plains* (1937), 28 J. Crim. Law and Criminology 181.

SECTION 10. STATUTORY POWERS OF TRIBES IN INDIAN ADMINISTRATION

Within the field of Indian Service administration various powers have been conferred on Indian tribes by statute. These powers differ, of course, in derivation from those tribal powers which spring from tribal sovereignty. They are rather of federal origin, and no doubt subject to constitutional doctrines applicable to the exercise or delegation of federal governmental powers.

Potentially the most important of these statutory tribal powers is the power to supervise regular Government employees, subject to the findings of the Secretary of the Interior as to the competency of the tribe to exercise such control. Section 9 of the Act of June 30, 1884,²⁰ now embodied in U. S. Code, title 25, sec. 48, provides:

Right of tribes to discontinue employment of persons engaged for them.—Where any of the tribes are, in the opinion of the Secretary of the Interior, competent to direct the employment of their blacksmiths, mechanics, teachers, in-

en, or other persons engaged for them, the direction of such persons may be given to the proper authority of the tribe.

Under the terms of this statute it is clearly within the discretionary authority of the Secretary of the Interior to grant to the proper authorities of an Indian tribe all powers of supervision and control over local employees, which may now be exercised by the Secretary, *e. g.*, the power to specify the duties, within a general range set by the nature of the employment, which the employee is to perform, the power to prescribe standards for appointment, promotion and continuance in office, and the power to compel reports, from time to time, of work accomplished or begun.

It will be noted that the statute in question is not restricted to the cases in which a federal employee is paid out of tribal funds. Senators are responsible to their constituents' legal diets of the source of their salaries, and heretofore most Indian Service employees have been responsible only to the Federal

²⁰ 4 Stat. 785, 787, U. S. § 2072.

Government, though their salaries might be paid from the funds of the tribe.

In directing the employment of Indian Service employees, an Indian tribe may impose upon such employees the duty of enforcing the laws and ordinances of the tribe, and the authority of Federal employees so acting has been repeatedly confirmed by the courts.²⁰

The section in question has not, apparently, been extensively used by the Interior Department, and that Department at one time recommended its repeal. This recommendation was later withdrawn.²¹

Various other statutes make Indian Service administration dependent, in several respects, upon tribal consent.

Thus, U. S. Code, title 25, section 68,²² provides that the President may "consolidate one or more tribes, and abolish such agencies as are thereby rendered unnecessary," but that such action may be undertaken only "with the consent of the tribes to be affected thereby, expressed in the usual manner."

Section 111 of the same title²³ provides that payments of moneys and distribution of goods for the benefit of any Indians or Indian tribes shall be made either to the heads of families and individuals directly entitled to such moneys or goods or else to the chiefs of the tribe, for the benefit of the tribe, or to persons appointed by the tribe for the purpose of receiving such moneys.

²⁰ *Morris v. Nichols*, 194 U. S. 284 (1904); *Hyatt v. Wright*, 135 Fed. 947 (C. C. 8, 1905), app. dismissed 209 U. S. 600; *Wanau v. Wright*, 3 Ind. T. 248, 64 S. W. 807 (1900), and 105 Fed. 1007 (1900); *Neely v. Weimer*, 5 Ind. T. 640, 82 S. W. 911 (1904), 23 Op. A. G. 328.

²¹ See annotations to 25 U. S. C. 48 in various annual supplements to U. S. C. A.

²² Act of May 17, 1882, sec. 68, 22 Stat. 68, 88, reenacted Act of July 4, 1884, sec. 6, 23 Stat. 70, 97.

²³ Act of June 30, 1884, sec. 11 and Stat. 735, 737, amended Act of March 3, 1847, sec. 8, 9 Stat. 208, amended Act of August 30, 1882, sec. 3, 10 Stat. 41, 69, amended Act of July 10, 1870, sec. 3-5, 16 Stat. 385, 390. See Chapter 15, sec. 22, 23.

or goods. This section finally provides that such moneys or goods "by consent of the tribe" may be applied directly by the Secretary to purposes conducive to the happiness and prosperity of the tribe.

Section 115 of the same title²⁴ provides:

The President may, at the request of any Indian tribe, to which an annuity is payable in money, cause the same to be paid in goods purchased as provided in section 91.

Section 140²⁵ of the same title provides that specific appropriations for the benefit of Indian tribes may be diverted to other uses "with the consent of said tribes, expressed in the usual manner."

Perhaps the most important provision for tribal participation in tribal Indian administration is found in the last sentence of section 16 of the Act of June 18, 1934, which, applying to all tribes adopting constitutions under that act, declares:

The Secretary of the Interior shall advise such tribe or its tribal council of all appropriation estimates or Federal projects for the benefit of the tribe prior to the submission of such estimates to the Bureau of the Budget and the Congress.²⁶

Under this section each organized tribe has the right to present its comments and criticisms on the budgetary plans of the Interior Department covering its own reservation prior to the time when such plans are considered by the Bureau of the Budget or by Congress. This is a power quite distinct from the tribal power to prevent the disposition of tribal funds without tribal consent, a power elsewhere discussed.²⁷

While this provision imposes a legal duty upon administrative authorities, it is, of course, purely advisory so far as Congress is concerned.

²⁴ Act of June 30, 1884, sec. 12, 4 Stat. 735, 737.

²⁵ Act of March 3, 1907, 34 Stat. 1015, 1016.

²⁶ 49 Stat. 981, 987, 25 U. S. C. 476.

²⁷ See Chapter 5, sec. 63, and Chapter 15, sec. 24.

CHAPTER 8

PERSONAL RIGHTS AND LIBERTIES OF INDIANS

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SECTION 1. INTRODUCTION

To analyze the personal rights and liberties of Indians is to assume that Indians are persons. This proposition has not always been universally accepted. The first authoritative determination that Indians are human beings is to be found in the

Bull *Sollicitudo* of Pope Paul III, issued June 4, 1537. This Bull declared:

The enemy of the human race, who opposes all good deeds in order to bring men to destruction, beholding

and enjoying this, invented a means never before heard of, by which he might hinder the preaching of God's word of salvation to the people. He insured his editor, who, to please him, have not hesitated to publish abroad that the Indians of the West and the South, and other people of whom we have recent knowledge should be treated as dumb brutes created for our service, pre-tending that they are incapable of receiving the catholic faith.

We, who, though unworthy, exercise on earth the power of our Lord and seek with all our might to bring those sheep of His flock who are outside, into the fold committed to our charge, consider, however, that the Indians are truly men and that they are not only capable of understanding the catholic faith but, according to our information, they desire exceedingly to receive it. Desiring to provide ample remedy for these evils, we denounce and declare by these our letters, or by any translation thereof signed by any notary public and sealed with the seal of any ecclesiastical dignitary, to which the same credit shall be given as to the originals that, notwithstanding whatever may have been or may be said to the contrary, the said Indians and all other people who may later be discovered by Christians, are by no means to be deprived of their liberty or the possession of their property, even though they be outside the faith of Jesus Christ, and that they may and should, freely and legitimately, enjoy their liberty and the possession of their property, nor should they lie in any way enslaved, should the contrary happen, it shall be null and of no effect.

Despite this pronouncement, doubts as to the human character of Indians have persisted until fairly recently, particularly among those charged with the administration of Indian affairs. These doubts are reflected in the statement on "Policy and Administration of Indian Affairs" contained in the "Report on Indians Taxed and Indians Not Taxed, at the Eleventh Census 1880," which declares:

An Indian is a person within the meaning of the laws of the United States. This decision of Judge Dundy, of the United States district court for Nebraska, has not been reversed, still, by law and the Interior Department, the Indian is considered a ward of the nation and is so treated.¹

The doubts that have existed as to whether an Indian is a person or something less than a person have infected with uncertainty much of the discussion of Indian personal rights and liberties. Clear thinking on the subject has been sacrificed in the effort to find ambiguous terms which will permit us, by appropriate juggling, to maintain three basic propositions:

(1) that Indians are human beings;

(2) that all human beings are created equal, with certain inalienable rights, and

(3) that Indians are an "inferior" class not entitled to these "inalienable rights."

Experience shows that it is possible to pay due deference to these three propositions, inconsistent though they are with each other, by means of a skillful juggling of words of many meanings, such as "wardship" and "incompetency."

In 1842, Attorney General Legaré wrote:²

There is nothing in the whole compass of our laws so anomalous—so hard to bring within any precise definition, or any textual and scientific arrangement of principles, as the relation in which the Indians stand towards this government, and those of the States. (P. 76)

Eight decades later, when the eminent jurist, Judge Outshott Pound, wrote of "Nationals without a Nation," the anomalies attendant upon the legal status of the Indian had not disappeared.

In part, the difficulties of the subject derive from the unique international relationship existing between the United States and Indian tribes, treated as "domestic, dependent nations" with which we entered into treaties that continue in force to this day.

The complexity of the problem has been very much magnified by the host of special treaties, and special statutes assigning rights and obligations to the members of particular tribes, all of which creates a complex diversity that can be simplified only at the risk of ignoring facts and violating rights. Attempts have been made, of course, in some judicial opinions, as well as in less authoritative writings, to ride roughshod over the facts and to lay down certain simple rules of alleged universal applicability, most of which have turned out to be erroneous.

Whatever the causes of this confusion may be, the fact remains that erroneous notions on the legal status of the Indian are widely prevalent. Large sections of our population still believe that Indians are not citizens, and recent instances have been reported of Indians being denied the right to vote because the electoral officials, in charge were under the impression that Indians have never been made citizens. Indeed, some people have persuaded Indians themselves that they are not citizens and can achieve citizenship only by selling their land, by having the Indian Office abolished, or by performing some other act of benefit to those advisors who have volunteered aid in the achievement of American citizenship.

Another prevalent misconception is the notion that "ward Indians," whatever that term may mean, have no capacity at law to make contracts or to bring or defend law suits.

These are but two examples among a host of more or less widespread misconceptions that are woven about such terms as "citizenship," "wardship," and "incompetency."

We shall be concerned in this chapter to analyze the legal position of the Indian with respect to ten matters:

(a) Citizenship (sec. 2).

(b) Suffrage (sec. 3).

(c) Eligibility for public office and employment (sec. 4)

(d) Eligibility for state assistance (sec. 5)

(e) Right to sue (sec. 6)

(f) Right to contract (sec. 7)

(g) Incompetency (sec. 8)

(h) Wardship (sec. 9).

(i) Civil liberties (sec. 10)

(j) Status of freedmen and slaves (sec. 11).

¹ Translation from F. A. MacNeill, Bartholomew de Las Casas: His Life, His Apostolate, and His Writings (1909), pp. 429, 431.

² H. R. Misc. Doc. No. 840, 53d Cong., 1st sess., part 15 (1894), p. 04.

³ 4 Op. A. G. 75 (1842).

⁴ (1922), 22 Col. L. Rev. 97.

⁵ Op. Bol. J. D., M. 28869, February 13, 1937.

SECTION 2 CITIZENSHIP

Since June 2, 1924 all Indians born within the territorial limits of the United States have been citizens, in virtue of the act of that date.⁴ This act provides:

That all non-citizen Indians born within the territorial limits of the United States be, and they are hereby, declared to be citizens of the United States. *Provided*, That the granting of such citizenship shall not in any manner impair or otherwise affect the right of any Indian to tribal or other property.

The substance of this section was incorporated in the Naturalization Act of October 14, 1940.⁵

Prior to the Citizenship Act of 1924 approximately two-thirds of the Indians of the United States had already acquired citizenship in one or more of the following ways:

- (a) Treaties with Indian tribes.
- (b) Special statutes naturalizing named tribes or individuals.
- (c) General statutes naturalizing Indians who took allotments.
- (d) General statutes naturalizing other special classes.

A brief analysis of each of these methods of acquiring citizenship may suffice to explain those current misconceptions on the subject of Indian citizenship which are a survival of what was once actual law.

A METHODS OF ACQUIRING CITIZENSHIP

(1) *Treaties with Indian tribes*—Some early treaties between the United States and Indian tribes provided for the granting of citizenship. In some cases, citizenship was made dependent upon acceptance of an allotment of land in severalty.⁶

⁴ 48 Stat. 268, 8 U. S. C. 9. This act naturalized 125,000 native born Indians. Rice, *The Position of the American Indian in the Law of the United States*, (1904) 10 *T. Comp. Law* 78-96; Don Haskett Work, *Secretary of the Interior, Indian Policies: Comments on Resolutions of the Advisory Council on Indian Affairs* (U. S. Govt. Printing Office 1924, p. 6); *of Fifty-fifth Annual Report of Board of Indian Commissioners* (1924) pp. 1 and 2. On the legislative history of this act, see Chapter 4, sec. 15.

⁵ Pub. No. 874 70th Cong., sec. 201 of which declares:

The following shall be national and citizens of the United States at birth

(b) A person born in the United States to a number of an Indian, Eskimo, Aleutian, or other aboriginal tribe

⁶ Treaty of September 27, 1850, with Choctaws, Art. 14, 7 Stat. 382, 383. For illustrations of treaties conferring citizenship on heads of families, see Treaty of July 8, 1817, with Choctaws, Art. 8, 7 Stat. 150, 150; Treaty of February 27, 1819, with Choctaws, Art. 2, 7 Stat. 182, 185.

⁷ Treaty of June 28, 1862, with Kikapoo, Art. 4, 14 Stat. 821, 824. Treaty of July 4, 1863, with Delaware, Arts. 3 and 4, 14 Stat. 791, 794, 794. Treaty of February 23, 1867, with Seneca and others, Art. 18, 15 Stat. 513, 518, interpreted in *Wagon v. Connelly*, 161 U. S. 80 (1900). Treaty of February 27, 1867, with Potawatamies, Art. 6, 25 Stat. 881-883. Treaty of April 26, 1876, with Kiowa, Art. 6, 11 Stat. 635, 637. Act of March 3, 1874, 17 Stat. 537 (Clemens). Also see Appropriation Act to effectuate this provision, Act of June 23, 1874, 18 Stat. 110-178, and 2 Op. A. G. 462 (1812). It was hoped to eliminate reservations and to cause the disintegration of the tribe. *Yellow v. The Indian Remnant in New England* (1901) 13 *Green Bag* 390, 401-402. *Thayer, A People Without Law* (1901), 68 *Am. Month* 540, 546-547. *Kyle, How Shall the Indians Be Educated* (1891), 170 *N. A. Rev.* 434, *Kingsley, Principles of the Indian Law and the Act of June 18, 1874* (1976), 8 *Geo. Wash. L. Rev.* 278, 295. *United States v. Becker*, 193 U. S. 482, 487 (1908). *Choteau v. Porter*, 238 U. S. 691 (1915); *Oakes v. United States*, 172 Fed. 303 (C. C. A. 8, 1909).

and sometimes the alternative to accepting an allotment was removal with the tribe to a new reservation.

Implicit in this arrangement was the thought that citizenship was incompatible with continued participation in tribal government or tribal property. This supposed incompatibility, removed from its specific treaty context and generalized, has become one of the most fatal sources of contemporary confusion on the question of Indian citizenship.

The later treaties usually require the submission of evidence of fitness for citizenship and empower an administrative body or official to determine whether the applicant for citizenship conforms to the standards in the treaty. To illustrate, the Treaty of November 15, 1861, with the Potawatamies, requires (the President of the United States to be satisfied that the male heads of families are "sufficiently intelligent and prudent to conduct their affairs and interests," and the Treaty of February 24, 1867,⁸ forbids tribal membership to Wyandottes who had consented to become citizens under a prior treaty, unless they were found "wfit for the responsibilities of citizenship."⁹

(2) *Special statutes*—Before and after the termination of the treaty-making period the members of several tribes were naturalized collectively by statute.¹⁰ The tribe was in a few cases dissolved at the same time and its land distributed to the members.¹¹ Sometimes other conditions were embodied in the statute, such as adopting the habits of civilized life, becoming self-supporting, and learning to read and speak the English language.¹²

After the ratification of the Fourteenth Amendment, several acts were passed naturalizing Indians of certain tribes. Most of these statutes were similar to the Act of July 15, 1870.¹³ By section 10 of this law a Winnebago Indian in the State of Minnesota could apply to the Federal District Court for citizenship. He was required to prove to the satisfaction of the court that he was sufficiently intelligent and prudent to control his affairs.

⁸ Treaty of September 27, 1850, with Choctaws, Arts. 14 and 16, 7 Stat. 382, 385-130.

⁹ Art. 12, 15 Stat. 1101, 1102.

¹⁰ Art. 14, 15 Stat. 518, 518 (Seneca and others), also see Arts. 17, 25, 24 for other provisions regarding citizenship.

¹¹ Also see Treaty of July 4, 1863, with Delaware, Arts. 4 and 6, 14 Stat. 794, 794, 790. Act of March 3, 1874, 17 Stat. 541 (Clemens). (Several provisions are contained in the Treaty of February 27, 1867, with Potawatamies, Arts. 4 and 6, 15 Stat. 541-533, which permits women who are heads of families or single women of adult age to become citizens in the same manner as males, and authorizes the Tribal Business Committee and the agent to determine the competency of an Indian to manage his own affairs. By the Treaty of June 24, 1862, Art. 4, 12 Stat. 1287, 1288, the Ottawa tribe, which was to be dissolved after 5 years, was given power to assist the members in establishing themselves in agricultural pursuits and thus gradually assume their preparation for assuming the responsibilities and duties of citizenship. Also see Treaty of July 31, 1863, with Ottawas and Chippewas, Art. 6, 11 Stat. 621.

¹² Act of March 4, 1880, 5 Stat. 849, 351 (Brothertown), Act of March 8, 1864, sec. 7, 5 Stat. 645, 647 (Stockbridge), Act of March 8, 1864, sec. 4, 41 Stat. 1249, 1250 (Osage). The right of the Choctaws to be naturalized was discussed in *Raymond v. Raymond*, 1 Ind. T. 834 (1890), reversed in 89 Fed. 721 (C. C. A. 8, 1907).

¹³ Act of March 3, 1870, sec. 7, 5 Stat. 349, 351 (Brothertown), Act of March 4, 1864, sec. 7, 5 Stat. 645, 647 (Stockbridge).

¹⁴ Act of March 3, 1865, sec. 4, 14 Stat. 541, 542, discussed in *Oakes v. United States*, 172 Fed. 305 (C. C. A. 8, 1909), Act of August 6, 1849, 9 Stat. 65 (Stockbridge).

¹⁵ Rev. 10, 16 Stat. 885, 881-362. By the Act of March 4, 1878, sec. 8, 17 Stat. 641, 642, similar provision was made for the naturalization of adult members of any of the Miami Tribe of Kansas and their minor children.

The naturalization laws applied only to free white persons and did not include Indians,¹ who were regarded as domestic subjects or nationals.² As members of domestic dependent nations, owing allegiance to their tribe, they were analogized to children of foreign diplomats born in the United States.³

Thus noncitizen Indians were not able to secure passports, but were sometimes granted documents specifying that they were not citizens but requesting protection for them.⁴

Caleb Cushing, Attorney General of the United States, formulated the following theory of the status of Indians:⁵

The fact, therefore, that Indians are born in the country does not make them citizens of the United States. The simple truth is plain, that the Indians are the subjects of the United States, and therefore are not, in mere right of home-birth, citizens of the United States.

But they cannot become citizens in naturalization under existing general acts of Congress. . . . Kent's Com. C, p. 72.

These acts apply only to *foreigners*, subjects of another allegiance. The Indians are not foreigners, and they are in our allegiance, without being citizens of the United States. Moreover, these acts only apply to "white" men.

Indians, of course, can be made citizens of the United States by some competent act of the General Government, either a treaty or an act of Congress. (PP 740-750)

This theory was reiterated after the adoption of the Fourteenth Amendment, which first defined federal citizenship. At the time of its adoption, eminent lawyers differed on its effect on the Indians.⁶ Hope that a liberal interpretation would make Indians citizens was whittled by an early case,⁷ holding that the amendment was merely declaratory of the common-law rule of citizenship by birth and that Indians born in tribal allegiance were not born in the United States and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, because

To be a citizen of the United States by reason of birth, a person must not only be born within its territorial limits, but he must also be born subject to its jurisdiction—that is, in its power and obedience.

But the Indian tribes within the limits of the United States have always been held to be distinct and independent political communities, retaining the right of self-government, though subject to the protecting power of the United States. (PP 105, 106)

This view was sustained by two leading naturalization opinions of the Supreme Court of the United States, the holding of *Hill v. Williams*,⁸ and the dicta of *United States v. Wong Kim*.

* An Indian was not regarded as "a white person" within the naturalization law. *Juie v. Canfield*, 9 Fed. 256 (1st C. Cir. 1880); *In re Shotton*, 1 Alaska 121 (1900); 15 Cal. L. J. 269, 282 (1894). In 1870 these laws were extended to include aliens of African ancestry and to persons of African descent, Act of July 14, 1870 sec. 7, 16 Stat. 274, 276.

* 7 Op. A. G. 746 (1860)

* *Domest. Nations Without a Nation* (1922), 22 Col. L. Rev. 97, 99; *Hill v. Williams*, 112 U. S. 94, 102 (1884); *United States v. Kim* 23 Fed. Cas. No. 13948 (1st C. N. I. N. Y., 1877)

* Hunt, *The American Passport* (1898), pp. 140-148. Manuscript in the Department of State provided.

Even if he [an Indian] has not acquired citizenship, he is a ward of the Government and entitled to the consideration and assistance of our diplomatic and consular officers. (P. 147)

* 7 Op. A. G. 746 (1860)

* To clarify its effect, the Senate Judiciary Committee filed a report pursuant to Senate Resolution of April 7, 1870, concluding that the Indians did not attain citizenship by the Fourteenth Amendment, Sen. Rept. No. 208, 41st Cong., 1st sess. (1870), pp. 1-1.

* *McKay v. Campbell*, 16 Fed. Cas. No. 8810 (D. C. Ore. 1871)

* 112 U. S. 94 (1884). The Court also held that citizenship was not acquired by abandonment of tribal membership. Also see *United States v. Osborn*, 2 Fed. 58 (D. C. Ore. 1880). On the effect of tribal membership

on "which excepted from its doctrine of citizenship by birth children of Indian tribes owing direct allegiance to their several tribes."

Other theories have been advanced as additional justification for this unique status of the Indians, which departed from the common-law doctrine of *ius soli*.⁹ One writer¹⁰ believes that the economic interests of the land grabbers and Indian traders caused their opposition to citizenship for the Indians. They feared the destruction of their business with the coming of Indian suffrage, which was expected to accompany citizenship. Other writers maintained that citizenship should be denied Indians because they were strangers to our laws, customs, and privileges,¹¹ because they would add to burdens imposed by naturalization of aliens,¹² and because they enjoyed special privileges, such as exemption from taxation.¹³

The Indian question, which had been overshadowed after the Civil War by discussion of the economic welfare, freedom, and citizenship of the Negro, became a live issue toward the close of the nineteenth century. Many writers reflected the uncertainty of disenfranchisement and noncitizenship of Indians in a country founded on the principle of the equality of man and agreed that "the ultimate objective point to which all efforts for progress should be directed is to fix upon the Indian the same personal, legal, and political status which is common to all other inhabitants."¹⁴

The Indians, however, frequently did not welcome federal citizenship,¹⁵ they often chose to leave their homes in order to retain their tribal membership.¹⁶ A report of the Bureau of Municipal Research submitted in 1915 to a Joint Commission at Congress which requested its preparation, stated that "the Indian (except in rare individual cases) does not desire citizenship."¹⁷

The delegates at the Five Civilized Tribes opposed the grant of federal citizenship to their people because they feared it would terminate their tribal government.¹⁸ Indians were often un-

derstandings on citizenship see *Kottanmeyer v. United States*, 235 Fed. 528 (C. C. A. T., 1915)

* 110 U. S. 949, 958 (1895)

* *Kroeber, Principles of the Indian Law and the Act of June 18, 1904*

(1086), 30 Geo. Wash. L. Rev. 270, 282-283

* *Abel, The Shovelling Indians* (1910), vol. 1, p. 170

* *Report of the Indian Bureau to the Law* (1909), 18 Yale L. J. 229, 230; *Canfield, Legal Position of the Indian* (1881) 15 Am. L. Rev. 21, 27-28; *et al.*, of *Lambertson, Indian Citizenship* (1886) 20 Am. L. Rev. 183, 189.

Hatcha, Law for the Indians (1882), 144 N. Am. Rev. 272, 277; *Blackman, Indian Education* (1892), 2 Am. Acad. Pol. & Soc. Sci. 815, 838; *Leahy v. United States*, 6 Old. 460, 51 Pac. 692 (1907)

* *Kroeber, Principles of the Indian Law and the Act of June 18, 1904* (1915), 30 Geo. Wash. L. Rev. 270, 286; *Lambertson, Indian Citizenship* (1886), 20 Am. L. Rev. 188, 187-189

* *Lambertson, Indian Citizenship*, 20 Am. L. Rev. (1886), 188, 189. For a discussion of the discrimination against Indians because of exemption from taxation, see vol. 10, on tax exemption generally, see Chapter 13.

* *Abbot, Indians and the Law* (1888), 2 Harv. L. Rev. 167, 174. Also see *Hatcha, Law for the Indians* (1882), 134 N. Am. Rev. 272, 273; *Blackman, Indian Education* (1892), 2 Am. Acad. Pol. & Soc. Sci. 815, 834. U. S. Senator J. H. Kyle contended that the Indians have a good character for citizenship. *How Shall the Indians be Educated?* (1894), 159 N. A. Rev. 434, 441. *Osborne Canfield Legal Position of the Indian* (1881) 15 Am. L. Rev. 31, 38-37

* *Leupp, The Indian and His Problem* (1910), p. 85. Sometimes Indians were made citizens voluntarily, without the "Constitutional Law of the United States" (1929), pp. 500-501

* See Chapter 3, sec. 435, 436

* Administration of the Indian Office (Bureau of Municipal Research Publication no. 99) (1915), p. 17

* Memorial relating to the Indians, Choctaw delegates. Sen. Misc. Doc. No. 7, 46th Cong., 2d sess., December 10, 1877, vol. I, Memorial against bill to enable Indians to become citizens, Sen. Misc. Doc. No. 18, 46th Cong., 2d sess., January 14, 1877, vol. I. The Five Civilized Tribes were excluded from the General Allotment Act of February 8, 1887, sec. 6 and 8, 24 Stat. 388, 390, 391

familiar with the significance of federal citizenship and sometimes resented choosing it."

C. EFFECT OF CITIZENSHIP

Many people who know that Indians are citizens are unaware of the legal consequences of citizenship.¹⁰ The more common errors in this field may be disposed of briefly.

1 By virtue of the Fourteenth Amendment to the Federal Constitution, Indians, as citizens of the United States, automatically become citizens of the state of their residence.¹¹

2 Except when a special statute or treaty has provided otherwise, citizenship does not impair the force of tribal law "or affect tribal existence."¹² Statutes or treaties naturalizing Indians often expressly permit those who become citizens to retain their tribal rights.¹³ Citizenship and tribal membership are not incompatible.¹⁴

3 Citizenship, though it is today usually a prerequisite of suffrage, does not confer the right.¹⁵ Before securing the franchise, a voter must comply with the requirements of the state law, which regularly include attainment of the age of majority and residence in the state for a specified period, and sometimes include payment of poll tax, literacy, or other special requirements.¹⁶

4 Citizenship is not incompatible with federal powers of guardianship.¹⁷

¹⁰ This is shown by Art. 18 of the Treaty of February 21, 1907, with the Seneca, and others, 15 Stat. 513, 519, which provides that a member who changes his mind after becoming a citizen shall not be allowed to regain the tribe unless the agent shall certify that he is "through poverty or incapacity, unfit to continue in the exercise of the responsibilities of citizenship of the United States, and likely to become a public charge."

¹¹ Op. Att. 1 D., 122890, February 14, 1937, p. 5. When the "citizenship act" was passed in 1924 many an Indian in New Mexico thought that all Indians were subject to taxation. *Goodrich, The Legal Status of the California Indian* (1920), 14 Calif. L. Rev. 83, 157, 160-181. On taxation of Indians, see Chapter 18.

¹² *Deery v. State of New York*, 22 F. 2d 861, 862 (D. C. N. D. N. Y. 1927). Also see *Porter v. Hall*, 34 Aik. 308, 271 Pac. 411 (1928).

¹³ *Tekona Joe v. Twa-shap*, 101 Fed. 516 (C. C. Ore. 1901). Also see Chapter 7.

¹⁴ See *Cherokee Nation v. Hitchcock*, 187 U. S. 294, 308 (1902); *United States v. Celestine*, 215 U. S. 278, 288-290 (1909); *Hallbert v. United States*, 221 U. S. 817, 824 (1911); *Tues v. Western Investment Co.*, 221 U. S. 288 (1911); *United States v. Sandoval*, 221 U. S. 28, 38 (1913); *United States v. Noble*, 287 U. S. 74 (1915); *Williams v. Johnson*, 280 U. S. 414 (1915); *United States v. Rice*, 241 U. S. 501 (1916); *Wooten v. Amor*, 295 U. S. 873 (1921). Also see *Knappell, Legal Status of American Indian and His Property* (1922), 7 La. L. B. 252, 240-261, and Chapter 11, sec. 2.

¹⁵ Act of May 2, 1890, sec. 48, 26 Stat. 81, 99, provides for the naturalization of the Indian tribes in the Indian Territory and states that Indians who become citizens retain their rights as tribal members.

¹⁶ *United States v. Rice*, 241 U. S. 501 (1916); *Hallbert v. United States*, 221 U. S. 817, 824 (1911); *rev'd* *United States v. Hallbert*, 88 F. 2d 795 (C. C. A. 10, 1928), cert. granted 257 U. S. 818; *United States v. Boylan*, 295 Fed. 305, 171 (C. C. A. 2, 1920), *aff'd* 298 Fed. 468 (D. C. N. D. N. Y. 1919), *app. dismissed* 267 U. S. 614 (1921); *Fuller v. United States*, 110 Fed. 942 (C. C. A. 8, 1901).

¹⁷ See sec. 3, *infra*. Also see Act of June 19, 1890, 46 Stat. 787, 8 U. S. C. 8a (Cherokee Indians resident in North Carolina).

¹⁸ See *United States v. York*, 188 U. S. 492, 494 (1903); 8 Op. A. 300 (1897). In some state citizenship is the only qualification. *Calif. Const.* (1879), Art. IV, sec. 1. "Every native citizen of the United States * * * shall be entitled to vote at all elections * * *"

¹⁹ The contrary opinion of the United States Supreme Court in *Matter of Hoff*, 197 U. S. 488 (1905) holding that Congress could not regu-

The United States Supreme Court has said:

It is thoroughly established that Congress has plenary authority over the Indians and all their tribal relations and full power to legislate concerning their tribal property. The guardianship arises from their condition of tutelage or dependency, and it rests with Congress to determine when the relationship shall cease, the mere grant of rights of citizenship not being sufficient to terminate it. (17 Op. 391-392.)

Citizenship does not affect the rights of the United States government over the Indian. It retains jurisdiction over a citizen Indian for offenses committed within the reservation.¹⁸ Citizenship does not impair the government's right to sue on behalf of a citizen allottee to protect his restricted lands,¹⁹ nor affect its power to prevent state taxation of his property while he is living on his reservation,²⁰ or to exercise control over tribal property,²¹ or to exclude bill collectors from coming on the reservation on days when payments are made to the Indians,²² or to exempt unrestricted property from levy, sale, or forfeiture.²³ Many rights, such as the right to sue in contract, are not derived from or dependent on citizenship.²⁴

It has been held that the citizenship of the Pueblo and many of the Alaskan Indians did not terminate their subjection to federal jurisdiction.²⁵ The conferring of citizenship does not

late the sale of liquor to Indians who were citizens was expressly provided by *United States v. Rice*, 241 U. S. 501, 508 (1916), which held:

* * * Citizenship is not incompatible with tribal existence or continued guardianship and so may be conferred without completely emancipating the Indians or placing them beyond the reach of congressional regulations adopted to their protection.

Hedcoe, Indian Land Laws, 2d ed. (1913), though recognizing that citizenship does not remove the restrictions on allotments, pp. 34, 36, does not state this view pp. 3-4.

See Op. Att. 1 D., 122890, February 14, 1937, p. 5, 20 L. 137, 159 (1937); 41 L. D. 476 (1902), and 55 L. D. 14, 28 (1931). In rejecting a claim by one of the State of New York to jurisdiction over certain Indians for acts committed on an Indian reservation, the court in *United States v. Boylan*, 295 Fed. 105 (C. C. A. 2, 1920), *aff'd* 298 Fed. 468 (D. C. N. D. N. Y. 1919), *app. dismissed* 237 U. S. 614 (1921), said:

* * * even a grant of citizenship does not terminate the guardianship or relieve the Indian from the guardianship of the government. (P. 17.)

Accord, *United States v. Abrams*, 164 Fed. 82 (C. C. A. 8, 1912), *aff'd* 151 Fed. 817 (C. C. D. Okla. 1910); *United States v. Noble*, 287 U. S. 74, 79 (1915); *Hallbert v. United States*, 221 U. S. 817 (1911). Also see *Williams v. Johnson*, 280 U. S. 414 (1915); *United States v. Sandoval*, 221 U. S. 28, 48 (1913); *rev'd* 108 Fed. 380 (D. C. N. Y. 1912); *Fuller v. United States*, 110 Fed. 942 (C. C. A. 8, 1901); *Reynolds v. United States*, 3 Okla. 101, 41 Pac. 98 (1900). The last sentence of the Citizenship Act clearly shows the congressional intention to continue federal guardianship despite the conferring of citizenship. *Butte, The Legal Status of the American Indian* (1912), p. 17, criticizes the dual relationship of citizenship and wardship.

¹⁸ *Wooten v. Amor*, 295 U. S. 873 (1921).

¹⁹ Chapter 18. Also see *United States v. Celestine*, 215 U. S. 278 (1909).

²⁰ *Reynolds v. York*, 161 Fed. 826 (C. C. A. 8, 1909), *rev'd* 154 Fed. 19 (C. C. A. 8, 1911); *United States v. Sherman McCreedy Co.*, 68 F. 2d 166 (C. C. A. 10, 1934). Also see Chapter 10, sec. 2A(1).

²¹ See Chapter 18, sec. 8.

²² *Cherokee Nation v. Hitchcock*, 187 U. S. 294, 308 (1902).

²³ *Reynolds v. York*, 161 Fed. 826 (C. C. A. 8, 1909), *rev'd* 154 Fed. 19 (C. C. A. 8, 1911). The congressional intent must be clear. *Goodrich v. Month*, 203 U. S. 148 (1906).

²⁴ See note 3, *supra*. Exceptions to this rule are cases in the federal courts dependent upon diversity of citizenship.

²⁵ For discussion of the status of Pueblo of New Mexico, see Chapter 20, and of the Alaskan Indians, see Chapter 21.

ington," which deny the right to vote to "Indians not taxed," while granting the ballot to whites not taxed.

The laws of a few other States, though not specifically discriminating against Indians, are construed and applied so as to result in discrimination. In Arizona, Indians are denied the right to vote on the ground that they are within the provisions "denying suffrage to persons under guardianship."¹⁸ The law of South Dakota excludes from voting Indians who maintain tribal relations, but has not been enforced for many years.

The Attorney General of Colorado rendered an opinion on November 14, 1930, that Indians had no right to vote under Colorado law because they were not citizens. This ruling is clearly erroneous.¹⁹ The Utah Attorney General, on January 28, 1937, held that Indians residing on a reservation within the State were not residents and therefore not entitled to vote. This ruling conflicts with the opinion of the United States Supreme Court, holding that the land of an Indian reservation is part of the State within which the reservation is located.²⁰

B. CONSTITUTIONAL PROTECTION OF INDIAN VOTING RIGHTS

On March 30, 1870, the Fifteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution was adopted, providing:

SEC. 1 The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude.

SEC. 2 The Congress shall have the power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

With the passage of the Fifteenth Act in 1924, considerations of disability because of allegiance to a tribe became irrelevant to the question of citizenship. The provisions of state constitutions and statutes based on these considerations which would operate to exclude Indian citizens from voting are probably void under the Fifteenth Amendment.²¹

The year following the passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1870,²² the United States District Court for Oregon stated²³ that "an Indian * * * who is a citizen of the United States * * * cannot be excluded from this privilege [of voting] on the ground of being an Indian, as that would be to exclude him on account

of race" (P 161). As was said by the United States Supreme Court in the case of *United States v. Reese*,²⁴

If citizens of one race having certain qualifications are permitted by law to vote, those of another having the same qualifications must be. Previous to this amendment, there was no constitutional guaranty against this discrimination now there is. It follows that the amendment has invested the citizens of the United States with a new constitutional right which is within the protecting power of Congress. That right is exemption from discrimination in the exercise of the elective franchise on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude. Thus, under the express provisions of the second section of the amendment, Congress may enforce by "appropriate legislation," (P 218.)

This doctrine was applied in the case of *Neal v. Delaney*,²⁵ which invalidated a provision of the Delaware Constitution restricting suffrage to the white race. The Court declared:

Beyond question the adoption of the Fifteenth Amendment had the effect, in law, to remove from the State Constitution, or render inoperative, that provision which restricts the right of suffrage to the white race. (P 388.)

These cases leave no doubt that, under the Fifteenth Amendment, Indians are protected against all legislation which discriminates against them in prescribing the qualifications of voters, and that it is immaterial whether the disenfranchisement is direct or indirect. This view does not conflict with the theory of *Wick v. Williams*,²⁶ which held simply that a non-citizen Indian might be disenfranchised by state legislation along with non-citizens of other races.

On January 21, 1938, the Solicitor of the Department of the Interior issued an opinion on the question of whether a state can constitutionally deny the franchise to Indians. The opinion concluded:

* * * I am of the opinion that the Fifteenth Amendment clearly prohibits any denial of the right to vote to Indians under circumstances in which non-Indians would be permitted to vote. The laws of Idaho, New Mexico, and Washington which would exclude Indians not taxed from voting in effect exclude citizens of one race from voting on grounds which are not applied to citizens of other races. For this reason I believe such laws are unconstitutional under the Fifteenth Amendment. Similarly, the laws of Idaho and South Dakota which would exclude Indians who maintain tribal relations from voting are believed to be unconstitutional as such laws exclude citizens from voting on grounds which apply only to one race" (P 8.)

Two Attorneys General of the State of Washington have ruled that the Indian disenfranchisement clause in the Constitution of Washington is invalid.²⁷

The Attorney General of New York in 1928 rendered an opinion to the effect that Indians resident upon reservations in that State are entitled to vote the same as any other qualified citizen.²⁸

Congress has implemented the provisions of the Fifteenth Amendment in various general and special statutes.

The Reconstruction Acts, providing for the admission of the Confederate states to the Union, prohibited these states from depriving of the right to vote any class of citizens of the United

¹⁸ Art. 6.

¹⁹ Arizona Laws 1928, Chapter 82.

²⁰ *Poirer v. Hoff*, 34 Ark 269, 271 Puc 411 (1928), discussed by N. D. Houghton, The Legal Status of Indian Reservations in the United States (1931), 10 Calif. L. Rev. 507, 509-518. The decision was based on the ground that Indians living on the reservations are "persons under guardianship" and hence "wards of the national Government" within the meaning of the Constitution of the State of Arizona. This opinion appears to be based on an erroneous conception of the status of Indians, especially of the relationship of guardian and wards. See contra *Rioist v. Leach*, 45 N. D. 487, 178 N. W. 497 (1920), cited in the dissenting opinion in the *Poirer* case. Also see sec. 9, supra.

²¹ See discussion of citizenship, sec. 2, supra.

²² *United States v. McBratney*, 104 U. S. 821 (1881).

²³ No attempt is made in this chapter to treat of the rights of Indians to vote in tribal elections. This subject has been covered in Chapter 7. It may be noted, however, that many of the Indian constitutions contain bills of rights, including guarantees of the right of suffrage. Thus, for example, the Constitution of the Blackfoot Tribe, approved December 18, 1935, provides "Any member of the Blackfoot Tribe, twenty-one (21) years of age or over, shall be eligible to vote at any election when he or she presents himself or herself at a polling place within his or her voting district" (Art. VIII, sec. 1).

²⁴ *Op. Sol. I. D.*, M 28058, January 26, 1938, *Queen v. United States*, 238 U. S. 347 (1915), holding unconstitutional the grandfather clause in the Constitution of Oklahoma; *Mura v. Anderson*, 238 U. S. 268 (1915), invalidating a similar clause in a Maryland statute; and see *Wason v. Hordson*, 278 U. S. 634 (1927).

²⁵ *Act of May 31, 1870*, 16 Stat. 140.

²⁶ *McIntyre v. Campbell*, 16 Fed. Cas. No. 8840 (D. C. Ore. 1871).

²⁷ *Op. U. S.* 214 (1876).

²⁸ *Op. Sol. I. D.*, M 28058, January 26, 1938.

²⁹ *Op. Sol. I. D.*, M 28058, January 26, 1938, and *Op. No. 4086 of G. W. Hamilton*, April 1, 1939.

³⁰ *Op. G. N. Y.* (1928), p. 204. Informal opinions have also been rendered to the same effect by attorneys general of many other states. For example, the Attorney General of Florida in a letter dated March 12, 1925, to the Chairman of the County Commissioners, Everglades, Fla.

States who are entitled to vote under the Federal Constitution, dealing similarly with the right to hold office.¹⁰⁰ There are also many general civil rights laws, which are applicable to the disenfranchisement of Indians because of their race. In 1906 the Enfranchising Act for the State of Oklahoma expressly permitted

¹⁰⁰ Act of January 20, 1870, 16 Stat. 62, 63; Act of March 23, 1870, 16 Stat. 67; Act of March 30, 1870, 16 Stat. 80.

SECTION 4 ELIGIBILITY FOR PUBLIC OFFICE AND EMPLOYMENT

A. PUBLIC OFFICE

The fact that one is an Indian is not, generally speaking, a disqualification for public office. Exclusionary statutes based on race are probably unconstitutional.¹⁰¹ General Parker, a Seneca Indian, was qualified, according to an opinion of the Attorney General of the United States, to hold the office of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs.¹⁰²

Many early statutes disqualified noncitizen Indians from holding public offices by limiting incumbents to citizens of the United States¹⁰³ or to whites.¹⁰⁴ After the Civil War, the acts admitting the Confederate States to the Union prohibited the exclusion of elected officials because of race, color, or previous condition of servitude.¹⁰⁵ These acts were implemented by the Act of April 20, 1871.¹⁰⁶ A number of Indians were elected as delegates to the Constitutional Convention of the Territory of Oklahoma.¹⁰⁷ Nevertheless, even now a few states still bar Indians from public office, by provisions which are probably unconstitutional. Idaho¹⁰⁸ prohibits from holding any civil office Indians not taxed who have not severed their tribal relations and adopted the habits of civilization. The law of South Dakota excludes Indians "while maintaining tribal relations."¹⁰⁹

B. PREFERENCE IN INDIAN AND OTHER GOVERNMENTAL SERVICE

(1) *Extent of employment.*—Congress has frequently manifested its intention to grant preferences to Indians in certain positions. Unfortunately, many such preferential statutes have become "dead letters," or been only partially fulfilled.¹¹⁰ Officials have sometimes justified their failures in this respect by maintaining the impossibility of securing competent Indians, especially for the more important positions.¹¹¹ Some critics have

¹⁰⁰ See *Nixon v. Hendon*, 274 U. S. 530 (1927).

¹⁰¹ 13 Op. A. G. 27 (1899). A later opinion held that an Indian, while a member of a tribe and subject to tribal jurisdiction and residing in the Indian Territory was not competent to take the official oath as postmaster. The basis for this ruling was that the government could not enforce the required bond because the Indian would be immune to suit. 18 Op. A. G. 181 (1898).

¹⁰² Act of September 9, 1880, sec. 6, 9 Stat. 446, 449; Act of May 30, 1891, sec. 5, 10 Stat. 277, 279; Act of August 18, 1893, sec. 21, 11 Stat. 52, 60 provided that noncitizens holding office in the Department of State shall not be paid.

¹⁰³ Act of August 14, 1848, sec. 5, 9 Stat. 323, 325; Act of March 5, 1849, sec. 5, 9 Stat. 407, 408; Act of March 2, 1853, sec. 5, 10 Stat. 172, 171; Act of December 22, 1869, sec. 6, 16 Stat. 60.

¹⁰⁴ Act of March 30, 1870, 16 Stat. 80, 81, admitting Texas to the Union.

¹⁰⁵ Act of April 20, 1871, sec. 2, 17 Stat. 5.

¹⁰⁶ Leupp, *The Indian and His Problem* (1910), pp. 341-342.

¹⁰⁷ Constitution of Idaho, Art. 6, sec. 3.

¹⁰⁸ Compiled Laws of Idaho, sec. 92 (1929).

¹⁰⁹ See 3 (b) infra.

¹¹⁰ " * * * the policy of all administrations since Commissioner Magoon took office has been to give educated Indians every practicable chance to serve their people, but * * * the experiment of putting them into the places of highest responsibility has, except in rare instances, not worked so successfully. * * * " Leupp, *The Indian and*

members of an Indian nation or tribe in the Indian Territory in Oklahoma to vote for delegates,¹¹² and prohibited any law restricting the right of suffrage because of race or color.¹¹³

¹¹² Act of June 16, 1906, sec. 2, 34 Stat. 507, 248; also see Act of June 20, 1906, sec. 2 and 3, 36 Stat. 677, 679, 680 (2d 31).

¹¹³ Act of June 16, 1906, sec. 2 and 3, 34 Stat. 507, 247. Cf. sec. 25, p. 270, applying to New Mexico and permitting discrimination against Indians not taxed.

excused this failure to the fact that many positions, like that of Indian agent, were regarded by decades as political plums,¹¹⁴ and that the Indian Office comprised one of the largest fields for political plunder in the Federal Government.¹¹⁵

Some notable increases in Indian employment have been effected in recent years.¹¹⁶ The number of Indians employed in the Washington office increased between 1931 and 1937 from 10 percent of the total staff to about 35 percent. By 1939 Indians occupied more than half of the regular positions of the Indian Service and more than 70 percent of the emergency positions.¹¹⁷

(2) *Civil service.*—The Indian Office was one of the last bureaus to be placed under civil service.¹¹⁸ Indians entering the Office of Indian Affairs were required to qualify in regular civil service examinations, except that certain preferences were allowed in compliance with statutes providing that Indians shall be employed whenever practicable. The institution of a competitive civil service for Indians under authority of the Indian Reorganization Act is now in progress.¹¹⁹ Standards have been established and examinations conducted for names and organization field agents, and a number of appointments have been made from the registers established as a result of these examinations. Executive Order No. 8018 of January 31, 1938, permits the appointment of Indians of one-quarter or more Indian blood to any position in the Indian Service without examination.¹²⁰ By Executive Order No. 8883 of March 28, 1940, Indians in the Office

His Problem (1910) p. 110. Also see Schmeckelmeier, *The Office of Indian Affairs: Its History, Activities, and Organization* (1927), pp. 276, 278, and 7 Indians at Work (September 1940), No. 2, p. 41.

¹¹⁴ Leupp, *The Indian and His Problem* (1910), pp. 98-99.

¹¹⁵ Administration of the Indian Office (Bureau of Municipal Research Publication No. 65) (1917), pp. 24-25.

¹¹⁶ Annual Report of the Secretary of the Interior (1937), pp. 241-242. In 1910 there were about 200 Indians in the Office of Indian Affairs.

¹¹⁷ Leupp, *The Indian and His Problem* (1910), p. 99. *The Annual Report of the Secretary of the Interior for 1938 states:*

On July 1, 1937, there were authorized in the Indian field service and Alaska 6,943 permanent year-round positions. On April 30, 1938, there were 3,910 Indians employed in the Indian Service of whom 3,027 were in regular year-round positions. Approximately one-half of the 17,011 employees of the Indian Service are Indians. Slightly more than 40 percent of the Indians employed are full-bloods. (P. XIV.)

Slightly more than 70 percent of the Indians employed were of one-half or more degree Indian blood. (Ibid. p. 227.) The personnel records do not clearly show as Indians those with a smaller amount of Indian blood than one-fourth.

¹¹⁸ Between July 1, 1938, and May 1, 1937, the number of Indians in the Washington office increased from 11 to 81. Indians at Work, No. 20 (June 1, 1937), p. 39. According to data submitted by the Indian office on November 7, 1940, 109 of the 384 employees of the Washington office were Indians.

¹¹⁹ Administration of the Indian Office (Bureau of Municipal Research Publication No. 65) (1919), p. 24.

¹²⁰ Also see Some Aspects of the Personnel Problem of the Indian Service in the United States in Indians of the United States, Contributions by the delegation of the United States Fifth Inter-American Conference on Indian Life, Paternosto, Oklahoma, published by Office of Indian Affairs (April 1940), pp. 61, 64. Also see subsection 3(b) infra. There have been numerous Executive orders affecting the employment of Indians: e. g., Executive orders of August 14, 1928, July 2, 1930, April 14, 1934, July 28, 1936.

of Indian Affairs on February 1, 1889, who met certain requirements were given a classified civil-service status.

(5) *Treaties and statutes.*—With a few exceptions, throughout the history of the United States Indians have generally been granted preference in the actual hiring of employees for public positions in the Indian Service which require little or no skill or which, like the post of interpreter, can be filled only by them, or in the Army as scouts, because of their unusual qualifications,¹² or for laboring positions.¹³ These positions, which were often created by appropriation acts, usually paid low wages,¹⁴ and were sometimes supported by tribal funds.¹⁵ Similarly today most Indians in the Government Service are employed in clerical, stenographic, or laboring work, though a few hold supervisory positions.¹⁶

(a) *Treaties.*—Treaties occasionally provided for preference in employment of Indians.¹⁷ The Treaty of April 28, 1860,¹⁸ between the United States and the Choctaw and Chickasaw Nations contains an interesting provision:

And the United States agree that in the appointment of marshals and deputies, preference, qualifications being

¹² For a discussion of the policy of preferring Indians for appointment in the Indian Service see Morgan and Associates, *Problem of Indian Administration* (1928), pp. 179-180.

¹³ See Art. of April 27, 1904, 33 Stat. 732-731 (Crow), " . . . nothing herein contained shall be construed to prevent the employment of such citizens or other skilled employees, or to prevent the employment of white labor where it is impracticable for the Crow to perform the same." See Act. of June 7, 1924, c. 178, 43 Stat. 646 (Navajo), Art. of March 1, 1926, 43 Stat. 127 (Quinnell), Art. of April 19, 1926, 44 Stat. 103 (Quinnell), Art. of July 1, 1926, 44 Stat. 588 (Chippewa), Art. of May 12, 1928, c. 511, 45 Stat. 501 (Zuni), Art. of May 27, 1930, c. 343, 46 Stat. 44 (Wind River), "only Indian labor shall be employed except for engineering and supervision"; amended by Art. of April 27, 1932, c. 123, 47 Stat. 88.

¹⁴ See 0 of the Act of June 30, 1871, 41 Stat. 745, provides that the pay of an agency interpreter shall be \$300 annually. Congressional statutes regarding the pay of interpreters are discussed in *United States v. Mitchell*, 109 U. S. 146 (1883), while the Act of February 21, 1893, 28 Stat. 783, 784 provides that the employment of Indian scouts and guides without pay. In one of the treaties relating to the pensioning of Indians, the Treaty of September 27, 1830, with the Choctaw, Art. 21, 7 Stat. 814, \$58 annual pensions of \$25 were granted to a few surviving "brave warriors," not extending 20 "who marched and fought in the army with General Wayne." Provision was made for one of the few comparatively high-ranked Indians in the Treaty of August 7, 1790, unpublished treaty, Art. 1 Archives, No. 17 which appoints McIntosh, Chief of the Creek Nation, as agent of the United States, in said nation with the rank of brigadier general and the annual salary of \$1,500. Treaty of January 21, 1783 with the Winnebago, Delaware, Chippewa, and Ottawa Nations, 7 Stat. 10. Separate Article following Art. 10, which provides that two Delaware chiefs "who took up the hatchet" for the United States as lieutenant colonel and captain shall be restored to rank in the Delaware Nation as before the Revolutionary War. Also see Treaty of September 27, 1830 Art. 15, 7 Stat. 338, 435-336, provides that one chief of the Chickasaw Nation when in military service shall receive the pay of a lieutenant colonel, and other chiefs the pay of majors and captains in the United States Army.

¹⁵ See Art. of April 27, 1861, 33 Stat. 352-354 (Crow), Art. of March 1, 1865, Art. 11, 32 Stat. 1013, 1017 (Shoshone), Art. of June 7, 1924, 43 Stat. 646 (Navajo), Art. of March 1, 1926, c. 41, 44 Stat. 183 (Quinnell), Art. of April 19, 1926, c. 165, 44 Stat. 368 (Post Peak and Blackfeet), Art. of July 3, 1926, 44 Stat. 888 (Chippewa).

¹⁶ Annual Report of the Secretary of the Interior (1887), p. 241.

¹⁷ Article 11 of the Treaty of March 11, 1865, with the Chippewa, 12 Stat. 1240, 1251 "Wherever the services of Indians are required upon the reservation preference shall be given to full or mixed bloods, if they shall be found competent to perform them." Also see Treaty of May 7, 1868, with the Chippewa, Art. 12, 13 Stat. 693; Article 15 of the Treaty of October 2, 1867, with the Kiowa and Comanche, 16 Stat. 881, 886, provides "The Indian agent, including a farmer, blacksmith miller, and other employees herein provided for, qualifications being equal, shall give the preference to Indians."

¹⁸ Art. 8, of 12, 34 Stat. 760.

equal, shall be given to competent members of the said nations, the object being to create a landable condition to acquire the experience necessary for political offices of importance in the respective nations.

(b) *General statutes.*—The Act of June 30, 1884, the first important employment statute for Indians, gave them preference for positions as "interpreters or other persons employed for the benefit of the Indians," if "properly qualified for the execution of the duties."¹⁹ Section 5 of the Act of March 8, 1875,²⁰ provided that "where Indians can perform the duties they shall be employed" in Indian agencies. Again in the Act of March 1, 1887,²¹ Congress manifested its desire to increase the employment of Indians in the Indian Service, by providing:

" . . . preference shall in all times, so far as practicable, be given to Indians in the employment of clerical, mechanical and other help on reservations and about agencies." A broader provision, which also includes positions outside the Indian Bureau, appears in the General Allotment Act.²² Offered as an additional inducement to the abandonment of tribal relations, it provides:

" . . . And hereafter in the employment of Indian police, or any other employees in the public service among any of the Indian tribes or lands affected by this act, and where Indians can perform the duties required, those Indians who have availed themselves of the provisions of this act and become citizens of the United States shall be preferred.

Seven years later a law provided for preference for "herders, teamsters, and laborers, and where practicable in all other employments in connection with the agencies and the Indian service."²³

Section 12 of the Wheeler-Howard Act,²⁴ the sixth major attempt in the space of a century, to give preference to Indians in the Indian Service, provides:

The Secretary of the Interior is directed to establish standards of health, age, character, experience, knowledge, and ability for Indians who may be appointed, without regard to civil-service laws, to the various positions mentioned, now or hereafter, in the Indian Office, in the administration of functions or services affecting any Indian tribe. Such qualified Indians shall hereafter have the preference to appointment to vacancies in any such positions.

This provision contemplates the establishment within the Interior Department of a special civil service for Indians alone. The failure of the Interior Department to complete such a system has been ascribed to lack of adequate appropriations.²⁵

(4) Statutes of limited application.—

(a) *Construction work on reservation.*—Agreements with Indian tribes²⁶ or statutes appropriating money for the con-

¹⁹ Act of June 30, 1884, see 0, 4 Stat. 783, 787.

²⁰ 18 Stat. 402-440.

²¹ See 6 22 Stat. 432, 451.

²² Act of February 8, 1887, see 7, 24 Stat. 398, 399-390. The Act of February 14, 1923, 42 Stat. 1346 (Pawnee) extended the provisions of this act, as amended, to lands purchased for Indians.

²³ Act of August 15, 1894, see 30, 28 Stat. 286, 313, 25 U. S. C. 44. Also see Act of May 17, 1882, 22 Stat. 88, 88, Act of July 4, 1884, 23 Stat. 70, 97.

²⁴ June 18, 1904, see 32, 48 Stat. 684, 686, 25 U. S. C. 472.

²⁵ 7 Indians, at Work No. 2, pp. 41-42 (1888), vol. 7, No. 3 p. 2 (1940).

²⁶ Act of June 10, 1890, Art. 8, 29 Stat. 821, 820. "It is agreed that in the employment of all agency and school employees preference in all cases be given to Indians residing on the reservation, who are well qualified for such positions." Also see Act of April 27, 1904, Art. 2, 38 Stat. 362, 354 (Crow), Art. of March 8, 1905, Art. 4, 33 Stat. 1010, 1017 (Shoshone).

struction of roads²⁴ or for other public²⁵ or private work²⁶ on the reservations often require the employment of members of the tribe²⁷ or Indian labor.²⁸

(b) *Purchase of Indian products*—The Act of April 30, 1908,²⁹ provides that Indian labor shall be employed as far as practicable and that purchases of the products of Indian industry may be made in the open market in the discretion of the Secretary of the Interior. By subsequent amendments³⁰ the portion of this provision regarding purchases was made applicable only to those purchases and contracts for supplies and services, except personal services, for the Indian Field Service, which exceed in amount \$100 each.³¹

The Act of May 11, 1890,³² authorizes the Secretary to purchase for use in the Indian Service articles manufactured at Indian manual and training schools.

(c) *Military service*—The skill and bravery of Indians were utilized in fighting foreign foes³³ and other Indians.³⁴ Article

²⁴ Act of May 1 1898, 31 Stat. 114, 25 Stat. 111, 134. Act of June 7 1924, 43 Stat. 900, 607 (Navigation). Act of March 3 1920, 41 Stat. 145. The Act of May 29, 1924, 43 Stat. 770 authorizes an appropriation for reservation roads, not eligible for Government aid under the Federal Highway Act in which no other appropriation is available. \$2,000,000 was appropriated for this purpose by the Act of July 21 1912, sec. 301 (a)(1)(11) 37 Stat. 709, 713. The Act of May 27 1930 c. 411, 46 Stat. 404 amended April 21 1912, 47 Stat. 88, except from the requirement of employment of Indian labor roads built by funds provided by the State of Wyoming.

²⁵ Act of April 27, 1904, Act 2, 34 Stat. 452, 374 (Crown) irrigation, Act of March 8, 1905, Act 4, 34 Stat. 1016, 1017 (Shoshone), Act of April 19 1920, 41 Stat. 301 (Quinnell's) water supply.

²⁶ Act of April 27 1904, 31 Stat. 732, 354 (Crown) ditches dams, canals, and levees. Act of June 28 1906, 34 Stat. 747. Act of March 28, 1908, sec. 2, 35 Stat. 71, amended by Act of January 27, 1926, 43 Stat. 791, timber work on Menominee Indian reservation.

²⁷ Statutes cited in 138 *supra*. Agreement with Shoshone and Arapaho tribes on Shoshone reservation, Act of March 8 1905, Act 4, 34 Stat. 1016, 1017. Agreement with Indians of Crow Reservation, April 27, 1904, 43 Stat. 452, 354. " . . . no contract shall be awarded, nor employment given to other than 'Crow Indians, or whites (mentioned) with them except that any Indian employed in construction may hire white men to work for him . . ."

²⁸ The Act of June 27 1902, 32 Stat. 400, 402 (Chippewas), provides that purchases of timber shall be required "when practicable to employ Indian labor in the cutting, handling, and manufacture of said timber." The proceeds of such sales are received by the Indian Bureau and given for the benefit of the Indian children in the schools. 17 Op. A. G. 531 (1893). The Act of May 20 1924, 43 Stat. 750, authorizes the employment of Indians on certain Shoshone Indian reservation lands, supplemented by Act of July 21 1932, sec. 301(a)(2)(17), 47 Stat. 709, 717. The Act of Nov. 27, 1930 c. 313, 46 Stat. 430, amended Act of April 21, 1932, 47 Stat. 88 (Wind River), excepts engineers and supervisors from the requirement for Indian labor.

²⁹ 35 Stat. 70.

³⁰ Act of June 27 1910, sec. 28, 36 Stat. 830, 861, 26 U. S. C. 47, 94, Act of May 18 1916, 39 Stat. 128, 129. Also see Act of January 12, 1927, 41 Stat. 944, 946, which creates an Indian Service supply fund.

³¹ Numerous appropriation acts contain special provisions empowering the Secretary of the Interior when practicable to buy Indian goods. For example c. 290, sec. 3 of the Act of August 15, 1894, 28 Stat. 286, 312, and the Act of March 2 1895, 28 Stat. 870, 907 contain the following purchase: " . . . That purchase [of supplies] in open market shall as far as practicable be made from Indians under the direction of the Secretary of the Interior . . . That the Secretary of the Interior may, when practicable, procure for the manufacture in Indians, upon the reservation of skins, clothing, leather, harness, and wagons."

³² See 1, 21 Stat. 114, 181.

³³ Treaty of September 27, 1887, with the Choctaws, Act. 21, 7 Stat. 885, 889.

³⁴ Treaty of September 21, 1887, with the Pawnees, Act. 11, 11 Stat. 739, 742 provides for compensation or replacement of property stolen from Pawnee women returning from an expedition with the American Army against the Cheyenne Indians.

III of the Treaty of September 17 1778,³⁵ provided that the Delawares " . . . engage to join the troops of the United States aforesaid, with such a number of their best and most expert warriors as they can spare . . . " The Act of March 5, 1792,³⁶ provided for the employment of Indians to protect the frontiers of the nation. Some of the tribes agreed to furnish such warriors as "the president of the United States, or any officer having his authority (thereof, may require," in prosecuting the War of 1812 against Great Britain.³⁷ A decade before the Civil War the Army wanted a company of Shawnee and Delaware mounted volunteers.³⁸ Three full regiments of Indians were enlisted in the Union Army.³⁹ With the coming of peace the President was authorized to employ in the territories and Indian militia a maximum of 1,000 Indian scouts, to be paid like cavalry soldiers.⁴⁰ The Act of August 7, 1894⁴¹ permitted the enlistment of nonreservation Indians in the Army in times of peace.⁴² Over 17,000 Indians served in the World War.⁴³ There are Indian scouts in the regular army of the United States.⁴⁴

(d) *Youth*—The Act of June 7 1897,⁴⁵ requires the Commissioner of Indian Affairs to "employ Indian girls as assistant

³⁵ With the Delawares, 7 Stat. 131. The Treaty of December 2 1794 with the Ononda, Tuscarora, and Stockbridge Indians, 7 Stat. 17, 193 in its preamble the Indian assistance of a body of the Ononda, Tuscarora, and Stockbridge Indians who by treaty of their services during the Revolution, were driven from their homes, their houses and property destroyed. Arts. 1 and 5 of this treaty provided that \$5,000 shall be distributed for individual losses and services in return for relinquishment of Indian claims. The Act of July 29 1894, 9 Stat. 265 provided for the granting of a pension to widows of Indian spies, who shall have served in the Continental War."

³⁶ 3 Stat. 341.

³⁷ Treaty of July 22, 1814 with the Wyandots and others, Act. 2, 7 Stat. 118. Also see Treaty of September 20, 1817 with the Wenjots and others, Act. 12, 7 Stat. 400 providing for payment for property destroyed during this war. Part of the Creeks assisted the British. See preamble to Treaty of August 9 1814, with the Creeks, 7 Stat. 120. Other tribes did the same. For example see Treaty of September 8, 1815, with the Wyandots and others, 7 Stat. 141.

³⁸ Cherokee warriors fought against Great Britain and the southern Indians. See Act of April 14, 1812, 5 Stat. 471. Shawnee warriors fought in the Florida War. See Joint Resolution March 4, 1845, 5 Stat. 590 and Treaty of October 18 1820, with the Choctaws, Act. 11, 7 Stat. 210. The Navajos offered to fight the Apaches. See 10 Op. A. G. 483 (1880).

³⁹ Act of September 28 1870, 9 Stat. 719. Indian boys were provided for these warriors. Joint Resolution June 18, 1868, 14 Stat. 560. Also see Joint Resolution July 14 1870, 16 Stat. 490, also, The Newbold Indians (1919), vol. 2, p. 167, stating that the Secretary of War was opposed to having Indians in the Army during the Civil War.

⁴⁰ Act of July 28, 1890, sec. 6, 14 Stat. 112, 143. Treaty of February 10, 1887, with the Dakotas and Sioux, Arts. 11-13, 15 Stat. 605, 607-304. Also see 16 Op. A. G. 151 (1889) and Act of August 12 1876, 19 Stat. 141, Act of February 24 1891, 26 Stat. 770, 774, and R. S. 41094, repealed by Act of March 4, 1904, 47 Stat. 3428.

⁴¹ See 2 Stat. 215, 216, amended June 14 1920, 41 Stat. 1077. Also see Act of April 22 1898, sec. 5, 30 Stat. 804.

⁴² Repealed by Act of June 14 1920, 41 Stat. 1077.

⁴³ Pickens & Lawrence Looks at the American Indian, 1941 and Present, pt. 2 (1899), 6 Indians at Work No. 6, pp. 28, 29.

⁴⁴ 10 U. S. C. 915, 786 R. 8 § 1270 provides:

" . . . Indians, enlisted or employed by order of the President as scouts, shall receive the pay and allowances of Cavalry soldiers."

10 U. S. C. 915 grants Indian scouts an allowance for houses. The Act of May 19, 1924, sec. 202(c), 43 Stat. 121, grants adjusted compensation, commonly called a bonus, to Indian scouts who were veterans of the World War.

⁴⁵ Indian Appropriation Act, fiscal year ending June 30, 1898, 30 Stat. 62-88. For similar provisions in previous appropriation acts see Act of June 10, 1896, 29 Stat. 321, 348, and Act of March 2, 1895, 28 Stat. 870, 906.

mations and Indian boys as farmers and industrial teachers in all Indian schools when it is practicable to do so."

Sections 1 and 9 of the Act of June 28, 1887,¹²¹ which establishes a permanent Civilian Conservation Corps, provide that

"No boy shall be over 20. The original law Act of March 3, 1879, § 17 18 Stat. 22 did not contain such a provision."

SECTION 5. ELIGIBILITY FOR STATE ASSISTANCE¹²²

Some state administrators are unaware that Indians maintaining tribal relations or living on reservations are citizens,¹²³ or mistakenly assume that they are supported by the Federal Government,¹²⁴ and deny them relief. This discrimination in state aid has made more acute the economic distress of many Indians who are poor and live below any reasonable standard of health and decency.¹²⁵

It has been administratively held that Indians are entitled to share in the aids and services provided by state laws subsidized by federal grants-in-aid under the Social Security Act¹²⁶ or direct or work-related benefits.¹²⁷

¹²¹For a discussion of their right to federal seed corn, see Chapter 12, note 1, on right to enforce, including etc., under treaties, see Chapter 15, note 22. For a discussion of Indians, see Schmuckebier, *The Office of Indian Affairs, Its History, Activities, and Organization* (1927), pp. 60-71, for a discussion of support of Indians; see pp. 232-235.

Other treaties provided that the United States would not an Indian in the purchase and clothing. See Chapter 3, note 35(8). This was generally a partial consideration for the reason of land by the Indians and sometimes a recognition of a mutual obligation to guardian. Sometimes Congress provided food and clothing in lieu of money. For an example of a statute providing subsistence to Indians, see Act of April 21, 1902, 32 Stat. 417 (Chaqueto and Chickawa). On regulations regarding the operations of the Indian Division of the Civilian Conservation Corps, see C. F. R. 18-1-1829.

¹²²Id. Vol. 1, D. M. 28590, February 13, 1937, p. 7.

¹²³See Chapter 12.

¹²⁴Annual Report of Secretary of Interior (1938) p. 237. "The income of the typical Indian family is low and the earned income extremely low." *Memorandum of Indian Administration* (1929), p. 1, for a discussion on the general economic condition of the Indians, see pp. 8-8 and pp. 480-483, on health conditions, pp. 189-185, also see Schmuckebier *supra* cit pp. 247-250.

¹²⁵Memorandum of I. D., April 22, 1938, Act of August 18, 1935, 49 Stat. 612, 620, amended August 10, 1939, Public Law 53, 79th Cong., 1st sess. See Chapter 12, note 5.

¹²⁶Act of May 12, 1934, 48 Stat. 857, 858, 859, 860, 861, 862, 863, 864, 865, 866, 867, 868, 869, 870, 871, 872, 873, 874, 875, 876, 877, 878, 879, 880, 881, 882, 883, 884, 885, 886, 887, 888, 889, 890, 891, 892, 893, 894, 895, 896, 897, 898, 899, 900, 901, 902, 903, 904, 905, 906, 907, 908, 909, 910, 911, 912, 913, 914, 915, 916, 917, 918, 919, 920, 921, 922, 923, 924, 925, 926, 927, 928, 929, 930, 931, 932, 933, 934, 935, 936, 937, 938, 939, 940, 941, 942, 943, 944, 945, 946, 947, 948, 949, 950, 951, 952, 953, 954, 955, 956, 957, 958, 959, 960, 961, 962, 963, 964, 965, 966, 967, 968, 969, 970, 971, 972, 973, 974, 975, 976, 977, 978, 979, 980, 981, 982, 983, 984, 985, 986, 987, 988, 989, 990, 991, 992, 993, 994, 995, 996, 997, 998, 999, 1000, 1001, 1002, 1003, 1004, 1005, 1006, 1007, 1008, 1009, 1010, 1011, 1012, 1013, 1014, 1015, 1016, 1017, 1018, 1019, 1020, 1021, 1022, 1023, 1024, 1025, 1026, 1027, 1028, 1029, 1030, 1031, 1032, 1033, 1034, 1035, 1036, 1037, 1038, 1039, 1040, 1041, 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2702, 2703, 2704, 2705, 2706, 2707, 2708, 2709, 2710, 2711, 2712, 2

on the ground that Indians are not extrajudicial but only subject to special rules of substantive law.¹²² An Indian has the same right as anyone else to be represented by counsel of his own selection who may not be substituted to counsel appointed by the court.¹²³ As an additional protection, the United States District Attorney has the duty to represent him in all suits at law or in equity.¹²⁴

As a practical matter, the Indians have frequently been at a decided disadvantage in safeguarding their legal rights.

The courts were often at such a distance that the Indians could not avail themselves of their right to sue.¹²⁵ Their ignorance of the language, customs, usages, rules of law, and forms of procedure of the white man, the disabilities of race, the animosities caused by hostilities, frequently deprived them of a fair trial in many.¹²⁶ They were sometimes barred by state statutes from serving as jurors,¹²⁷ and deemed incompetent as witnesses.¹²⁸

The Committee on Indian Affairs of the House of Representatives, in a report¹²⁹ on the Trade and Intercourse Act of 1884 said:

Complaints have been made by Indians that they are not admitted to testify as witnesses in civil actions and that they are in some of the States excluded by law. These laws, however, do not bind the courts or tribunals of the United States. The committee have made no provision on the subject, believing that none is necessary, that the rules of law are such as, if properly applied, to remove every ground of complaint. (P. 13)

Even at the present time, many Indians, particularly the older people, do not know any language but their native Indian tongue, and lack familiarity with most of the customs and ideas of the white people.¹³⁰ Most of the Indians live far from the

county seats and places where courts meet and legal business is transacted.¹³¹ Prejudice,¹³² lack of education,¹³³ of money,¹³⁴ and of a sufficient number of lawyers of their race who have their residence also hampers them in securing adequate legal advice and enforcing their rights. Prof. Ray A. Brown, an eminent authority on Indian Law, has written:¹³⁵

The majority of these people are not able either in understanding or financial ability to take advantage of the courts of justice. . . .¹³⁶

In order to minimize the foregoing disadvantages a number of statutes have been enacted, establishing a separate administrative procedure to safeguard the rights of the Indians. One of the most important laws of this nature is the Act of June 25, 1910,¹³⁷ which vests in the Secretary of the Interior comprehensive power to ascertain the heirs of a deceased allottee.

During the era of the westward expansion of railroads, statutes authorizing the construction and operation of railroads through the Indian Territory usually provided that in case of the failure of the railroad to make amicable settlements with the Indian occupants of the land a commission of three disinterested referees should be appointed as appraisers, the chairman by the President, one by the chief of the nation to which the occupied belongs, and the other by the railway.¹³⁸

In the absence of statute, Indian litigants are subject to the same defenses as other people. Except with respect to restricted property,¹³⁹ they may lose their rights because of laches, and the immune of the statute of limitations.¹⁴⁰ They are also subject to the restrictions against suing sovereigns without their consent.

¹²² *Ibid.*, pp. 712-714.

¹²³ *Ibid.*, p. 770.

¹²⁴ *Ibid.*, pp. 446-449.

¹²⁵ *Ibid.*, p. 770.

¹²⁶ See *Indian Problem and the Law*, 30 Yale L. J. 907, 141 (1916).

¹²⁷ 80 Stat. 805, amended March 4, 1928, 45 Stat. 161, April 30, 1914.

¹²⁸ 18 Stat. 467, U. S. C. 712, discussed in *Unsettled v. Commons*, 249 U. S. 500 (1919) aff'd 210 Fed. 789 (C. C. A. 1914), *Knoepfer, Legal Status of American Indian & His Property* (1922), 7 Yale L. B. 232.

¹²⁹ 247 U. S. 16, *Revised Federal Administration* (1926), p. 737-755, Schmeckebier, *The Office of Indian Affairs, Its History, Activities, and Organization* (1927), pp. 310-175.

¹³⁰ For an example of such a provision, see Act of September 26, 1880, 26 Stat. 486, 486. The Act of May 21, 1904, 34 Stat. 787, repealed.

¹³¹ See *Indian Problem and the Law*, 30 Yale L. J. 907, 141 (1916).

¹³² 12 Stat. 427 which empowered the superintendent or agent to

compensate the damages caused by a tribal Indian trespasser upon the

allotments of an Indian, to deduct from the annuities due to the

possessing Indian the amount so sustained, and with the approval of the

Secretary, to pay it to the party injured.

¹³³ See Chapter 12, Chapter 19, sec. 5.

¹³⁴ *Feist v. Panick*, 145 U. S. 317, 381 (1892), discussing *Inches*, aff'd

80 Fed. 487, discussing the statute of limitations. Also see *Levens v.*

United States, 15 F. 2d 618 (C. C. A. 8, 1926), cert. den. 273 U. S. 747.

¹³⁵ *See* *Indian Problem and the Law*, 30 Yale L. J. 907, 141 (1916).

¹³⁶ 32 Stat. 284, 25 U. S. C. 847, which provides for the application of the

state statute of limitations in certain suits involving lands patented in

severalty under treaties. While a deed of an Indian who received patent

prohibiting alienation of property without the approval of the

Secretary of Interior is void and the statute of limitations does not run

against him and he here so long as the condition of incompetency

remains, when by treaty subsequent to the issuance of the deed all

restrictions were removed and the Indian became a citizen the statute

of limitations began to run against the grantor and his heirs.

¹³⁷ *See* *Indian Problem and the Law*, 30 Yale L. J. 907, 141 (1916).

¹³⁸ *See* *Indian Problem and the Law*, 30 Yale L. J. 907, 141 (1916).

¹³⁹ 209 U. S. 129 (1922). Cf. *Op. Sol. I*, M. 20658, in part and *rev'd in part*,

2, to the effect that in view of the guardianship relation existing be-

tween the Government and the Indians, and the fact that so long as they

maintain tribal relations, they are persons, they are persons, they are persons,

the Department (of Interior) has been slow to establish a definite rule

limiting the reopening of title proceedings on invoking the statute

of *res adjudicata* and *stare decisis*.

¹²² *See*, *The Position of the American Indian in the Law of the United States* (1946) 16 J. Comp. Leg. 74, 14 (C. C. L. Rev., pp. 587-590 (1914)).

¹²³ *Revised v. Anderson* 67 U. S. 271 (C. C. A. 10, 1933).

¹²⁴ Act of March 3, 1883, 27 Stat. 612, 681, 25 U. S. C. 175, 178.

¹²⁵ The introduction of this law see Chapter 12, sec. 8.

¹²⁶ *Abel*, vol. 1, op. cit., p. 25, in 14. Toward the close of the nineteenth century, many writers criticized the government for not giving the

Indians courts for the redress of their wrongs especially the arbitrary

action of administrators. *Phelan*, *A People Without Law* (1891) 88 Atl. Month. 510, 512, 614, 643.

¹²⁷ *See* *Indian Problem and the Law*, 30 Yale L. J. 907, 141 (1916).

¹²⁸ *Indian Law and Needful Reforms* (1926) 12 A. B. J. 47, 39-40.

¹²⁹ *Abel*, *Indians and the Law* (1888), 2 Harv. L. Rev. 167, 175-176.

¹³⁰ *Indian Law for the Indians* (1882), 124 N. A. Rev. 274-275, Kyle.

¹³¹ *How Shall the Indians be Educated* (1894), 150 N. A. Rev. 434.

¹³² *See* *Const. Idaho Act*, 9 sec. 2, *U. S. v. United States*, 27 Fed. 361,

327-328 (C. C. Ore. 1880), *People v. Howard*, 17 Calif. 64 (1880).

¹³³ *See* *People v. Lewis* discussing their incompetency as witnesses, see

Hapelle, *A Treatise on the Law of Witnesses* (1887), p. 20, Appleton,

Notes of Evidence (1880), pp. 271-272. *Pennington v. Smith*, 84 Neb.

326, 122 N. W. 10 (1904). Sometimes their incompetency as witnesses

was restricted to cases where white parties. *People v. Hall*, 4 Calif.

989 (1874), aff'd by *Speer v. Speer* 10 U. S. 13 (1859), held that

the term "Indian" as used in section 94 of the Civil Practice Act (Calif.

Stats. 1880, p. 230 subsequently reenacted) excluded a Chinese from

testifying as a witness. See *Goodrich*, *The Legal Status of the Chi-*

nese in America (1926), 14 Calif. L. Rev. 85, pp. 156 and 174, *Quinn v.*

United States, 1 Ind. T. 912 (1898). Even when competent, prejudice

against their testimony was not infrequent. See *Ship v. United States*,

81 Fed. 604 (C. C. A. 9, 1897). The Confederate States signed treaties

with many of the southern tribes giving the members the right to be

competent as witnesses in state courts and if induced to employ

witnesses and employ counsel. *Abel*, vol. 1, *The American Indian as*

Slaveholder & Seaman (1915), pp. 172-173. The Act of March 1,

1880, sec. 16, 25 Stat. 788, limited jurors in criminal cases in the United

States courts to the Indian Territory in which the defendant is a

citizen to citizens and thus excluded most Indians.

¹³⁴ 282 Cong. 1st sess., Repts. of Committees, No. 474, May 20, 1884.

¹³⁵ *See* *Indian Problem of Indian Administration* (1928), pp. 777, 788, 790.

The right to sue is not conferred upon an individual member in a statute granting to a tribe the right to sue to protect tribal property.¹²⁹ In the absence of congressional legislation bestowing upon individual Indians the right to litigate in the federal courts internal questions relating to tribal property, the courts will not assume jurisdiction.¹³⁰

¹²⁹ *Blackfeather v. United States*, 190 U. S. 366, 1904, 80 R. 17 C. 23, 237 (1902); *Cochran v. McVey*, 1 Ind. T. 1 (1901).

¹³⁰ *United States v. National Union of New York Indians*, 271 Fed. 946 (D. C. W. D. N. Y. 1921). Also see *Leah v. Yack of Santa Rosa*, 249 U. S. 116 (1919).

SECTION 7. RIGHT TO CONTRACT

Indians may make contracts in the same way as any other people,¹³¹ except where prohibited by statutes which primarily regulate contracts affecting trust property.¹³²

The contractual capacity of Indians is discussed in the case of *Oho v. Jullion*.¹³³

We are unable to see why an Indian after preserving his tribal relations, is not as capable of making a land right contract (other than such as we have defined to be void by statute) as an Englishman, or Spaniard, or a Dane who while still retaining his native allegiance makes contracts here. (P. 323)

Similarly a more recent opinion¹³⁴ holds

* * * The fact that one of the parties to the contract was a full-blood Indian did not incapacitate him or impair his right to enter into this contract. He had the same right as other persons to make contracts generally. The only restriction on this right properly in an Indian was in regard to contracts affecting his allotment. These he could not make without the consent and approval provided by law. (P. 158)

Some treaties contained contractual restrictions.¹³⁵

¹³² An Indian may contract freely concerning unrestricted real and personal property. *Jones v. Michan*, 175 U. S. 1 (1899), also see *United States v. Four Laramie*, 75, 206 U. S. 407 (1907). *Alcedo Erickson v. Quah*, 5 McClure 122 Ind. 543, 21 N. E. 1040 (1890). *Stacy v. La Belle*, 90 Wis. 520, 75 N. W. 00 (1898). Recognition of this capacity was contained in the Act of May 4, 1890, see 29, 20 Stat. 84, 85, 86, which gave to the United States Courts in the Indian Territory jurisdiction of all contracts between citizens of Indian nations and citizens of the United States, provided such contracts were made in good faith and in accordance with the laws of such tribe or nation. As to individual rights in restricted personality, see Chapter 10.

¹³³ *Op. Sol. I. II*, M. 288-0, February 14, 1897, p. 8 "It should be pointed out that an Indian although a tribal member and a ward of the Government is capable of making contracts and that these contracts require supervision only insofar as they may deal with the disposition of property held in trust by the United States." *Op. v. Duffies*, 217 U. S. 488 (1910). Questions frequently arise as to whether property is restricted. For example, crops growing on Indian trust land are considered tribal property. *United States v. Fort Na Indian Band*, 282 Fed. 330 (D. C. E. D. Wash. 1922) regarding the case of *Red v. Little*, 77 Wash. 488, 138 Pw. 1 (1914) which held that Indians could mortgage crops growing on allotments without the Government's consent. Also see Act of May 31, 1870, see 16, 10 Stat. 140, 144 guaranteeing the right to enforce contracts to all persons "within the jurisdiction of the United States." The Act of February 27, 1825, see 9, 48 Stat. 1005, 1011 exemplifies a restriction of the right to contract. It requires the approval of the Secretary of the Interior for contracts of debts of Oage tribesmen not having a certificate of competency. *And see Act of February 21, 1868, 15 Stat. 658 (Winnebago).*

¹³⁴ *1 Wash. Tm.* (new volume) 325 (1871).

¹³⁵ *Postoley v. Lee*, 46 Okla. 477, 149 Pac. 265 (1915).

¹³⁶ Section 15 of the Treaty of March 8, 1864, 12 Stat. 819, 820, provided that the Sioux Indians shall be incapable of making any valid civil contract with anyone other than a native member of their tribe without consent of the President. The Cheyenne obtained an interesting provision in Article X of the Treaty of July 19, 1866, 14 Stat. 399,

The judgment entered in a suit against an Indian may be enforced against any unrestricted property which the Indian judgment debtor may own free from federal control. The restricted property of the judgment debtor is exempt from levy and sale under such a judgment.¹³⁶

The Secretary of the Interior has authority to make payment of a judgment obtained in a state court against a restricted member of the Ojage tribe of Indians of his estate.¹³⁷

¹³⁷ *Valley v. Simmons*, 234 U. S. 192 (1913).

¹³⁸ Act of February 27, 1925, 43 Stat. 1008 (Ojage).

The most important limitation on the alienability of land is found in the Allotment Act of February 8, 1887,¹³⁸ which prevents an Indian allottee from making a landing contract in respect to land which the United States holds for him as trustee.¹³⁹

The Act of May 21, 1872,¹⁴⁰ imposing restrictions on the contractual rights of noncitizen Indians, which has lost most of its importance because of the passage of the Citizenship Act, voids any contract with a noncitizen Indian (or an Indian tribe) for services concerning his land or claims against the United States, unless it is executed in accordance with prescribed formalities and approved by the Secretary of the Interior.

An important statute restricting the contractual power of Indians with respect to certain types of property is the Act of June 30, 1933,¹⁴¹ which provides:

No contract made with any Indian, where such contract relates to the tribal funds or property in the hands of the United States, shall be valid, nor shall any payment for services rendered in relation thereto be made unless the consent of the United States has previously been given.

A POWER OF ATTORNEY

Though an Indian may grant a power of attorney to another, and such grants of power have been extensively used in the award of gaming permits in allotted lands,¹⁴² such a power will not ordinarily be upheld.¹⁴³ If there is any doubt about the method of exercising the power, it will be resolved in favor of the grantors of the power.¹⁴⁴

The government examines closely the circumstances surrounding the issuance and exercise of a power of attorney in order

801 permitting their members and resident freedom to sell their farm or manufactured products, and to ship and ship them to market without restraint.

¹⁴² See 5, 24 Stat. 888, 889. Also see Act of June 25, 1910, 36 Stat. 585. See Chapter 11.

¹⁴³ See Chapter 11. A few treaties also restrict the alienability of land. The Treaty with the Nez Percés of June 9, 1863, Art. III, 14 Stat. 647, 648, provides that lands belonging to individual Indians shall be inalienable without the permission of the President and shall be subject to regulations of the Secretary of the Interior.

¹⁴⁴ 17 Stat. 184, 26 U. S. C. 81, amended by Act of June 26, 1906, 49 Stat. 1984. The Act of April 30, 1874, 18 Stat. 85 contains similar provisions for contracts made prior to May 31, 1872. Also see prior statute restricting contracts—Act of March 3, 1871, 16 Stat. 544, 570. To the effect that a contract by which Indian residents and subjects of the Dominion of Canada purposed to employ an attorney to prosecute claims against the United States is not subject to the approval of the Secretary of the Interior and the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, see *Op. Sol. I. D*, M. 401-48, February 8, 1889. On the application of this law to tribes, see Chapter 14, see 6.

¹⁴⁵ See 18, 88 Stat. 77, 67, 26 U. S. C. 85.

¹⁴⁶ See 26 C. P. B. 71, 19-11-19.

¹⁴⁷ *Richards v. Whop*, 28 Fed. 52, 58 (C. C. Kan. 1888).

¹⁴⁸ 18 Op. A. G. 447, 497 (1886), 5 Op. A. G. 86 (1848).

to safeguard the interests of the Indian.²⁴¹ Subterfuges whereby such powers are used to take away control of restricted lands are held invalid²⁴² because "the restrictions upon alienation and encumbrance were intended by Congress to instill into the Indians habits of thrift and industry and a sense of independence, and to protect them in the meantime from impudent contractors." (P. 718)

B COOPERATIVES AND BUSINESS ORGANIZATIONS

In some types of work, Indians, like other people, cannot compete with large aggregations of capital which dominate an increasing number of types of business, unless many of them combine their resources and energies.²⁴³ Indian cooperatives have been chartered by the Secretary of the Interior, by organized tribes, and by states.²⁴⁴

Many recent statutes encourage the formation of cooperatives, including the Wheeler-Howard Act,²⁴⁵ the Act of May 1, 1936,²⁴⁶ applying its main provisions to Alaska, the Oklahoma Welfare Act,²⁴⁷ and the Alaska Reindeer Act.²⁴⁸ Other legislation permitting loans to cooperatives is discussed under another heading.²⁴⁹

Thus encouraged by the Federal Government, Indians have established many different kinds of cooperatives.²⁵⁰ Several statutes and tribal ordinances are designed to encourage Indian cooperatives in a particular tribe.²⁵¹

²⁴¹ *United States v. Bands*, 44 F.2d 158 (C. C. A. 10, 1938). Indian valid Indian never successfully opposes Superintendent to issue lease or permits for them. Also see Chapter 11, sec. 5.

²⁴² *Williams v. White*, 218 Fed. 797 (C. C. A. 9, 1914).

²⁴³ Senator O'Mahoney, Chairman of the Temporary National Economic Committee, alludes to one of the many causes for the trend toward concentration of economic power.

* * * It is a common experience that the large aggregations of capital are able to secure money at a very much lower rate and for longer terms and on better conditions than the small business corporation may, and that in itself is an inherent difficulty which tends to magnify the big and reduce the little. [Hearings before the Temporary National Economic Committee, Pt. V, p. 1586 (1937).]

These hearings report the growth of monopoly in general and in specific industries. Also see Bello and Mowat, *The Modern Corporation and Private Property* (1932), pp. 38-46.

²⁴⁴ In Oklahoma the Secretary may issue charters of incorporation to Indian cooperatives, in other States they generally operate as unincorporated associations. J. F. Cully, *Principles of Cooperation*, 4 Indians at Work, No. 10 (April 1, 1937), p. 8. For regulations on cooperatives see 25 C. F. R. 21-1-25-26.

²⁴⁵ See 10 (25 U. S. C. 470) and 17 (25 U. S. C. 477), June 18, 1934, 48 Stat. 984. The regulations governing the administration of the revolving credit fund make special provision for loans by incorporated tribes to Indian cooperatives. For example, see 25 C. F. R. 22-1-25-27 relating to cooperatives in Oklahoma.

²⁴⁶ 49 Stat. 1720.

²⁴⁷ Act of June 28, 1936, sec. 4, 49 Stat. 1967, 25 U. S. C. 504.

²⁴⁸ Act of September 4, 1937, sec. 10, 50 Stat. 906, authorizing loans for of rebates to cooperative associations or other organizations.

²⁴⁹ See Chapter 12, sec. 6A.

²⁵⁰ Some of these enterprises were discussed by John Collier, Commissioner of Indian Affairs, in a radio address on December 4, 1936, entitled "America's Handing of its Indigenous Indian Minority," and in the Annual Report of the Secretary of the Interior (1937), p. 10-31, and (1938), pp. 261-262.

²⁵¹ The most important development in the Indian livestock field, perhaps, has been the marked increase in Indian milking and management Indians. Through cooperative livestock associations, are managing controlled grazing, round ups, sales, and other business, affecting their livestock enterprises. Cooperative livestock associations have increased from a comparatively small number in 1933 to 66 in 1935 and to 119 in 1936 (Annual Report of Secretary of Interior (1937), p. 25-31).

Also see Indian Land Tenure, Economic Status, and Population Trends, Pt. X of the Supplementary Report of the Land Planning Committee to the National Resources Board (1935), pp. 24-28, 56.

²⁵² The Act of August 1, 1935, 49 Stat. 984, authorizes the loaning of tribal money as a capital fund to the Chippewa Indian Cooperative Marketing Association.

The Constitution of the Buckle Tribe contains provisions typical of many tribal constitutions. Article VII, section 3 gives preference in the leasing of tribal land to members and associations of members, such as oil producers' cooperatives.²⁵² Section III of Article VI authorizes the Tribal Business Council to regulate and license all business or professional activities upon the reservation, subject to the approval of the Secretary of the Interior.²⁵³

Indian business organizations have been aided by some important laws relating to both Indians and non-Indians, such as the Taylor Grazing Act,²⁵⁴ which provides for the granting of privileges to stockmen, including groups, associations, or corporations, authorized to conduct business under the laws of the State in which a grazing district is located. An Indian or group of Indians is capable of applying for grazing privileges under this act without the intervention of agency officials.²⁵⁵

C RIGHTS OF CREDITORS

In the absence of statutory authorization, a third person may not discharge the duty of the Government and then recover the expenses incurred in performing such governmental duty.²⁵⁶ Governmental liability for the debts of Indians arises solely from acts of Congress or treaties with the tribes. Treaties often provided payments, even for sub-tribal debts.²⁵⁷

The treaty provisions were often worded in justification for the payment of claims. The Indians were "anxious" to pay the claims,²⁵⁸ or the payments were made at the "request" of the Indians, and the money was acknowledged by them to be due or to be a just claim.²⁵⁹ The good deed of the creditor or a friend of the tribe would be glowingly described.²⁶⁰

²⁵² Incorporated in Memo 801 I D, March 10, 1939.

²⁵³ It has been said that this provision does not require a group of Indians forming an unincorporated or incorporated cooperative association to secure departmental approval of the attitude of association and laymen. Memo 801 I D, March 14, 1939.

²⁵⁴ Act of June 28, 1934, 48 Stat. 1203, amended Act of June 28, 1936,

49 Stat. 1907, 1976.

²⁵⁵ Op. Sol. I D, 2889, February 13, 1937.

²⁵⁶ *McCrish, Inc. v. United States*, 83 C. Cls. 70 (1916).

²⁵⁷ The Treaty of September 26, 1831, with the United Nation of Chippewa, Ottawa, and Potawatami, Art. 4, 7 Stat. 481, 412, provided for the payment of \$100,000 and the supplementary Treaty of September 27, 1836, Art. 7, 7 Stat. 442, provided for an additional sum of \$25,000.

²⁵⁸ Treaty of October 10, 1838, with the Miami Tribe, Art. 5, 7 Stat. 300, 301.

²⁵⁹ To show satisfaction of claims acknowledged to be due, see Treaty of July 29, 1826, with the United Nation of Chippewa, Ottawa, and Potawatami, Art. 4, 7 Stat. 320; Treaty of August 1, 1829, with the Winnebago Indians, Art. 4, 7 Stat. 288, 291; Treaty of September 18, 1832, with the Winnebago Nation, Art. 4, 7 Stat. 470, 374; payment of debts acknowledged to be due, Treaty of October 26, 1832, with the Shawnee and Delaware, Art. 4, 7 Stat. 377, 394; also see Treaty of October 10, 1838, with the Potawatami Tribe, Art. 5, 7 Stat. 285, 295, and (at the request of Indians) Treaty of August 5, 1836, with the Potawatami Tribe, 7 Stat. 505, and of September 20, 1836, with the Potawatami Tribe, Art. 4, 7 Stat. 510.

²⁶⁰ Treaty of February 18, 1834, with the Ottawa Indians, Art. 2, 7 Stat. 420, 421, 422, land was ceded to people who had settled with or been kind to the tribe. Treaty of September 28, 1836, with the Sac and Fox Tribe, Art. 4, 7 Stat. 517, 525, 526, compensation was provided in view of liberality of individuals extending large credit to the chiefs or leaders. Treaty of October 15, 1836 (notice of a convention) with the Gros Ventre, Mandan, and others, Art. 4, 7 Stat. 524, 525.

* * * feeling sensible of the many acts of kindness and liberality manifested towards them, and their respective tribes by the said friendly * * * during the intercourse of many years, aware of the heavy losses sustained by them at different times by their liberality in extending large credits to them and their people, which have never been paid, and which (owing to the impoverished situation of their country and their scanty means of living) never can be repaid, they have, with great cord and gratitude for such benefits and favors, and compensation, the said individuals in some measure for their losses.

Often the United States would agree to pay creditors "of the Indians for some consideration or partial consideration, such as the cession of land,"¹ reduction or omission of annuities,² or reimbursement of claims against the United States,³ or destroyed services and goods.⁴

The names of the creditors were often enumerated in an attached schedule,⁵ or separate schedule,⁶ but sometimes they were listed in the body of the treaty.⁷

Other provisions included an acknowledgment of special services and a provision for their payment. One, for example, provided that money should be paid to a deceased captain to repay him for expenditures in defeating Chickasaw towns against the invasion of the Creeks.⁸

Sometimes claims already brought against the Indians were acknowledged as due and the United States agreed to make payments for them.⁹ Occasional provisions include a prohibition against the payments of debts of individuals,¹⁰ or payments for depredations,¹¹ a requirement that the superintendent shall pay the debts,¹² a prohibition against the sale of land for prior debts.¹³

The limitation of the rights of creditors is in accordance with the well established policy of the Federal Government to protect Indians from their own improvidence.¹⁴

¹For early opinions on method of determining amount of claims against Indians see 7 Op. U. S. 284 (1851) and 572 (1872). Treaty of October 27, 1822, with the Potawatamies, Art. 4, 7 Stat. 809, 401.

²Treaty of August 30, 1851 (articles of agreement and convention), with Ottawa Indians, Arts. 2 and 3, 7 Stat. 177, 400-01. Treaty of October 27, 1822, with the Potawatamies, Art. 4, 7 Stat. 100, 401. Art. 1, February 21, 1803, Art. 4, 12 Stat. 608, 600 (Winnebago).

³Treaty of May 14, 1851 (articles of agreement), with the Quapaw Indians, Art. 4, 7 Stat. 424, 420-426.

⁴Treaty of January 20, 1857 (articles of a convention) with the Chehalis Nation, Art. 5, 7 Stat. 234, 245. Treaty of October 16, 1826, with the Potawatamie Tribe, Art. 4, 7 Stat. 205, 206. Treaty of October 24, 1825, with the Miami Tribe, Art. 4, 7 Stat. 190, 301.

⁵Treaty of July 23, 1805, with the Chickasaw Nation, Art. 2, 7 Stat. 89, 90. Treaty of February 12, 1826, with the Red River, or Thompson party of Miami Indians, Art. 8, 7 Stat. 100, 910. Treaty of March 21, 1812, with the Creek Tribe, Art. 3, 7 Stat. 806, 907.

⁶Treaty of October 11, 1842, with the Sac and Fox Indians, Art. 2, 7 Stat. 760.

⁷Treaty of October 18, 1838, with the Potawatamie, Art. 5, 7 Stat. 291, 200, 297.

⁸Treaty of July 27, 1805, with the Chickasaw Nation, Art. 3, 7 Stat. 89, 90. Treaty of October 16, 1818, with the Chickasaws, Art. 3, 7 Stat. 192, 193. Treaty of February 12, 1826, with the Red River, or Thompson party of Miami Indians, Art. 3, 7 Stat. 800, 310.

⁹Treaty of October 10, 1818, with the Chickasaws, Art. 3, 7 Stat. 192, 191. Also see Treaty of July 23, 1805, with the Chickasaw Nation, Art. 3, 7 Stat. 89, 90.

¹⁰Treaty of July 27, 1805, with the United Nations of Chippewas, Ottawa, and Potawatamie, Art. 5, 7 Stat. 320, 321. Treaty of August 31, 1826, with the Winnebago, Art. 4, 7 Stat. 328, 324.

¹¹Treaty of October 17, 1805, with the Blackfoot, Art. 15, 11 Stat. 637, 660.

¹²Treaty of November 1, 1837, with the Winnebago Nation, Art. 4, 7 Stat. 644, 646.

¹³Treaty of October 28, 1812, with the Shawnee and Delaware, Art. 3, 7 Stat. 897, 908.

¹⁴Act of June 1, 1872, Art. 4, 17 Stat. 212, 214 (Miami).

¹⁵See *Keeney's Legal Status of American Indian & His Property* (1922), 7 La. L. B. 232-243. (On creditors' rights against restricted money and estates of allottees, see Chapter 11, sec. 6, and 25 C. P. R. 81-82, 81-46-11 B, 221-1-221-89.)

A number of restrictive statutes hamper creditors from executing on their judgments.¹⁵ An important general provision of this type is contained in the Appropriation Act of June 23, 1906,¹⁶ which amended the General Allotment Act¹⁷ by adding the following:

No lands acquired under the provisions of this Act shall in any event, become liable to the satisfaction of any debt contracted prior to the issuing of the final patent in fee thereon.

The same principle is also applicable to restricted money.¹⁸

The United States cannot resist the enforcement, in a State court, of claims against property of Indian allottees for which they had received patents in fee,¹⁹ but it can restrain a State receiver from disposing of the proceeds of a lease of restricted lands²⁰ and of a growing crop on allotted lands.²¹

In holding that a mortgage in an allottee of growing crops is void, the District Court said:²²

The crops growing upon an Indian allotment are a part of the land and are held in trust by the government the same as the allotment itself, at least until the crops are severed from the land. The use and occupancy of these lands by the Indians together with the crops grown thereon, are a part of the means which the government has employed to carry out its policy of protection, and I am satisfied that a mortgage of any of these means by the Indian, without the consent of the government, is necessarily null and void. If the lien is valid, it carries with it all the incidents of a valid lien, including the right to appoint a receiver to take charge of and gather the crops, if necessary, and the right to send an officer upon the allotment armed with process to seize and sell the crops without the consent and even over the protest of the government and its agents. That this cannot be done does not, in my opinion, admit of question. (2382.)

Though an Indian may be a bankrupt, land allotted to him does not pass to a trustee in bankruptcy.²³ This decision is based on the fact that it is not the policy of the Bankruptcy Act to interfere with congressional statutes relating to the disposition and control of property which is set apart for the benefit of the bankrupt, and that a man presumably deals with an Indian with full knowledge of his disability, and does not give credit on his allotments,²⁴ or on his other restricted property.

¹⁵Act of May 2, 1890, 26 Stat. 51, 61 (Indian Territory), discussed in *Onell v. Young*, 4 Ind. T. 40 (1903) mod. 4 Ind. T. 144 (1902). Also see *In re Grayson*, 4 Ind. T. 407 (1901), concerning the mortgage of land.

¹⁶24 Stat. 425, 327.

¹⁷Act of February 8, 1887, 24 Stat. 388.

¹⁸See Chapter 5, see 585 and D.

¹⁹*United States v. Paulina & Dure Co.*, 170 U. S. 917 (1900).

²⁰*United States v. Ingham*, 295 Fed. 414 (D. C. M. D. Wash. 1923).

²¹On the right of the United States to sue on behalf of Indians, see Chap. ter 11, sec. 1A(1).

²²*See United States v. First Nat. Bank*, 282 Fed. 330 (D. C. M. D. Wash. 1923).

²³On the liability of conveyances of allotted lands, see Chapter 11, sec. 4E.

²⁴*Id.* For a decision holding invalid a mortgage executed by a tribal member of his interest in the tribal lands, see *United States v. Boston*, 285 Fed. 165 (C. C. A. 2, 1920).

²⁵*In re Ruess*, 96 Fed. 609 (D. C. Ore. 1898). See Chapter 11, sec. 4A.

²⁶State laws relating to assignments for the benefit of creditors were extended to the Indian debtor by the Act of May 2, 1890, 26 Stat. 81 (Indian Territory), discussed in *Robinson & Co. v. Brit*, 187 U. S. 41 (1902). 277 U. S. 713 (C. C. A. 8, 1900).

²⁷*In re Ruess*, 96 Fed. 609 (D. C. Ore. 1898).

SECTION 8. THE MEANINGS OF "INCOMPETENCY"

The word "incompetency" has varied applications in many branches of law. Thus a person may be incompetent to serve on a jury, or evidence may be inadmissible as incompetent. Perhaps the most common meaning of the term is lack of capacity to enter into legally binding contracts.¹⁰⁰

In addition to its ordinary legal meaning, the term "incompetency," as used in Indian law, has several special or restricted meanings, relating to particular types of transactions, such as land alienation.

A GENERAL LACK OF LEGAL CAPACITY¹⁰¹

Treaties and statutes contain innumerable illustrations of the ordinary use of the term "incompetency" and various provisions to safeguard the interests of Indians who are deemed unfit to manage their own affairs. They empower guardians or other persons authorized by the Department of the Interior,¹⁰² parents or guardians,¹⁰³ heads of families,¹⁰⁴ chiefs,¹⁰⁵ collectors of customs,¹⁰⁶ and agents,¹⁰⁷ and superintendents of other bonded officers of the Indian Service,¹⁰⁸ to select allotments,¹⁰⁹ or to condemn entireties,¹¹⁰ receive payments due,¹¹¹ appraise property in condemnation proceedings, or perform other functions for minors or persons *non compos mentis*.¹¹²

Special provisions were often made for minor orphan children,¹¹³ such as making the chiefs responsible for the school at-

tendance of orphan children between 7 and 18 who had no guardians.¹¹⁴

Congress has conferred on parents certain rights with respect to the property of minor children.¹¹⁵ The administrative practices of the Department of the Interior requires that a minor be represented in some cases, such as the relinquishment or inheritance of Indian trust lands.¹¹⁶

B RESTRICTED MEANINGS

(1) *Inability to alienate land.*¹¹⁷—Perhaps the most frequent special use of the term "incompetency" is to describe the status of an Indian incapable of alienating some¹¹⁸ or all of his real property. Such an Indian may be competent in the ordinary legal sense. An outstanding example is Charles Curtis, who, though he became Senator and Vice President of the United States, remained all his life an incompetent Indian, incapable of disposing of his trust property by deed or devise, without securing the approval of the Secretary of the Interior.

This striking example indicates that a determination of general incompetency is not always sufficient to cause the Secretary to issue a certificate of competency permitting the Indian to dispose of his restricted property. In determining whether to remove restrictions, the Secretary must decide, not only the "competency" of the Indian, but also whether such removal would be for the best interest of the Indian.¹¹⁹

¹⁰⁰Treaty of September 24, 1857, with the Pawnees, Art. 3, 31 Stat. 729, 730.

¹⁰¹See Act of June 28, 1900, sec. 7, 34 Stat. 539, 545 (Osage), which confers on parents of minor members of the tribe the control and use of their lands, together with its proceeds, until the minors reach majority.

¹⁰²Allotments to minor children under sec. 4 of the General Allotment Act, as amended, are made when the parent has settled upon the public lands, is himself entitled to an allotment, and is a recognized member of an Indian tribe or entitled to such recognition according to the tribal laws and usages. 43 L. D. 549 (1907), 40 L. D. 148 (1911), 41 L. D. 626 (1914), 43 L. D. 149 (1915).

¹⁰³An administrative holding that an Indian had reached majority is not conclusive upon a determination of whether a deed of land made by him after the issuance of a patent was subject to a state law permitting disaffirmance of a contract made in infancy. *Duke v. Look Lodge Co.*, 242 U. S. 871 (1917).

¹⁰⁴The rights of minor are discussed in 14 L. D. 418 (1891), 80 L. D. 532, 790 (1901), 45 L. D. 145 (1900), 38 L. D. 422 (1910), and 48 L. D. 122 (1914).

¹⁰⁵The rights of heirs upon death of allottee before expiration of trust period and before revocation of fee simple patent without having made will, are discussed in 40 L. D. 120 (1911). Also see 88 L. D. 422 (1910), 38 L. D. 427 (1910).

¹⁰⁶For violation of sec. 4 of the General Allotment Act, authorizing the allotment of public lands on behalf of minor children where the parent neglected and made his home on public domain, see 40 L. D. 148 (1911), 43 L. D. 123, 128 (1914). This section includes step children and all other children to whom the statute stands in loco parentis, 41 L. D. 649 (1914), 48 L. D. 149 (1914), 41 L. D. 820 (1916), who are recognized members of the tribe or entitled to be recognized. 85 L. D. 549 (1907), but orphan children under 18 are not entitled to benefits. 8 L. D. 647 (1890), no children of parents who are disqualified from benefits. 44 L. D. 138 (1913). For interpretations of other allotment acts affecting minors, see 15 L. D. 287 (1902), 24 L. D. 511 (1897), 40 L. D. 4, 9 (1911), 43 L. D. 125, 140, 504 (1914).

¹⁰⁷This practice has been upheld by the courts. *Henkel v. United States*, 287 U. S. 48 (1915), aff'g 190 Fed. 845 (C. C. A. 9, 1912).

¹⁰⁸On restrictions on alienation, see Chapter 11, sec. 4, on trading, sec. 8 and *Smith v. McLaughlin*, 270 U. S. 455 (1926).

¹⁰⁹The Act of April 18, 1912, sec. 9, 37 Stat. 80, defined "competent" as used therein to "mean a person to whom a certificate has been issued authorizing alienation of all the lands comprising his allotment, except his homestead."

¹¹⁰*Williams v. Johnson*, 239 U. S. 414, 418, 419, (1915). While the Secretary may permit the sale of trust lands, he may retain control

¹⁰⁰See *In re Buchanan's Guardianship*, 145 Neb. 163, 169, 290 N. W. 438, 441 (1898), *In re Mathews*, 174 Cal. 679, 104 Pac. 8 (1917).

¹⁰¹See *Wright v. Kiewit*, 293 U. S. 411 (1935). For full discussion see 200 U. S. 611 (1915).

¹⁰²Act of March 1, 1887, 21 Stat. 140, 141 (Unalutka Reservation).

¹⁰³Treaty of April 28, 1866, with the Cheyennes and Arapahoes, Art. 18, 14 Stat. 769, 775; Treaty of July 1, 1866, with the Delawares, Art. 8, 14 Stat. 770, 774; Act of February 13, 1891, Art. 2, 26 Stat. 749, 750, 751 (See and Post).

¹⁰⁴Act of April 11, 1882, 22 Stat. 12 (Crow); Act of August 7, 1882, sec. 5, 22 Stat. 311, 949 (Omaha); Act of March 2, 1890, sec. 2, 25 Stat. 1012, 1015 (Deeana and Mamies).

¹⁰⁵Act of June 10, 1872, sec. 6, 17 Stat. 381, repealed by Act of March 8, 1936, 47 Stat. 1428.

¹⁰⁶The agents often made selections for orphans, Art. 2 of March 2, 1889, sec. 9, 25 Stat. 888, 891 (Omaha); Act of February 24, 1889, Art. 4, 25 Stat. 887, 888 (Shoshones and Cheyenne).

¹⁰⁷Act of February 22, 1889, Art. 4 of Stat. 897, 25 U. S. C. 14.

¹⁰⁸Treaty of April 28, 1866, with the Cheyennes and Arapahoes, Art. 16, 14 Stat. 769, 770.

¹⁰⁹Act of June 10, 1872, sec. 6, 17 Stat. 381.

¹¹⁰Act of June 10, 1872, sec. 6, 17 Stat. 481. Also see Appropriation Act of July 5, 1892, sec. 6, 12 Stat. 512, 529, R. S. 2108, 27 U. S. C. 159, providing for payment to persons appointed by Indian council to receive money due to incompetent or orphan Indian.

¹¹¹Allotments to minors were sometimes not selected until their majority or marriage, Treaty of June 19, 1868, with the Shosh. Art. 1, 12 Stat. 1081; Treaty of June 19, 1868, with the Shosh. Art. 1, 12 Stat. 1087.

¹¹²Treaty of May 10, 1864, with the Shawnees, Art. 2, 10 Stat. 1078, providing that the selections for incompetents and minor orphans shall be made as near as practical to their friends by some disinterested person appointed by the council and approved by the United States agent. Also see Treaty of January 31, 1855, with the Wyandots, 10 Stat. 1159, Treaty of August 2, 1865, with the Cheyennes, Art. 1, 11 Stat. 838; Act of June 28, 1890, 30 Stat. 405, 513 (Indian Territory); Act of April 11, 1882, 22 Stat. 42 (Crow); Act of August 7, 1882, sec. 6, 22 Stat. 841, 312 (Omaha Tribe). The Act of March 2, 1889, sec. 2, 25 Stat. 1012, 1015 (Deeana and Mamies), empowers the father to make gaming lease not exceeding 8 years for minors, and chiefs, for orphans. No allotment to orphans until 21 or married, Act of February 15, 1891, Art. 8, 23 Stat. 740, 761 (See and Fox Nation and Iowa Tribe). Heads of family choose lands for minor children, but agent chooses lands for orphans and persons of unsound mind, Treaty of November 16, 1861, with the Potowatomies, Art. 2, 12 Stat. 1191, 1192; Treaty of October 15, 1864, with the Cheyennes, Art. 2, 14 Stat. 667, 668; Act of February 8, 1887, 24 Stat. 888.

An Indian may be deemed competent to alienate his land, and then, having become landless, may inherit property in a restricted estate and thus become incompetent again.⁶¹

An administrative building analyzes the material difference between the removal of restrictions against alienation and the issuance of a certificate of competency.⁶²

* * * At times and under given circumstances restrictions against alienation as applied to lands allotted to the Indians, and/or largely of revenues running with the land. Competency, of course, is a personal attribute or equitation. These two, competency and the power to alienate certain lands are not synonymous or even co-existent factors in all cases. Frequently they go hand in hand but not necessarily always so. Congress itself, at times, has lifted restrictions against alienation, in essence, without special regard to the competency of the individual Indian land owners. With respect to the Omegas, as previously shown, under the act of 1900, the issuance of a certificate of competency did not remove the restrictions against alienation of the homestead and under other legislation dealing with these people, the Secretary of the Interior is empowered to lift the restrictions against alienation on part or all of their allotted lands, including the homesteads even in the hands of incompetent members of the tribe, act of March 3, 1900 (35 Stat. 778), act of May 25, 1918 (40 Stat. 557-579). This law again emphasizes the fact that removal of restrictions against alienation is not synonymous with competency, or the right to a certificate of that character. (Pp. 8-9)

(a) *Statutes*—The following provisions of the Act of May 8, 1918,⁶³ illustrates this use of the term

* * * Provided, That the Secretary of the Interior may, in his discretion, and he is hereby authorized, whenever he shall be satisfied that any Indian allottee is competent and capable of managing his or her affairs at any time to cause to be issued to such allottee a patent in fee simple, and thereafter all restrictions as to sale, inheritance, or taxation of said land shall be removed and said land shall not be liable to the satisfaction of any debt contracted prior to the issuing of such patent * * *

The Circuit of Appeals,⁶⁴ in construing this provision, said that the Indian "shall have at least sufficient ability, knowledge, experience, and judgment to enable him to conduct the negotiations for the sale of his land and to care for, manage, invest, and dispose of its proceeds with such a reasonable degree of prudence and wisdom as will be likely to prevent him from losing the benefit of his property or its proceeds."

over the investment of the proceeds. *Sundland v United States*, 200 U. S. 220 (1921), aff'd 287 Fed. 468 (C. C. A. 8, 1928). Also see Chapter 5, see 11.

⁶¹ Indian Land Tenure, Economic Status, and Population Trends, Pt. X, of the Supplementary Report of the Land Planning Committee to the National Resources Board (1936), p. 1.

⁶² Op. Sol. T. D., M. 10180, June 2, 1928.

⁶³ 34 Stat. 182, 188, 25 U. S. C. 340. For regulations regarding this statute see 25 C. F. R. 241.1-241.2.

⁶⁴ *United States v. Debell*, 227 Fed. 760, 770 (C. C. A. 8, 1915).

This case held that the Secretary may not determine such competency by an arbitrary test, such as the Indian's awareness of the effect of his deed in restricted property, saying, " * * * a person might know he was making a deed to his property, and that after he made and delivered the deed he could not regain his property, and yet be utterly incapable of managing his affairs, the sale of his property, or the care or disposition of the proceeds." (P. 770.) Also see *Miller v. United States*, 57 F. 2d 987 (C. C. A. 10, 1932).

The same court, in another case,⁶⁵ said

* * * The chief purpose and main object of the restriction upon alienation is not to prevent the incompetent Indian from selling his land for a price too low, but to prevent him from selling it at all, to the end that he shall be prevented from losing, giving away, or squandering its proceeds and thus be left dependent upon the government or upon charity for his support * * * (P. 770)

Another important act, establishing a somewhat similar concept of incompetency is the Act of March 1, 1907,⁶⁶ which provides:

That any noncompetent Indian to whom a patent containing restrictions against alienation has been issued for an allotment of land in severalty, under any law or treaty, or who may have no interest in any allotment by inheritance, may sell or convey all or any part of such allotment or such inherited interest on such terms and conditions and under such rules and regulations as the Secretary of the Interior may prescribe, and the proceeds derived therefrom shall be used for the benefit of the allottee or here or his disposing of his land or interest, under the supervision of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, * * *

A federal district court⁶⁷ in construing this provision at first treated the term "noncompetent" as equivalent to "incompetent," and as implying the ordinary legal meaning of incompetency "legal incapacity, due to nonage, imbecility, or insanity." Upon reconsideration the court thought such restriction of its meaning was too narrow. It also discussed the provisions of section 1 of the Act of June 25, 1910,⁶⁸ which authorizes the Secretary of the Interior

* * * in his discretion to issue a certificate of competency, upon application therefor, to any Indian, or, in case of his death, to his heirs, to whom a patent in fee containing restrictions on alienation has been or may hereafter be issued, and such certificate shall have the effect of removing the restrictions on alienation contained in such patent. (P. 497)

The court concluded

* * * while as applied to Indians the terms "competency" and "noncompetency" or "incompetency" are used in their ordinary legal sense, there is a presumption, conclusively upon the courts, that until the restriction against alienation is removed in the manner provided by law, either through the lapse of time or the positive action of the Secretary of the Interior, the allottee continues to be an "incompetent" Indian, at least in so far as concerns the land to which the restriction relates. (Pp. 497-498)

Under the 1910 act the determination of competency and the issuance of a patent in fee simple were both conditions precedent to the removal of restrictions on alienation and "the issuance of a patent in fee simple by the Secretary is not mandatory upon him being satisfied that a trust allottee is competent and capable of managing his own affairs."⁶⁹

⁶⁵ *United States v. Debell*, 227 Fed. 770 (C. C. A. 8, 1915).

⁶⁶ 34 Stat. 1015, 1018, 25 U. S. C. 405.

⁶⁷ *United States v. New Price County, Idaho*, 287 Fed. 405, 487 (D. C. Idaho 1917).

⁶⁸ 36 Stat. 855, 25 U. S. C. 872. For regulations regarding certificates of competency see 25 C. F. R. 241.3-241.7.

⁶⁹ *De la Puente*, 59 F. 2d 28, 84 (C. C. A. 7, 1933), cert. den. 306 U. S. 648.

Statutory and administrative distinctions in the determination of competency to donate freely often hinge on the quantum of the Indian blood of the allottee.²⁰

(b) *Treaties*. Many treaties contain peculiar provisions providing for the separation of competent and incompetent In-

dians.²¹ The Treaty of October 18, 1864,²² between the United States and the Chippewas provides that the agent shall divide the Indians who have selected lands into two classes:

Those who are intelligent, and have sufficient education, and are qualified by business habits to prudently manage their affairs, shall be set down as "competent"; and those who are uneducated, or unqualified in other respects to prudently manage their affairs, or who are of idle, wandering, or dissolute habits, and all orphans, shall be set down as "those not so competent."

The United States agreed to issue fee patents to the competent Indians, but the incompetents could not alienate their land without the consent of the Secretary of the Interior.

(2) *Inability to receive or spend funds*. Another special meaning of "incompetency" is inability to control funds, illustrated by the Act of March 2, 1907,²³ which authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to designate any individual Indian belonging to any tribe whom he deems capable of managing his affairs to be appointed his pro rata shares of tribal funds.²⁴

Indian tribes (from Act of June 4, 1920 sec. 12, 41 Stat. 751). For further discussion see Chapter 5, sec. 14, and Chapter 12, sec. 2.

The Circuit Court of Appeals in *Chilly v. Mitchell*, 37 F. 2d 493 (C. C. A. 1920), wrote:

"If Congress was concerned alone with incompetency in fact some intelligent Indians would have been made appointees. For Indians like whites differ in mental status, and some full bloods are actually more competent than other half-bloods." (P. 498.)

Also see *United States v. First National Bank of Detroit*, 284 U. S. 245 (1931).

²⁰ Treaty of May 21, 1834 with the Chickasaws, Art. 4, 7 Stat. 460; Treaty of January 31, 1865, with the Wardelets, Art. 2, 10 Stat. 1159; Interoptic in 11 Op. A. 107 (1865); Treaty of October 18, 1864, with the Chippewas, Art. 4, 14 Stat. 697; U.S. Treaties providing for restrictions on allotment: Treaty of July 10, 1859, with the Swan Creek and Black River Chippewas; and the Amargos or Christian Indians, 12 Stat. 1161; Treaty of October 7, 1879, with the Klamath Tribe, Art. 8, 12 Stat. 1131; 1132; Treaty of February 18, 1861, with the Arapahoes and Cheyenne Indians, Art. 1, 12 Stat. 1168, 1164.

²¹ 14 Stat. 687, 698.

²² 31 Stat. 1221.

²³ Another use of the term is to describe the legal incompetency of an Indian to expend his money. See Chapter 24, sec. 112. *See ante* *Peru*, 99 F. 2d 28, 14 (C. C. A. 7, 1939), cert. den. 800 U. S. 648. Also see *Davis v. Jones*, 60 F. 2d 241 (App. D. C. 1934); *Barrett v. United States*, 82 F. 2d 765 (C. C. A. 9, 1936), cert. den. 299 U. S. 740, rehearing den. 299 U. S. 630.

SECTION 9. THE MEANINGS OF "WARDSHIP"

The relationship of guardian and ward, at common law, is a relation under which, typically, the guardian (a) has custody of the ward's person and can decide where the ward is to reside, (b) is required to educate and maintain the ward, out of the ward's estate, (c) is authorized to manage the ward's property, for the benefit of the ward, (d) is precluded from profiting at the expense of the ward's estate, or acquiring any interest therein, (e) is responsible to the courts and to the ward, at such time as the ward may become *sui juris*, for an accounting with respect to the conduct of the guardianship.²⁵

It is clear that this relationship does not exist between the United States and the Indians, although there are important similarities and suggestive parallels between the two relationships. The relationship of the United States to the Indian tribes and their members, is analyzed in many other sections and chapters of this work, and it would be futile to treat under

the heading of "wardship" the many aspects of that relation which are analyzed elsewhere under more precise topical headings. Rather we shall attempt in the present section to clarify and separate the various questions that have frequently been fused or confused under the term "wardship."

The term "ward" has been applied to Indians in many different senses and the failure to distinguish among those different senses is responsible for a considerable amount of confusion. Today a careful draftsman of statute will not use the term "ward Indian" or, if he uses the term at all, will expressly define it for the purposes of the statute. The fact remains, however, that the term "ward Indian" has been used in several statutes.²⁶

²⁵ 1 Schouler, *Maintenance, Divorce, Separation, and Domestic Relations* (6th ed., 1921), pt. IV.

²⁶ See, for example, Act of June 15, 1908, sec. 1, 32 Stat. 698, 28 U. S. C. 241, amending R. S. sec. 2189; Act of May 27, 1908, 38 Stat. 119, 1910 (Amended Treaty). The Act of February 25, 1908, 47 Stat. 697, 26 U. S. C. 14, refers to Indians "who are recognized wards of the Federal Government," and the Act of February 14, 1920, 41 Stat. 408, 410, 25 U. S. C. 282, refers to "Indian children who are wards of the Government."

a few treaties,²⁷ and many judicial opinions.²⁸ It may help us to avoid some of the fallacies that result from a shuffling of the different meanings of the term "wardship" to convey these various meanings. We shall find at least 10 distinct connotations of the term in various contexts.²⁹

A. WARDS AS DOMESTIC DEPENDENT NATIONS

Like so many other concepts in Indian law, the idea of "wardship" appears to have been first utilized by Chief Justice Marshall.³⁰ In fairness to the great Chief Justice, however, it must be said that he used the term with more respect for its accepted legal significance than some of his successors have shown. He did not apply the term "ward" to individual Indians; he applied the term to Indian tribes. He did not say that Indian tribes were wards of the Government but only that the relation to the United States of the Indian tribes within its territorial limits, resembles that of a ward to his guardian.³¹ The Chief Justice hesitated to explain this sentence by offering a list of particulars (pp. 17-18):

They look to our government for protection, rely upon its kindness and its power, appeal to it for relief in their wants; and address the president as their great father. They and their country are considered by foreign nations, as well as by ourselves, as being so completely under the sovereignty and dominion of the United States, that any attempt to acquire their lands, or to form a political connection with them, would be considered by all as an invasion of our territory and an act of hostility.

The court went on to say (p. 18):

These considerations so far to support the opinion, that the framers of our constitution had not the Indian tribes in view, when they opened the courts to the Union to controversies between a state or the citizens thereof and foreign states.

The question in the case was whether the Supreme Court had jurisdiction to entertain a suit by the Cherokee Nation against the State of Georgia under that provision of the Constitution (Art. III, sec. 2) which provides for the extension of the federal judicial power "to controversies . . . between a State . . . and foreign States . . ." To that question the following answer was given.

The Court has bestowed its best attention on this question, and, after mature deliberation, the majority is of opinion, that an Indian tribe or nation within the United States is not a foreign state, in the sense of the constitution, and cannot maintain an action in the courts of the United States (p. 20.)

²⁷ Art. 10 of the Treaty of April 1, 1850, with the Waputite, 9 Stat. 987, which provides that "persons adjudged to be incompetent to take care of their property . . . shall become the wards of the United States . . ."

²⁸ When the courts have described specific tribes of Indians as wards see *Oregon v. Hitchcock*, 202 U. S. 60, 70 (1906) (Klamath), *Id. post* Webb, 225 U. S. 683, 684 (1912) (Five Civilized Tribes), *Jaffette v. United States*, 351 U. S. 570, 575 (1957) (Ojawa), *Johnson v. M'Intosh* v. *Warr*, 271 U. S. 600, 612 (1926) (Quapaw), *United States v. Quindici*, 271 U. S. 482, 443 (1926) (Pueblo), *Brink-Americo Co. v. Board*, 260 U. S. 159, 160 (1923) (Blackfoot).

²⁹ The number of ways in which these 10 meanings can be combined is two to the tenth power minus one, that is to say, 1,023. It would be obviously impossible to analyze all of these combinations within the confines of this work.

³⁰ Analogies to the common law concept of wardship may be found in the early Spanish and French recognition that the Indians were not able to deal with the whites on an equal footing and required special governmental protection. See *Cherokee v. Holley*, 16 How. 303 (1853). Also see *United States v. Gordon*, 160 Fed. 452 (C. C. A. 8, 1911), for a theory of the origin of guardianship.

³¹ *Cherokee Nation v. Georgia*, 5 Pet. 1, 17, 28, 20 (1831).

Thus in its original and most precise signification the term "ward" was applied (a) to tribes rather than to individuals, (b) as a suggestive analogy rather than as an exact description, and (c) to distinguish an Indian tribe from a foreign state.

It should be noted that the basis upon which the Supreme Court applied the concept of wardship was the acceptance of that status, in effect, by the Indian tribes themselves. "They look to our government for protection . . ." For many years after the decision in *Cherokee Nation v. Georgia*, the Indian tribes continued to emphasize, in their treaties with the United States, their dependence upon the protection of the Federal Government.³²

B. WARDS AS TRIBES SUBJECT TO CONGRESSIONAL POWER

If a natural extension of the term, "wardship" came to be commonly used to connote the submission of Indian tribes to congressional legislation. The power of Congress to legislate in matters affecting the Indian tribes was expressly recognized by the tribes themselves in many early treaties.³³ Thus, quite apart from the specific power given by the Constitution to Congress to regulate commerce with the Indian tribes, there came to be recognized, as an outgrowth of the federal treaty-making power and the power of Congress to legislate for the execution of treaties, a broad and vaguely defined congressional power over Indian affairs.³⁴ By virtue of this power, congressional legislation that would have been unconstitutional if applied to non-Indians was held to be constitutional when limited in its application to Indians. In this sense, "wardship" was still a concept applicable primarily to the Indian tribe, rather than to the individual members thereof, since it was the tribe as such that entered into treaties. As with the original meaning of the term "wardship," the justification of the result reached, in this case the extension of congressional power, was found in a course of action to which the Indian tribes themselves had expressly consented.

The effective meaning of the term "wardship," in the sense of special subjection to congressional power, is to be found entirely in the realm of constitutional law. The extent of this constitutional power is a matter dealt with in other chapters. For the present it is enough to note that this power is utilized in two general ways (1) as a justification for congressional legislation in matters ordinarily within the exclusive control of the states,³⁵ and (2) as a justification for federal legislation which would be considered "confiscatory" if applied to non-Indians.³⁶

In upholding the power of Congress to confer jurisdiction upon the federal courts over certain crimes committed on Indian reservations within a state, the Supreme Court of the United States said, . . .³⁷

. . . 4 These Indian tribes are the wards of the nation. They are communities dependent on the United States. Dependent largely for their daily food. Dependent for their political rights. They owe no allegiance to the States, and receive from them no protection. Because of the local ill feeling, the people of the States where they are found are often their deadliest enemies. From their

³² See Chapter 3, sec. 3B(1).

³³ See Chapter 3, sec. 3B(4) and Chapter 5, sec. 2.

³⁴ See Chapter 5, sec. 2.

³⁵ See Chapters 3 and 6.

³⁶ See Chapter 5, sec. 1.

³⁷ *United States v. Kagano*, 119 U. S. 875 (1886), also see *United States v. McRatney*, 104 U. S. 621 (1881). See Introduction, footnote 22.

their weakness and helplessness, so largely due to the course of dealing of the Federal Government with them, and the desire in which it has been pronounced, there arises the duty of protection and with it the power. This has always been recognized by the Executive and by Congress, and by this Court, whenever the question has arisen (Pp. 383-384.)

Though State courts have justified the regulation of Indian tribes by the doctrine of state wardship,¹¹ it is settled that federal guardianship does not terminate with the admission of a State into the Union.¹² Although the power ascribed to wardship is not unlimited and is subject to constitutional restrictions,¹³ the practical significance of the wardship concept in these cases is to justify certain types of legislation that would otherwise be held unconstitutional. There is thus not only an important difference but indeed a striking contrast between the use of the wardship concept in relation to Indian tribes and the use of the concept in private law. In private law, a guardian is subject to rigid court control in the administration of the ward's affairs and property. In constitutional law the guardianship relation has generally been invoked as a reason for *claiming* court control over the action of the "guardian."¹⁴

C WARDS AS INDIVIDUALS SUBJECT TO CONGRESSIONAL POWER

When Congress legislates with reference to tribal rights and duties it necessarily affects, indirectly, the rights and duties of the individual members of the tribes. Thus the courts, in holding that Congress had extraordinary powers over Indian tribes as "wards," were indirectly holding that Congress had extensive powers in dealing with the members of such tribes in matters affecting their tribal relations. The courts soon made this logical implication explicit and came to apply the term "ward" to individual Indians, signifying the susceptibility of individual Indians to an extraordinary measure of congressional control in matters affecting their tribal relations.¹⁵

¹¹ For a case holding that the New York Indians are under the wardship of New York State, see *Georgia v. Pierce*, 89 Me 105, 148 N. Y. Supp. 330 (1914). Also see *John v. Salasita*, 60 Me 478 (1870).

¹² The wandering and improvident habits of the remnants of Indian tribes within our borders led our Legislature at an early period to make them, in substance, the wards of the State, and especially to take the control and regulate the tenure of their lands. (P. 478.)

and *John v. Frazer*, 32 Me 313 (1850), and on other grounds, 65 U. S. 567 (1852).

By the agreed statement it appears, that the Penobscot tribe of Indians "elents" have been and now are under the jurisdiction and guardianship of the State." This tribe cannot, therefore, be one of those referred to in the constitution of the United States. (P. 468.)

Also see Minnesota Laws, 1925, chapter 291, p. 805, 13 Yale L. J. (1904) 226; Hiler, *The Position of the American Indian in the Law of the United States*, 16 J. Comp. Leg. (1914), pp. 78-80 and memorandum filed by the Attorney General of the United States in *United States v. Hamilton*, 238 Fed. 685, 686-690 (D. C. W. D. N. Y. 1916).

¹³ *United States v. Ramsey*, 71 U. S. 407 (1822), *Surplus Trading Co. v. Cook*, 218 U. S. 617, 651 (1910).

¹⁴ *Choate v. Trapp*, 224 U. S. 605 (1912). Also see Chapter 5 sec. 1.

¹⁵ Consider the significance of the word "although" in the following sentence, referring to the Five Civilized Tribes, taken from the opinion of the Supreme Court in *Ex parte Webb*, 225 U. S. 658 (1912): "Although those tribes had long been treated more liberally than other Indians, they remained none the less, wards of the Government, and in all respects subject to its control." (P. 664.)

¹⁶ In *Ill. v. Wabash*, 115 U. S. 94, 100 (1884), the Court said:

"But the question whether any Indian tribes, or any members thereof, have become so far advanced in civilization, that they should be let out of a state of tutelage, is a question to be decided by the nation whose wards they are."

6 Op. A. G. 58, 40 (1848).

"The government deals directly not only with the tribe, but with the individuals of the tribe. It exercises a parental or

The use of the concept of wardship to justify a very broad exercise of power is also exemplified by judicial attitudes to the effect that state control is superseded because of federal wardship.¹⁶

D WARDS AS SUBJECTS OF FEDERAL COURT JURISDICTION

The term "wards of the United States" has been applied to Indians in still a fourth sense, as equivalent to the phrase "subject to the jurisdiction of the federal courts."¹⁷ Certain federal laws are, in terms, applicable only to Indians. By such laws, and by treaties, Indians have been subjected to federal court jurisdiction in many realms where non-Indians are amenable only to courts of the states. It would be foolish to quarrel with this use of the term "wardship" to express a jurisdictional relationship, but it is important to recognize that "wardship" in this sense has no necessary connection with the other senses of the term that have been examined. A group of individuals, whether identified by race or in any other manner, may be subjected to a particular set of laws administered by federal courts, and in this sense they might be considered "wards of the Federal Government." This might be the case even though the extent of constitutional power vested in Congress over the group in question were no greater than the extent of the power which Congress could exercise, but has not exercised, over other groups. Thus the fact that certain individuals are "wards" in the jurisdictional sense does not mean that they must be "wards" in the constitutional sense. Conversely, individuals may be "wards" in the constitutional sense, and yet if Congress has not actually exercised its powers over that group but has allowed them to be dealt with by the states, the individuals concerned would not be "wards" in the sense of "subjects of federal jurisdiction."

E WARDS AS SUBJECTS OF ADMINISTRATIVE POWER

Still another distinct sense of the term "wardship" involves the concept of administrative power. To say that the United States has certain extraordinary powers over Indians is to say that the President and the Senate, by treaty, and that Congress, by statute, may exercise certain extraordinary powers over the Indians, powers which could not constitutionally be exercised over non-Indians generally, and it is to say that courts and administrators may thereupon enforce such measures. It is, however, another thing entirely to say that administrators, in the absence of such laws or treaty provisions, may in their wisdom govern Indians by issuing and enforcing administrative regulations. There is, therefore, an important distinction between the concept of an Indian tribe or an individual Indian as a "ward of the United States" and the concept of an Indian tribe or individual as a "ward of the Interior Department." To identify these concepts is to identify the United States with a particular branch of its government and to assume that the powers of the Interior Department over the Indians, in the absence of treaty or statutory authorization, are as broad as the powers of Congress. The error of this assumption is ob-

wardship authority over them as a dependent people, in a state of pupage."

See also *United States v. Pelcan*, 282 U. S. 442 (1914), 19 Op. A. G. 161, 163 (1888).

¹⁷ *United States v. Kagama*, 118 U. S. 875, 383 (1886), *Ward v. Love County*, 253 U. S. 17 (1920), but see *United States ex rel. Kennedy v. Tyler*, 209 U. S. 18 (1925). On the sharp difference of opinion among Indians on the question of termination of guardianship see Melvin, *op. cit.* pp. 100, 107.

¹⁸ See *United States v. Thomas*, 151 U. S. 577, 588 (1894), and see Chapters 5, 6, 18 and 19.

visions and the implications of this error have elsewhere been analyzed.⁹⁶

F. WARDS AS BENEFICIARIES OF A TRUST

The term "ward" has sometimes been loosely used as a synonym for "beneficiary of a trust" or "cestui que trust." Thus when land is held by the United States in trust for an Indian tribe or in trust for an individual or group of individuals, it is sometimes said that this creates a wardship relationship by virtue of which Indians are unable to alienate the land. The fallacy of this method of argument is shown by the fact that even where no trust relationship is found, and the land of an Indian tribe is vested in fee simple in the tribe itself, the land is nevertheless inalienable (except in certain special cases) by virtue of general federal legislation.⁹⁷ There is thus no practical justification for the use of the term "ward" as synonymous with "cestui que trust." Obviously property, real or personal, may be held in trust for a perfectly competent individual who is nobody's ward, and on the other hand perfect title to land or any other property may be vested in a lunatic or a minor whose every act is subject to a guardian's physical and legal control.

G. WARDS AS NONCITIZENS

Occasionally the term "ward Indian" has been used as synonymous with "alien Indian." This appears to be the case, for instance in the following sentence from the opinion of the Supreme Court (*per* Harlan, J.) in the case of *United States v. Rickett*:⁹⁸

* * * It is for the legislative branch of the Government to say when these Indians shall cease to be dependent and assume the responsibilities attaching to citizenship.

The frequent confusion regarding the supposed incompatibility of the terms "wardship" and "citizenship" has already been discussed in this chapter. It has been seen that the extent of congressional power over Indians is not diminished by the grant of citizenship. As was said by the United States Supreme Court in *United States v. Walker*:⁹⁹

* * * The tribal Indians are wards of the Government, and as such under its guardianship. It rests with

Congress to determine the time and extent of emancipation. Confering citizenship is not inconsistent with the continuation of such guardianship, for it has been held that even after the Indians have been made citizens the relation of guardian and ward for some purposes may continue. On the other hand, Congress may relieve the Indians from such guardianship and control, in whole or in part, and may, if it sees fit, clothe them with full rights and responsibilities concerning their property or give to them a partial emancipation if it thinks that course better for their protection. *United States v. Nee*, 243 U. S. 391, 398, and cases cited. (Pp. 439-400.) [Italics added.]

H. WARSHIP AND RESTRAINTS ON ALIENATION

The term "ward" has sometimes been applied to an Indian allottee who holds land subject to restraints upon alienation. According to this usage, when the Indian has received a fee patent, or has been adjudged "competent" to manage his own affairs and his property has been released from the protection of the Federal Government, he ceases to be a "ward." The distinction between this use of the term "ward" and the constitutional sense of the term discussed above becomes apparent in the situation in which Congress imposes a restriction on alienation which has already expired. The individual allottee ceased to be a "ward" in the sense that he was freed from restrictions upon alienation, but the courts say that Congress can reimpose those restrictions because the Indian is a "ward" of the Federal Government.¹⁰⁰ It is obvious that in this situation the term "wardship" is being used in two distinct senses.

I. WARSHIP AND INEQUALITY OF BARGAINING POWER

Dubious clauses in treaties or agreements between the United States and Indian tribes have often been resolved by the courts in a nontechnical way, as the Indians would have understood the language and in their favor. The Supreme Court of the United States stated, *per* Justice Matthews, in the case of *Cherokee Nation v. United States*:¹⁰¹

The recognized relation between the parties to this controversy, therefore, is that between a superior and an inferior, whereby the latter is placed under the care and control of the former, and which, while it authorizes the adoption on the part of the United States of such policy as their own public interests may dictate, recognizes, on the other hand, such an interpretation of their acts and promises as justice and reason demand in all cases where power is exerted by the strong over those to whom they owe care and protection. (P. 28.)

The principle of construction in favor of the Indians is also applicable to congressional statutes.¹⁰²

⁹⁶ See Chapter 5, sec. 8. Cf. comment of court in *Ex parte Blaisdell*, 100 Pac. 450 (11th 1909).

Indians are not wards of the executive officers, but wards of the United States, acting through executive officers, it is true, but exercising its sovereignty will by legislation. (P. 451.)

⁹⁷ See Chapter 15, sec. 181; Chapter 20, sec. 7.

⁹⁸ 188 U. S. 452, 446 (1903).

⁹⁹ 243 U. S. 452, 460-60 (1917). In *United States v. Nee*, 241 U. S. 391 (1916), the court said:

Of course, where the Indians are prepared to exercise the privileges and bear the burdens of *ex se jure*, the tribal relation may be dissolved and the national guardianship brought to an end, but it rests with Congress to determine when and how this shall be done, and whether the emancipation shall at first be complete or only partial. Citizenship is not incompatible with tribal existence or continued guardianship, and so may be conferred without completely emancipating the Indians or placing them beyond the reach of congressional legislation adopted for their protection. (P. 608.)

Congress has the exclusive power to determine when guardianship shall terminate. *Tiger v. Western Investment Co.*, 221 U. S. 286, 315 (1911). Accord *Wapiti Trading Co. v. Cook*, 281 U. S. 647, 661 (1930); *Denny County, N. D. v. United States*, 29 F. 2d 494 (C. C. A. 8, 1929), *aff'd* *sub nom. United States v. Denny County*, N. D., 14 F. 2d 794 (D. C. Dak. 1926), cert. den. 278 U. S. 640 (1928); *Katahdin v. United States*, 225 Fed. 523 (C. C. A. T. 1915); *Lone Wolf v. Hitchcock*, 187 U. S. 568 (1903). Also see Chapter 5.

¹⁰⁰ *Ex parte Blaisdell*, 100 Pac. 450, 458 (1916); *Tiger v. Western Investment Co.*, 221 U. S. 286 (1911).

¹⁰¹ 130 U. S. 1 (1889), *rev'd* 21 C. Cl. 60 (1880). Also see Chapter 8, sec. 2, *United States v. Seelye Bros. Co.*, 249 U. S. 104 (1919), *aff'd* *sub nom. United States v. Seelye Bros. Co.*, 228 Fed. 979 (D. C. Ore. 1915). * * * There is no rule that the language of Congressional statutes giving rise to a controversy between the Indians and the states should likewise be construed in favor of the Indians. (Brown, *The Taxation of Indian Property* (1931), 15 Minn. L. Rev. pp. 182, 185, referring to *Gandy v. Marsh*, 308 U. S. 146 (1935).) Justice Brandeis, the Attorney General, referred to the judicial "inclination to invoke technical rules of law to the prejudice of Indian tribes or members thereof." * * * 84 Op. A. G. 802, 804 (1924).

¹⁰² Legislation of Congress is to be construed in the interest of the Indian. *United States v. Celestine*, 215 U. S. 278, 290 (1900). *Rod*

The Supreme Court has said:⁴²

But in the Government's dealings with the Indians the rule is exactly the contrary. The construction, instead of being strict, is liberal, doubtful expressions, instead of being resolved in favor of the United States, are to be resolved in favor of a weak and defenseless people, who are wards of the nation, and dependent wholly upon its protection and good faith. This rule of construction has been recognized, without exception, in more than a limited class and has been applied in tax cases. (P. 675.)

The theory also helps to explain the rule of statutory construction, often cited but not always followed, that general acts of Congress do not apply to Indians, if their application

Ind. v. United States, 201 U. S. 76 (1906), 8 Op. U. S. 419, 134 (1927); *United States v. First National Bank*, 211 U. S. 217 (1911), 28 P. 209, Fed. 965 (C. C. A. 8, 1911), excludes from this rule statutes having none of the features of an internal revenue law. This decision is cited by R. C. Brown, *The Taxation of Indian Property* (1911) 16 Minn. L. Rev. pp. 173, 186, in 17. It is also a settled rule, the Supreme Court has said, that a treaty between the United States and the Indians is to be construed most favorably to the latter. *Cherokee Indian Matter Cases*, 203 U. S. 76, 94 (1906).

Cherokee Tobacco, 224 U. S. 655 (1912), quoted with approval in *Blackbird's Conversion of Indian Rights*, 38 P. 2d 878 (C. C. A. 3d, 1912). Accord, *Johnson v. United States*, 221 U. S. 570 (1912). *Whitely v. Richardson*, *Treasurer of Tulsa County, Oklahoma*, 221 U. S. 680 (1912).

SECTION 10. CIVIL LIBERTIES

The term "civil liberties" has been used in many senses. In this chapter we shall use the term to cover those immunities from governmental interference which are enjoyed by individuals and which are not derived from the ownership of property. The category of "civil liberties" thus defined includes certain subjects which are elsewhere treated in this chapter, such as the rights of citizenship, the right to vote, the right to sue, the right to contract, and the right to hold public office. These rights, of course, are fundamental in the field of civil liberties. There are other rights, however, which are of great importance.

The civil liberties of the Indian are, generally speaking, those liberties which have been conferred constitutionally or otherwise upon all citizens of the United States.⁴³ The legal problems arising in the defense of Indian civil liberties, however, differ fundamentally from those problems which arise in the defense of the civil liberties of other groups. This is because immunities upon civil liberties are byproducts of Government action and the action of the federal and state governments with respect to Indians constitutes a special, and in many ways peculiar, body of law and administration. In this mass of special legislation and special administration we find a number of civil liberties problems that have not arisen elsewhere in American law.

The principle of government protection of the Indians runs through the course of federal legislation and administration. The line of distinction between protection and oppression is often difficult to draw. What may seem to administrative offi-

cialists and even to Congress to be a wise measure to protect the Indian against supposed infamities of his own character, may seem to the Indian concerned a piece of presumption and intolerable interference with personal individual rights. These differences in appraising a given measure of government legislation are natural where differences in standards of value exist. In the interaction between two groups with divergent histories, traditions, and ways of life, such differences of value standards are common. They must be continually reckoned with by one who seeks to understand divergent viewpoints in the field of Indian civil liberties.

A. DISCRIMINATION

(1) Discriminatory state laws.—One set of problems in the field of Indian civil liberties arises out of discriminatory state statutes and state constitutional provisions. Laws and constitutional provisions which deprive Indians of their privileges of voting,⁴⁴ serving on a jury,⁴⁵ or testifying in a lawsuit⁴⁶ have already been discussed.

Some states enacted a series of discriminatory and oppressive laws against the Indians. After discussing some of the flagrant laws of this type passed by the early legislature of California,⁴⁷ Mr. Goodrich concludes:

* * * Enough has been said to indicate what the legal status of the Indian was in the California of the fifties and sixties, without touching upon the treatment meted to him outside the law. The legislation affecting him reflects the pioneer spirit, one of those necessary virtues is in the sense toward any element, human or other, which may be thought to endanger the new community. The swift economic development of California was bought at

⁴² *See* *the High Court*, 11 Fed. 127 (C. C. Alaska, 1880), holding that, despite custom, slaveryholding was illegal after the passage of the Thirteenth Amendment. *In re Anderson v. West*, *Yukon*, 100 U. S. 303, 306 (1879), the Supreme Court of the United States said that the colored race was entitled to all "the civil rights that the superior law enjoy." The court held in *Yick Wo v. Hopkins*, 118 U. S. 359 (1886), that the extension of protection of the Fourteenth Amendment to all persons within the territorial jurisdiction of the United States, without regard to differences of race, color, or nationality, and that a statute, though impartial on its face, was unconstitutional if "applied" and administered with an evil eye and an unequal hand so as practically to make unjust and illegal discrimination between persons in similar circumstances" (p. 374).

⁴³ *See* *sec. 2, supra*.

⁴⁴ *See* *sec. 2, supra*.

⁴⁵ *See* *sec. 6, supra*.

⁴⁶ Goodrich, *The Legal Status of the California Indian* (1928), 14 *Calif. L. Rev.* pp. 68, 91-94, also see pp. 157, 170-176.

a certain cost of human values. It was the Indian who paid the price.⁴² (P 194)

Although laws of this type are less frequently passed today than in the early state history, some have never been repealed.⁴³

A more recent picture of discrimination is given in the case of *United States v. Wright*,⁴⁴ dealing with the Eastern Cherokees.

"... the State of North Carolina has afforded them few of the privileges of citizenship. It has not included them schools, and forbids their attendance upon schools maintained for the white and colored people of the State. It will not receive their unfortunate inmates or their dumb, dumb or blind in State institutions. It makes no provision for their instruction in the arts of agriculture or for the care of their sick or destitute. It supervises their lands, but until comparatively recent years these were maintained by their own labor. Politically they have been subject to the law of the State, but economically they have been outside of the Federal Government and acted for as such under the provisions of its laws. (Pp 304-305)

(2) **Discriminatory federal laws.**—During much of the history of the United States, the original occupants of the continent were imprisoned on reservations.⁴⁵ As late as May 8, 1800, Congress provided that the Spokane Falls and Northern Railway Co. should prohibit the riding by the Indians of the Colville Indian Reservation upon any of its trains unless they were provided with passes signed by the Indian agent.⁴⁶

The statute admitting Utah to statehood⁴⁷ illustrates a comprehensive form of discrimination:

The constitution shall be republican in form, and make no distinction in civil or political rights on account of race or color, except as to Indians not taxed, and not to be equivalent to the Constitution of the United States and the principles of the Declaration of Independence.

Early laws, only recently repealed by the Act of May 21, 1864,⁴⁸ hampered freedom of speech, empowered the Commis-

⁴² Schmeckelner in *The Office of Indian Affairs, Its History, Activities, and Organization* (1927), writes

"... public opinion on the frontier justified practically any action taken by settlers against the Indians, regardless of law or equity." (P 28)

The Government was powerless to prevent violation of treaty stipulations by the whites, *ibid.*, p. 62. Also see *United States v. Kagame*, 118 U. S. 813 (1886), and 19 Op. A. G. 111 (1890). The present attitude towards the Indian is described as follows:

In the generation that has passed "... the white neighbors have ceased to be deadly enemies in the physical sense, but in too many places they are deadly enough as regards the Indian's property. They do not hate that all communists share the Indian are indifferent to his welfare, but it is an unfortunate fact that the Indian is too often regarded as legitimate prey and that public opinion is indifferent to the wrongs perpetrated upon him." (Schmeckelner *op. cit.* p. 11)

Also see 9 Op. A. G. 110, 111 (1867).

⁴³ Considerable discrimination still exists against Indians in several states. Rice, *The Position of the American Indian in the Law of the United States* (1934), 10 J. Comp. Leg. 78, 79.

⁴⁴ 53 F. 2d 800 (C. C. 1, 1931).

⁴⁵ Kinney, *A Continual Loss—A Civilization Won* (1897), pp. 108-170, 202, 203, 211, 314.

⁴⁶ See, e. g., 20 Stat. 102, 103. A series of treaties in 1865 restricted the freedom of the Indians to leave the reservation without the written consent of the agent or superintendent. Treaty of August 12, 1865, with the Snake, Art. 14 Stat. 658; Treaty of October 14, 1865, with the Cheyenne and Arapahoe, Art. 2, 14 Stat. 703, 704; Treaty of October 18, 1865, with the Comanche and Kiowa, Art. 2, 14 Stat. 717, 718.

⁴⁷ Act of July 10, 1894, sec. 8, 28 Stat. 107, 108. A similar provision is found in the act providing for the drainage of Dakota into two states and enabling the people of North Dakota, South Dakota, Montana, and Washington to form constitutions and state governments; Act of February 22, 1889, sec. 4, 25 Stat. 676.

⁴⁸ 48 Stat. 787, repealing sec. 171-173, 186, 210-226 of title 25 of U. S. C. Some of these provisions are interpreted in 18 Op. A. G. 855 (1887).

sioner of Indian Affairs to remove from an Indian reservation "delinquent" persons, and sanctioned various measures of military control within the boundaries of the reservations.

A summary of these repeated laws conveys an excellent insight into early congressional disregard of the civil liberties of Indians.

Sections 171, 172, and 173 of the United States Code were derived from the Trade and Intercourse Act.⁴⁹ They prohibited the sending or carrying of seditious messages to Indians and correspondence with foreign nations to excite Indians to war.⁵⁰ Like many other archaic espionage laws, they were broad, ambiguous, and liable to be applied to situations beyond the contemplation of the Congress,⁵¹ as when the Federal Government arrested an individual who conferred with the San Juan Pueblo in order to join in opposing a Government engineering project in the Pueblo.⁵²

Section 219⁵³ required foreigners⁵⁴ entering the Indian country to secure a passport from the Department of the Interior in office of the United States commanding the nearest military post on the frontier.

Section 220⁵⁵ empowered the superintendent of Indian affairs and the Indian agents and subagents to remove persons illegally in the Indian country and authorized the President to direct the military force to be employed in such removal.

Section 221⁵⁶ provided that a person returning after removal from the Indian country would be liable to a penalty of \$1,000.

Section 222 authorized the Commissioner of Indian Affairs with the approval of the Secretary of the Interior to remove any person from a reservation whose presence in his judgment may be "detrimental to the peace and welfare of the Indians."⁵⁷

In an opinion of the Solicitor of the Department of the Interior discussing this section, it was said:

"... The power of removal under this section has been held to cover not only collectors, but even an alderman of an incorporated town in a Territory. The alderman in that case was not a State official, since the reservation was not then included within a State, but the decision would be equally applicable if he were. *Ex parte Curtis* (1903, 70 S. W. 102, 4 I. T. 531). The question of whether the presence of any person in Indian country is detrimental to the welfare of the Indians is one for the Commissioner of Indian Affairs and the Secretary of the Interior, and the courts will not review their decision. *United States v. Nishinore* (1870, Fed. Cas. No. 10,413, D. C. New York). See *United States v. Mullin* (1865, 71 Fed. 622, 624, D. C. Neb.)."

The Attorney General held that the Commissioner and his agents have full discretion to remove from an Indian reservation any person out of the tribe entitled to remain thereon, and that they could not be interfered with by mandamus or injunction of any court.⁵⁸

⁴⁹ Act of June 30, 1834, 4 Stat. 720, 731. See Chapter 4, sec. 3, 6.

⁵⁰ A similar law, Act of January 17, 1800 2 Stat. 6, expired by its terms (see 5) on March 8, 1802.

⁵¹ See *Ex re Leah-Pue-Ka-Hoe*, 98 Fed. 429, 433 (D. C. N. D. Iowa, 1898).

⁵² American Indian Life, Bull. No. 10, American Indian Defense Association, Inc. (1889), pp. 35-36.

⁵³ Derived from sec. 6 of the Act of June 30, 1834, s. 101, 4 Stat. 720, 730, R. S. § 2184. See Chapter 4, sec. 6.

⁵⁴ For the interpretation of "foreigner" see 18 Op. A. G. 555 (1887).

⁵⁵ Derived from sec. 10 of the Act of June 30, 1834, s. 101, 4 Stat. 720, 730, R. S. § 2147. See Chapter 4, sec. 6.

⁵⁶ Derived from sec. 2 of the Act of August 18, 1868, s. 125, 11 Stat. 65, 80, R. S. § 2148.

⁵⁷ Derived from sec. 2 of the Act of June 12, 1888, s. 168, 11 Stat. 329, 332, R. S. § 2149. See Chapter 4, sec. 8.

⁵⁸ Op. Sol. T. D. M.L. 7487, July 20, 1888. Also see *Rainbow v. Young*, 151 Fed. 385 (C. C. A. 8, 1905).

⁵⁹ 20 Op. A. G. 245 (1891).

Sections 223-224-225 empowered the President to employ military forces for the enforcement of various laws and in the arrest of absconding Indians.¹⁸¹

Section 226 authorized the marshal in executing process in Indian country to employ a posse comitatus, not exceeding three persons in any of the states respectively, to assist in executing process by arresting and bringing in persons from the Indian country.¹⁸²

(8) **Oppressive federal administrative action**—Administrative oppression has often mingled on the civil liberties of Indians. The oppression depended upon two main factors: (a) The great concentration of power in administrative officials, (b) the practice of confining Indian tribes on reservations. Both of these conditions were described by the "Committee of Clauses in the case of *Cherokee v. United States*," involving Indians of the Cherokee Reservation.

These Indians, indeed, in 1878 occupied an anomalous position, unknown to the common or the civil law or to any system of municipal law. They were neither citizens nor aliens, they were neither free persons nor slaves, they were the wards of the nation, and yet, on a reservation under a military guard, were little else than prisoners of war while war did not exist. Their Kins and their daughters could be invited guests at the table of officers and gentlemen, behaving with dignity and propriety, and yet could be confined for life on a reservation which was to them little better than a dungeon, on the mere order of an executive officer.

(c) **Concentration of administrative power**—"All persons living in civilized society are subjected to the orders of many public officials and employees, including policemen, tax collectors, judges, and administrative boards, and numerous private agencies and individuals, such as employers, creditors, utility companies, and landlords. Up to a few years ago the 200,000 reservation Indians were subjected to perhaps the greatest concentration of administrative absolutism in our governmental structure. At that time the Indian Bureau, represented by the superintendent, combined, for these Indians, the functions of an employer, inquisitor, policeman, judge, physician, banker, teacher, relief administrator, and employment agency. According to the report of the Bureau of Municipal Research, "the Indian superintendent is a man within the territorial jurisdiction conferred for him. He is ex-officio both grand and final. In both of these capacities he acts while deciding what is needed for the Indian and while disregarding funds."¹⁸³

As early as 1834 the great power of Indian agents was commented upon by the House Committee of Indian Affairs in a report¹⁸⁴ which stated:

The tribes are placed at too great a distance from the Government to enable them to make their complaints against the arbitrary acts of our agents heard, and it is believed they have had much cause of complaint.

¹⁸¹ Section 223 in derived from acts 21 and 22 of the Act of June 30, 1834, c. 101, 4 Stat. 720, 732, 738, 8 S. 4 2111, section 224, from act 28 of the same act, 8 S. 4 2170, and section 223 from act 10 of the same act, 8 S. 4 2151. See Chapter 4, sec. 6.

¹⁸² Derived from act 3 of the Act of June 14, 1858, c. 161, 11 Stat. 352, 353, 8 S. 4 2153. An obsolete provision, which is still unenforced, is sec. 197, 26 U. S. C., which permits the Superintendent of Indian Affairs to suspend a chief or headman of a band or tribe for trespassing on allotments. See Chapter 4, sec. 9.

¹⁸³ 28 C. Civ. 217, 228-224 (1898).

¹⁸⁴ See Chapter 5, sec. 7-13.

¹⁸⁵ Administration of the Indian Office (Bureau of Municipal Research Publication No. 65) (1915), p. 21. "All offences," wrote an Indian agent to the commissioners in September, 1890, "are punished as I see expedient, and the Indians offer no resistance." Thayer, *A People Without Law* (1901), 68 Atl. Month 540, 551.

¹⁸⁶ 23d Cong., 1st sess., Repts. of Committee, No. 474, May 20, 1884.

hitherto they have suffered in silence. The agents being subject to no immediate control, have acted under scarcely any other responsibility than that of accountability for moneys received. Although much is expected from the personal character of the agents, yet it is not deemed safe to depend entirely upon it. (P. 8)

Since 1881, Indian Service officials and judges, chosen and removable by the superintendent of the reservation could arrest, try, and imprison reservation Indians. This system has been subjected to continued criticism by Congressmen, Indians, and Indian welfare societies. Prior to the election of President Franklin D. Roosevelt, several earlier administrations initiated studies to reform this condition but few substantial changes resulted.¹⁸⁶

On November 27, 1945, the Secretary of the Interior revoked the regulations of the office, in force since 1881,¹⁸⁷ which empowered the superintendent of an Indian reservation to act as judge, jury, prosecuting attorney, police officer, and jailer. A judicial system was established giving the defendants the right to formal charges, jury trial, power to summon witnesses, and the privilege of bail.

John Holl, Commissioner of Indian Affairs, has described the revised Law and Order Regulations in these terms:¹⁸⁸

Indian Service Officials are prohibited from controlling, obstructing, or interfering with the functions of the Indian courts. The appointment and removal of Indian judges on these reservations where courts of Indian offenses are now maintained is made subject to confirmation by the Indians of the reservation. Indian defendants will hereafter have the benefit of formal charges, the power to summon witnesses, the privilege of bail, and the right to trial by jury. The offenses in which punishment may be imposed are specifically enumerated: the maximum of 6 months labor or \$300 fine being imposed for such offenses as assault and battery, abduction, embezzlement, fraud, forgery, misbranding and larceny.

The revision of law and order regulations is one step in the program of the present administration to eliminate obsolete regulations and bureaucratic procedures governing the conduct of Indians, and to endow the Indian tribes themselves with increased responsibility and freedom in local self-government.

These regulations are subject to modifications in the light of local conditions by each tribe organized under the Indian Reorganization Act.

Administrative control of Indian life, until recently, recognized no right of religious freedom.

Administrators who identified civilization with a particular sect infringed the religious liberty of the Indians and interfered, on the ground of immorality, with many of the dances and other cherished customs of some of the tribes.¹⁸⁹ On January 3, 1894,

¹⁸⁶ Annual Report of Secretary of the Interior (1936), pp. 105-106.

¹⁸⁷ Slightly modified in 1901. P. 8 Cohen, *Indian Rights*, and the Federal Com'n. (1940), 24 Mann. L. Rev. 143, 153, 164.

¹⁸⁸ Annual Report of Secretary of the Interior (1946), p. 186. For a history of Courts of Indian Offenses, see Lepp, *The Indian and His Tradition* (1910), pp. 245-247.

¹⁸⁹ Office of Indian Affairs, Circular No. 1505, April 20, 1921, reads in part:

"The sun-dance, and all other similar dances and so-called religious ceremonies are considered 'Indian Offenses' under existing regulations and corrective penalties are provided. I regard such regulations as applicable to any [religious] dance which involves the recklessness giving away of property. . . . I repeat on prolonged periods of celebration. . . . In fact, an observance of platonic masculine performance does promote supernatural causes (immense) diseases, danger to health, and shrewd interference to family welfare."

In all such instances the regulations should be enforced. The Supplement to this Circular, February 14, 1925, contained recommendations endorsed by the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, including the following:

That the Indian dances be limited to one in each month in the daylight hours of one day in the midweek, and at one center in

the employees of the Indian Service were warned against interfering with the religious liberties guaranteed by the Federal Constitution.⁴⁶

Recent statutes, notably the Wheeler-Howard Act, have laid down a policy which is destined to grant greater self-government to the Indians and thus eventually lessen or end the great administrative powers now exercised by the Federal Government over Indians.⁴⁷ The monopolistic control of Indians by the Indian Office has been displaced by increased activities in matters affecting the Indians by many federal, state, and county agencies.⁴⁸

(b) *Confinement on reservations*.—The great administrative power of the Indian Bureau was sometimes abused or misdirected.⁴⁹ One of the objectives of Indian Service policy, for many years, was the segregation of Indians.⁵⁰ The location of these settlements was chosen as the white man moved westward.

The attitude of the administrators towards the reservation Indians may be gleaned from annual reports and judicial opinions. In *Dodge v. United States*,⁵¹ the Court of Claims criticized Indian officers on a reservation as "little better than prisoners

each district, the months of March and April, June, July, and August, being excepted."

That none take part in the dances or be present who are under 20 years of age.

That a civilizing propaganda be undertaken to educate public opinion against the dance.

The religious persecutions caused by these statutes, as well as the two persecutions, during which in the United States, at the behest of the ancient Pueblo of Tuzo in New Mexico were forbidden by the Indian Bureau are discussed in two pamphlets of the American Indian Defense Association, Inc. *The Indian and Religious Freedom* (1924), and *Even as You Do Unto the Least of These, so You Do Unto Him* (1924).

* * * children enrolled in government schools were forced to join a Christian sect, to receive instruction in that sect and to attend its church. On many reservations active ceremonies were daily forbidden regardless of their harmless nature. In some cases force was used to make the Indians of a reservation quit their lands about "The New Day for the Indians," edited by Nash (1938), p. 12.

Official policy in the United States toward the religious of the Indians through the 70 years preceding 1920 definitely relied on the concept of liberty of conscience. * (7 Indians at Work, No. 8 (April 1940), p. 46)

⁴⁶ See Indian Affairs, Circular No. 2070, January 3, 1934.

⁴⁷ The new policy of possible dangers in the communities are described in the Annual Report of the Secretary of the Interior (1930).

* * * Many of these legislative acts, as provided for in tribal constitutions, require formal approval by the Secretary of the Interior, also many new and involved questions of law and policy have arisen. * It will be increasingly important as organization takes effect among the tribes, that the Indian Office shall develop a new practice in Indian administration. The temptation will be great on occasion to make decisions in Washington on matters which, when referred to the Office or the Department for decision, might be returned to the point of origin for local action. With the new initiatives in the world the Office can in effect force a blinder upon local self-government before it is ever an established fact. (F 194)

⁴⁸ McCaskill, *The Creation of Monopolistic Control of Indians by the Indian Office, Indians of the United States*, contributions by the delegation of the United States First Inter-American Conference on Indian Affairs, Mexico City, 1940, p. 100.

⁴⁹ Harold L. Jekes wrote in 1920: "There has been no more shameful page in our whole history than our treatment of the American Indians." *Federal Reserve & Indian Affairs* (1920), 24 M. L. Rev. 870, 877. The attitude of some public officials and employees as exemplified by the cruel treatment of Indian children at some of the Indian schools, Schmuckler, *op. cit.*, pp. 71-76. Moriam, *The Problem of Indian Administration* (1928), pp. 382-383, 779, and such educational policies as the forcible removal of children from their families to distant boarding schools, *id.*, 373-376. See also Chapter 15, sec. 2; *Harsha, Law for the Indians* (1932), 194 N. L. Rev. 272, 275, and *In re Leah-Poc-Ka-Ore*, 86 Fed. 429 (2d C. N. D. Iowa, 1899).

⁵⁰ See Chapter 2, sec. 2.

⁵¹ 33 C. Cls. 808, 817 (1896).

of war." The same comment in the case of *Tully v. United States*,⁵² said

General Ord, in his report for September, 1869 (Mss. Cases and Documents War Department, 1, 1869 and 1870, p. 121), in substance says that on taking command of the department he became satisfied that the few settlers and scattered missions of Arizona were the sheep upon which these wolves habitually preyed, and that a temporary policy would not answer, and so he "encouraged the troops to capture and rout out the Apaches by every means and to hunt them as they would wild animals." "Thus," he says, "they have done with unrelenting vigor, and as a result," he says, "since my last report over 200 have been killed, generally by parties who have trailed them for days and weeks into the mountain recesses, over snows, among gorges and precipices, lying in wait for them by day and following them by night."

In the table appended to this report, pages 127-129, it appears that 61 parties were sent out in search of Indians, traveling over 11,000 miles, and that as a result of these expeditions 297 Indians were killed, 75 wounded, and 65 men, women, and children taken prisoners, while 1 enlisted man was killed or captured and 8 wounded.

The Court of Claims in the case of *Cumey v. United States et al.*,⁵³ described another inhuman incident. After telling of the surrender of Dull Knife's band, the last of the Northern Cheyennes to make peace, the court said:

After a year of sickness, misery, and bitterness in the Indian Territory, and repeatedly refused to be taken back to the country where their children could live, 320 of them, in September, 1878, broke away from the reservation. Dull Knife and Little Wolf were the leaders of this occupying party, which consisted of three bands.

They were pursued and overtaken at a place named in which Little Wolf, whom Captain Bourke characterizes as "one of the bravest in fight where all were brave," said, "We do not want to fight you, but we will not go back." The troops instantly fired upon the Cheyennes and a new Indian war began.

That volley was one of the many mistakes, military and civil, which have been the fatality of our Indian administration, for the officer who ordered it thereby initiated an Indian war, and at the same instant turned hostile savages loose upon the unprotected homes of the frontier and their unwarned, unsuspecting inmates (P. 321)

After being flattened the Cheyenne surrendered and forty-nine men, fifty-one women and forty-eight children were carried as prisoners of war to Fort Robinson.

The court continued:

* * * Dull Knife and his band were carried to Fort Robinson. There they periodically refused to return to the reservation and were kept in close custody. In January, 1879, orders from the Interior Department arrived at Fort Robinson emphatically directing the commanding officer to remove them to the reservation. On the 3d of January, 1879, the Indians were told of this, and on the next day gave, through Wild Hog, their spokesman, their unequivocal answer, "We will die, but we will not go back."

The commanding officer apparently shrunk from shooting them down; "restraining them meant nothing short of that, or of actually carrying each one forcibly to the detached place from which they had escaped." The military authorities therefore resorted to the means for subduing the Cheyennes by which a former generation of annual taxmen subdued wild beasts. In the midst of the dreadful winter, with the thermometer 40° below zero, the Indians including the women and children, were kept for five days and nights without food or fuel, and for three days without water. At the end of that time they broke out of the barracks in which they were confined and

⁵² 32 C. Cls. 1, 18 (1896).

⁵³ 33 C. Cls. 317 (1896).

pushed forth into the night. The troops pushed, firing upon them as upon enemies in war—those who escaped the sword perished in the storm. Twelve days later the pursuing cavalry came upon the remnant of the band in a ravine 50 miles from Fort Robinson. "The troops encircled the Indians, leaving no possible avenue of escape." The Indians fired on them killing a lieutenant and two privates. The troops advanced. "The Indians, then without ammunition rushed in desperation toward the troops with their hunting knives in hand, but before they had advanced many paces a volley was discharged by the troops and all was over." The bodies of 24 Indians were found in the ravine—17 bucks, 5 squaws, and 2 ponies.¹¹ Nine prisoners were taken—1 wounded man, and 8 women, 5 of whom were wounded. The officers in command unconsciously went the length of the slain in his dispatch announcing the result: "The Cheyennes fought with extraordinary courage and manness, and returned all terms but death." The final result of the last Cheyenne war was, that of the 320 who broke away in September, 7 wounded Cheyennes were sent back to the reservation. (Pp. 322-323.)

Although there never was any statutory authority for confining Indians on reservations, administrators relied upon the magic solution word "wardship" to justify the assertion of such authority. Thus the statement on "Policy and Administration of Indian Affairs" which appears in the "Report on Indian Affairs and Not Taxed, at the Eleventh Census, 1890" declares:

The Indian not being considered a citizen of the United States, but a ward of the nation, he can not even leave the reservation without permission.¹²

It is now recognized that there is no legal authority for confining any Indian within a reservation.

B REMEDIES

The courts have pointed to two ways in which an Indian may meet injustices directed at him as an Indian. One way is to give up the status that subjects him to oppression. If he is a member of an oppressed tribe, he may give up his citizenship to that tribe. The other way is to attack the oppressive measure itself.

The former alternative is based upon the individual right of expatriation. The latter is based upon the right of a racial minority to be immune from racial discrimination. This latter right on Indian population shares with every other minority group in the United States, and since all the minority groups that have reason to fear discriminatory legislation make up together a great majority of our population, the asserted right to be immune from racial discrimination lies at the heart of our democratic institutions.

(1) *The right of expatriation*.—"Oppression against a racial minority is more terrible than most other forms of oppression, because there is no escape from one's race. The victim of economic oppression may be moved up in the struggle by the hope that he can improve his economic status. The victim of religious oppression may embrace the religion of his oppressors. The victim of political oppression may change his political affiliation. But the victim of racial persecution cannot change his race. For these victims there is no sanctuary and no escape."

¹¹ II R Misc. Doc. No. 340, 52d Cong., 1st sess., pt. 15 (1894), p. 68.

¹² Expatriation is the voluntary act of changing one's allegiance from one country to another. In Indian law it connotes the giving up of membership in a tribe. On the general subject of expatriation, see A Moore International Law Digest (1900), pp. 552-735; Hunt, *The American Passport* (1898), pp. 127-144; Moore, *American Diplomacy* (1918), c. VII.

If special legislation governing Indians refers to a racial group, there is no way in which the individual Indian can avoid the impact of such laws. If on the other hand, as we have elsewhere suggested,¹³ such laws refer primarily to persons having a certain social or political status, then, presumably the oppressed Indian, by changing that status, can escape the force of such legislation.

This issue never has been squarely raised before the United States Supreme Court, but the viewpoint here put forward is confirmed by the only statement the Supreme Court has made upon the question, the dictum of the majority opinion in the *Dred Scott* Case.

"If an individual should leave his station in life, and take up his abode among the white population, he would be entitled to all the rights and privileges which would belong to an emigrant from any other foreign people."¹⁴

There is one federal case which squarely raised the question whether Indians can avoid oppression at the hands of the Federal Government by renouncing their allegiance to their tribe and abandoning the reservation assigned to them: use.

The case of *United States ex rel Standing Bear v. Crook*¹⁵ arose out of an attempt of a band of Ponca Indians led by Chief Standing Bear to escape from a reservation in Indian Territory to which they had been removed by the Interior Department. After a few months on their new reservation they succeeded in escaping to Nebraska, where they took up a residence with friendly Omaha Indians. Brigadier General Crook, Commander of the Military Department of the Platte, was ordered to arrest Standing Bear and his followers and to return them to the Ponca Reservation in Indian Territory. Standing Bear managed to secure attorneys, who sued out a writ of habeas corpus against General Crook. The principal ground of the writ was the claim that Standing Bear and his followers had renounced their membership in the Ponca tribe. Since they were no longer members of the tribe, it was argued that neither the Interior Department nor the United States Army could force these Indians to live upon the Ponca Reservation.

The issue of fact was thus formulated by the court, per Dundy, J.

It is claimed upon the one side, and denied upon the other, that the relators had withdrawn and severed, for all time, their connection with the tribe to which they belonged, and upon this point alone was there any testimony produced by either party hereto. (P. 566.)

On the issue of fact the court found as follows:

Standing Bear, the principal witness, states that out of five hundred and eighty-one Indians who went from the reservation in Dakota to the Indian Territory, one hundred and fifty-eight died within a year, or so, and a great proportion of the others were sick and disabled, caused

¹³ The thesis that our law governing Indians is "racial law" is attacked by Heinrich Kluge, of the *Neuzeitliche Gesellschaft der Deutschen Wissenschaft* in an article "Principles of the Indian Law and the Act of June 18, 1904 (1905), 3 Geo. Wash. L. Rev. 270 (assumed as part of a dissertation on "American Racial Law").

¹⁴ See Chapter 14, sec. 1.

¹⁵ *Dred Scott v. Sandford*, 19 How. 393, 404 (1854). A tribal council cannot prevent a member from expatriating himself. *Mason Sol I. D.*, March 19, 1938.

¹⁶ 25 Fed. Civ. No. 1480 (C. C. Neb. 1879). See Canfield, *The Legal Position of the Indians* (1881), 15 *Am. L. Rev.* 21, 34. *Of The New York Indians v. United States*, 40 C. Cls. 448, 460 (1905), and *United States v. Wolf*, 17 Fed. 70 (C. C. Ore. 1888), holding that an Indian who absented himself from the reservation to obtain liquor, did not expatriate himself.

¹⁷ *Ibid.*, p. 696. *United States ex rel Standing Bear v. Crook*, *supra*.

in a great measure, no doubt, from change of climate and to save himself and the survivors of his wasted family, the feeble remnants of his little band of followers, he determined to leave the Indian Territory and return to his old home, where, to use his own language, he might live and die in peace, and be buried with his fathers." He also states that he informed the agent of their final purpose to leave, and of their return, and that he and his followers had finally, fully, and forever severed his and their connection with the Ponca tribe of Indians, and had resolved to disband as a tribe, or band, of Indians, and to cut loose from the government, go to work, become self-sustaining, and to make the Indians and citizens of a higher civilization. To accomplish what would seem to be a desirable and laudable purpose, all who were able so to do went to work to earn a living. The Omaha Indians, who speak the same language, and with whom many of the Poncas have long continued to intimately give them employment and ground to cultivate, so as to make them self-sustaining. And it was when at the Omaha reservation, and when thus employed, that they were arrested by order of the government, for the purpose of being taken back to the Indian Territory. Their claim to be unable to see the justice, or reason, or wisdom, or necessity, of removing them by force from their own native plains and blood relations to a far-off country, in which they can see little but increasing graves awaiting for their reception. The land from which they fled in fear has no attractions for them. The loss of house and native land was almost enough in the minds of these people to induce them to have every peril to return and live and die where they had been exiled. The bones of the dead son of Standing Bear were not to repose in the land they hoped to be leaving forever, but were carefully preserved and protected, and formed a part of what was to them an unholy, unhallowed procession homeward. (Pp 688, 689.)

In view of the foregoing facts the court reached the conclusion that the Indian relations

* * * did all they could to separate themselves from their tribe and to sever their tribal relations, for the purpose of becoming self-sustaining and living without support from the government. This being so, it presents the question as to whether or not an Indian can withdraw from his tribe, sever his tribal relation therewith, and terminate his allegiance thereto, for the purpose of making an independent living and adopting our own civilization.

If Indian tribes are to be regarded and treated as separate but dependent nations, there can be no serious difficulty about the question. If they are not to be regarded and treated as separate, dependent nations, then no allegiance is owing from an individual Indian to his tribe, and he could, therefore, withdraw therefrom at any time. The question of expatriation has engaged the attention of our government from the time of its very foundation. Many heated discussions have been carried on between our own and foreign governments on this great question, until diplomacy has triumphantly secured the right to every person found within our jurisdiction. This right has always been claimed and admitted by our government, and it is now no longer an open question. It can make but little difference, then, whether we accord to the Indian tribes a national character or not, as in either case I think the individual Indian possesses the clear and God-given right to withdraw from his tribe and forever live away from it, as though it had no further existence. If the right of expatriation was open to doubt in this country down to the year 1868, certainly since that time no sort of question as to the right can now exist. On the 27th of July of that year congress passed an act, now appearing in section 1989 of the Revised Statutes, which declares that, "Whereas, the right of expatriation is a natural and inherent right of all people, indispensable to the enjoyment of the rights of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness; and, whereas, in the recognition of this principle the government has freely received emigrants from all nations, and invested them with the rights of citizenship; * * * Therefore, any declaration, instanc-

tion, opinion, order, or decision of any officer of the United States which denies, restricts, inhibits, or questions the right of expatriation, is declared inconsistent with the fundamental principles of the republic."

This declaration must forever settle the question until it is repealed by other legislation upon the same subject (P 690.)

The federal court, in granting a writ of *habeas corpus* to Standing Bear against General Crook, established a precedent which many Indians since Standing Bear have followed, and which many administrators since General Crook have recognized. In the closing decades of the nineteenth century and down to very recent times, the trend of legislation and of administration with respect to Indian affairs was to decrease the area of tribal land and the authority of tribal councils, to multiply the restrictions upon the use that Indian tribes might make of their remaining property, and to break down tribal governments, tribal customs, and tribal social life. But always one door to freedom was left open, the individual Indian might accept an allotment of land, have the restrictions upon his land forever removed, adopt "the habits of civilized life," abandon his tribal relations, attain citizenship, and thus achieve freedom from the oppression of Indian Bureau control. This was the way in which the Indian Bureau was to dissolve the Indian problem. The more intolerable the oppression of the Bureau upon the life of the tribe, the more successful was the Bureau in achieving its objective. The year's quota of spiritual refugees from the tribal life was, on each reservation, the criterion of the Indian superintendent's success.¹⁸ It did not matter much that those who grasped at freedom through renunciation of tribal relations and federal property (previously) reached their goal broken in spirit and swindled of their lands. To many Indians, as well as to many Indian administrators, this was an advance from serfdom to freedom, from barbarism to civilization.

The right of expatriation established by the Standing Bear case remains a significant human right, even where Indian tribes are actually moving in an organized way toward the ideal of freedom from Indian Bureau supervision. The right of expatriation is an answer not only to federal oppression but to tribal oppression as well. It would be remarkable if the development of Indian self-government failed to give rise to dissatisfied individuals and minority groups who considered their tribal status a misfortune. History shows that nations live in strength when they seek to prevent such unwilling subjects from renouncing allegiance.

(2) Antidiscrimination statutes and treaties.—Against the sinister background of discriminatory state and federal statutes, administrative oppression, and public discrimination, prejudice and unfair treatment, stand treaties, state and federal statutes and administrative rulings prohibiting discrimination against Indians or any races.¹⁹

Treaties ceding Louisiana, New Mexico, and Alaska to the United States contained guarantees of civil liberties to all the inhabitants of the ceded territory. Later, federal statutes provided for equality of treatment between Indians and whites. Many recent statutes prohibit discrimination against the Indians or against any races.

(a) Federal statutes affecting Indians only.—The Act of March 3, 1855,²⁰ granting hominy lands to soldiers, provided that Indians shall be granted lands on the same terms as white men. Recent statutes appropriating money or ceding land from a reservation for school purposes, often contain a condition that the

¹⁸ See Chapter 2, sec. 2.

¹⁹ On legislative attempts to eliminate racial and religious discrimination, see 30 Col. L. Rev. 986 (1938).

²⁰ Sec. 7, 10 Stat. 701, 702.

schools shall be available to Indian children on an equality with white children.⁶⁰

(b) *Federal statutes affecting all races*—Civil-rights laws protect Indians as well as other races against various forms of governmental and public discrimination.⁶¹ Some recent laws expressly prohibit discrimination against any race. An excellent illustration is a clause in section 8 of the Act of June 28, 1937,⁶² establishing the Civilian Conservation Corps, which provides, "no person shall be excluded on account of race, color, or creed." A frequent provision is a condition in grants of land to the state that its institutions shall be open to all races.⁶³

Other States, which do not contain express guarantees of equality, have been administratively interpreted to prohibit discrimination against Indians. A recent administrative ruling of this kind by the Solicitor of the Department of Agriculture on February 27, 1937, declared unlawful the exclusion of Indians and Indian lands from soil conservation benefit payments.⁶⁴

(c) *State statutes affecting all races*—Over one-third of the states have enacted civil rights statutes prohibiting various kinds of racial discrimination.⁶⁵

(d) *Treaties affecting all races*—The civil liberties of the Indians of the Territories of Louisiana and New Mexico and the Mexican natives were protected by treaty guarantees until they became citizens.

Article 4 of the Treaty of April 30, 1835,⁶⁶ whereby the United States purchased the Territory of Louisiana from the French Republic, provides

The inhabitants of the ceded territory shall be incorporated in the Union of the United States, and admitted

⁶⁰ Act of August 21, 1916, 49 Stat. 524 (City of Miami, Fla. v. D. J. Act of May 11, 1915, 10 Stat. 762 (Fort Hall Indian Reservation), Act of January 7, 1917, 40 Stat. 1063, Act of April 1, 1920, 41 Stat. 549 (Blackfoot), Act of June 4, 1929, 45 Stat. 701 (Crow), Act of March 3, 1931, 47 Stat. 333 (Fort Belknap), Act of May 15, 1930, 46 Stat. 354 (Blackfoot), Act of February 11, 1911, 46 Stat. 1105 (Klamath), Act of February 14, 1901, 36 Stat. 1106 (Fort Peck), Act of June 7, 1915, c. 158, 49 Stat. 327, Act of June 7, 1937, 50 Stat. 130, Act of June 7, 1937, c. 198, 40 Stat. 531, Act of June 7, 1937, c. 199, 40 Stat. 531.

⁶¹ Sec. 1 of the Act of April 29, 1871, 17 Stat. 37, provides for recovery in tort against any person depriving another person of civil rights guaranteed by the Constitution and laws of the United States, protecting civil rights include Act of May 31, 1870, sec. 1, 16 Stat. 340, U. S. § 829, 2004, Act of March 4, 1909, sec. 10, 20 Stat. 85, Stat. 1088, 1093.

⁶² 70 Stat. 810, 326, extended until July 1, 1943, by Act of August 7, 1939, 52 Stat. 1141, 1940, U. S. § 831a. The original law creating a temporary Civilian Conservation Corps contains a similar provision, Act of March 8, 1933, c. 17, sec. 1, 48 Stat. 22, 23.

⁶³ Act of February 19, 1934, 48 Stat. 879, Act of May 21, 1934, 48 Stat. 786, and Act of October 1, 1936, sec. 10, 50 Stat. 665 (Indian Territory), U. S. § 2434.

⁶⁴ See Chapter 15 sec. 10 fn. 511.

⁶⁵ Colorado Statutes Annotated (1937), c. 35, Connecticut Supplement to General Statutes (1935), c. 819, sec. 1670c, General Statutes (Revision of 1930), c. 275, sec. 6063-6069, Illinois Revised Statutes (1930), c. 88, sec. 127-128, Indiana Burns Annotated Statutes (1933) sec. 1001, 10-002, Iowa Code (1939), c. 602, sec. 13251-13262, Kansas General Statutes (1935), c. 21, sec. 2424-2425, Louisiana Davis' General Statutes (1939), title 18, sec. 1076-1078, Massachusetts Acts and Resolves (1933), c. 117, (1934), c. 138, Michigan Compiled Laws (1936), sec. 10900-10911, Minnesota Minnson's Minnesota Statutes (1927) c. 55 sec. 7821, Nebraska Compiled Statutes (1929), c. 25, sec. 101-102, New Jersey Revised Statutes (1937), title 16, c. 1, sec. 1-9, New York Thompson's Laws of New York (1939), sec. 46, amended c. 819, Laws of 1930, and sec. 406, 41 and 42, Ohio Thorndom's Ohio Code Annotated (Baldwin's) (1939), sec. 12840-12942, Pennsylvania Laws of Pennsylvania (1938), Act No. 122, Rhode Island General Laws (1938), c. 600, sec. 28, Washington Brimington's Revised Statutes (1932), title 14, c. 10, sec. 2680, Wisconsin Statutes (1937), sec. 840.75.

⁶⁶ 8 Stat. 200, 202.

as soon as possible, according to the principles of the Federal constitution, to the enjoyment of all the rights, advantages and immunities of citizens of the United States, and in the mean time they shall be maintained and protected in the free enjoyment of their liberty, property, and the religion which they profess.

A provision along the same lines is contained in the treaties whereby the Territories of New Mexico⁶⁷ and Alaska⁶⁸ were ceded to the United States.

(3) *Constitutional protection*—The right of the Indian to be immune from racial discrimination by Government officials is protected by the Fifth, Fourteenth, and Fifteenth Amendments of the United States Constitution.⁶⁹

Although the Fourteenth and Fifteenth Amendments were primarily passed to protect the Negroes, they have been successfully invoked to protect the civil liberties of other races.

While the reasons for discrimination against Indians include economic competition and ignorance, the exclusion of some of the Indians from property taxation perhaps constitutes the most common ground reason for this discrimination.⁷⁰ Obviously this argument is inapplicable to the many Indians who do not possess exempt property.⁷¹

It is also probably invalid as to other Indians. Until recently state and federal officials were exempt from the income tax of the federal and state governments respectively. The possession of tax-exempt securities has never been considered a restriction on denying a wealthy citizen possessing such securities the right to vote.

Another justification for discrimination, the grant of special federal benefits to the Indians, sometimes springs from the erroneous impression that the Government supports most Indians. The majority of the Indian population supports itself and does not receive direct and continuous federal aid.⁷² This argument is clearly invalid in so far as it is applied to discrimination against political rights, unless it is applied equally to non-Indian beneficiaries of federal subsidies such as shipowners, farmers, beneficiaries of tariffs, and relief recipients. On the other hand, it may be argued with some force that special Government assistance and facilities rendered tribal Indians may give legal validity to a state law or regulation discriminating against such Indians in the dispensing of similar state benefits and services.

Indians, like other races, are constitutionally protected against legislative or administrative discrimination because of color or race.⁷³ In a leading early case, *Shawnee v. West Virginia*,⁷⁴ the Supreme Court of the United States, in discussing the Fourteenth Amendment, said

The words of the amendment, if true, are prohibitory, but they contain a necessary implication of a

⁶⁷ Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, signed February 2, 1848, 9 Stat. 222.

⁶⁸ Act 4, 15 Stat. 519. See Chapter 21, sec. 3, for the text of this article.

⁶⁹ *See* Cohen Indian Rights and the Federal Courts (1940), 24 Minn. L. Rev. 145, 161.

⁷⁰ See Under. Tax Amusement (1915), p. 298.

⁷¹ It is estimated that approximately 100,000 Indians are totally landless and in many cases homeless. Indian Land Tenure, Economic Status, and Population Trends, Part X of the Supplementary Report of the Land Planning Committee to the National Resources Board (1938), p. 2.

⁷² Indian Land Tenure, Economic Status, and Population Trends, Part X of the Supplementary Report of the Land Planning Committee to the National Resources Board (1938), pp. 2, 11.

⁷³ *See* Yale L. J. 1205 (1938).

⁷⁴ 100 U. S. 803 (1870). Also see *Nixon v. Hendon*, 273 U. S. 536 (1927), and see sec. 3, *supra*. The Court in *Buchanan v. Waley*, 245 U. S. 80 (1917), said that while a principal purpose of the Fourteenth Amendment "was to protect persons of color, the broad language used was deemed sufficient to protect all persons, white and black, against discriminatory legislation by the States. This is now the settled law" (p. 76).

positive humanity, or right most valuable to the colored race,—the right to exemption from untimely legislation against them distinctively as colored,—exemption from local discriminations, implying inferiority in civil society, lessening the security of their enjoyment of the rights which others enjoy, and discriminations which are steps towards reducing them to the condition of a subject race (Pp. 307-308).¹ Its aim was against discrimination because of race or color. (P. 310)

In this case the court held that discrimination in any state agency in selection for public service because of race is a denial of equal protection of law. The court has subsequently reaffirmed this doctrine in many cases, usually involving a Negro, the most recent being *Yick v. Atchafalpa*² and *State v. Kentucky*.³

While segregation *per se* is not held to be discriminatory,⁴ the facilities offered must be substantially equal. This doctrine was reaffirmed in the case of *Missouri ex rel. Gaines v. Canada*.⁵ The petitioner Gaines, a Negro, was granted a writ of mandamus compelling the board of curators of the University of Missouri to admit him to the law school of the university. The qualifications of Gaines for admission, apart from race, were admitted. In holding that this discrimination constituted a denial of the Negro's constitutional right (Chief Justice Hughes, speaking for the majority of the court said

* * * The basic consideration is * * * what opportunities Missouri itself furnishes to white students and denies to negroes solely upon the ground of color. The admissibility of laws separating the races in the enjoyment of privileges afforded by the State rests wholly upon the equality of the privileges, which the laws give to the separated groups within the State. The question here is not of a duty of the State to supply legal training, or of the quality of the training which it does supply, but of its duty when it provides such training to furnish it to the residents of the State upon the basis of an equality of right. By the operation of the laws of Missouri a privilege has been created for white law students, which is denied to negroes by reason of their race. The white resident is afforded legal education within the State; the negro resident having the same qualifications is refused it and must go outside the State to obtain it. That is a denial of the equality of legal right in the enjoyment of the privilege which the State has set up, and the provision for the payment of tuition fees in another State does not remove the discrimination. (Pp. 310-320.)

As in the case of the Negro,⁶ one of the principal hallmarks regarding discrimination against the Indian is exclusion from public schools. The only case which has squarely considered the Indian's right to state education held that the Fourteenth Amendment requires a state to grant equal educational opportunities to persons of the Indian race.⁷

In 1924 admittance to a state public school was sought by Alice Pipey a full-blooded Indian, a citizen of the United States and of

California, who had never lived in tribal relations with any tribe of Indians, nor owed an acknowledged allegiance or fealty of any kind to any tribe or "nation" of Indians, nor lived on an Indian reservation. A law of California declared that the governing body of the public school could exclude Indian children from attending, provided the United States Government maintained a school for Indians within the school district. Refused admittance, she sought a writ of mandamus to compel the board to admit her. The Supreme Court of California granted the writ and held that the law violated the state and federal constitutions, saying

The privilege of receiving an education at the expense of the State is not one belonging to those upon whom it is conferred as citizens of the United States. The federal Constitution does not provide for any general system of education to be conducted and controlled by the national government. It is distinctly a state affair.⁸ But the denial to children whose parents, as well as themselves, are citizens of the United States and of this state, admittance to the common schools solely because of color or racial differences without having made provision for their education equal to all respects to that intended persons of any other race or color, is a violation of the provisions of the Fourteenth Amendment of the Constitution of the United States. (Pp. 628-629.)

The following table in the *Pipey* case indicates that, as in the case of Negroes, state laws segregating Indian pupils from white pupils are constitutional so long as there is no disparity between the educational advantages offered to both races. The California Supreme Court said

The establishment by the state of separate schools for Indians, as provided by the statute, does not offend against either the federal or state Constitutions. Questions of racial differences have arisen in various forms in the several states of the Union and it is now finally settled that it is not in violation of the organic law of the state or nation, under the authority of a statute so providing, to separate Indian children or others in whom racial differences exist, to attend separate schools, provided such schools are equal in every substantial respect with those provided for children of the white race.⁹ "Racidity, and not identity of race does not matter, so what is permitted to the citizen."¹⁰

Since the *Pipey* case dealt with an Indian who was not a member of any tribe, the scope of the decision is not entirely certain.

Indian children are entitled to state educational benefits, financed by federal grants-in-aid and with the proviso that there shall be no discrimination against Indian children.¹¹ A federal statute disposing of Indian lands upon which schools are to be established may provide that Indian children shall be allowed to attend the schools.¹²

¹ 204 U. S. 887 (1908).

² 303 U. S. 815 (1934). On discrimination in housing see *Buckman v. Wilson*, 246 U. S. 80 (1917), and *Harmon v. Paul*, 323 U. S. 908 (1927). On limiting Negroes from public property, see *Neum v. Neiden*, 273 U. S. 540 (1927). Also see *Yick Wo v. Hopkins*, 118 U. S. 353 (1886), and the *Switzer-Hunter Cases*, 16 Wall. 80 (1872). On discrimination against voters, see note 3, supra.

³ *Pipey v. Board of School Directors*, 193 U. S. 257 544 (1904), *McClure v. Leckman*, 278 U. S. 87, 88 (1927). Cf. *Cunningham v. Board of Education*, 176 U. S. 528, 544, 545 (1900).

⁴ 303 U. S. 821 (1934).

⁵ The *Charris* and the Negro Separate School (1935), 4 Journal of Negro Education, pp. 280 et seq., especially pp. 301-441.

⁶ *Pipey v. Big Pine School Dist. of Inyo County*, 193 U. S. 604, 238 Pac. 620 (1924). For a subsequent law permitting the segregation of Indians, see Cal. School Laws 1891, Div. 11, c. 1, Art. 1, sec. 8, 5-9, amended by Act of June 18, 1905; Session Laws 1905, pp. 1562-1563. Also see Delaware Session Laws of 1915, Act of April 16, 1935, p. 700.

⁷ *Pipey v. Big Pine School Dist. of Inyo County*, 193 U. S. 604, 238 Pac. 620, 628-629 (1924). Also see *Cummins v. District School Board for School District No. 7*, 88 Ore. 888, 137 Pac. 120 (1913), wherein the court said:

The facts stated in the amended bill show from face that the petitioner's children were entitled to be admitted as pupils of said school district No. 7, and to receive instruction therein in all respects as the white children. They and their parents are citizens of the United States and of the State of Oregon, and reside in said school district. They are not members of any tribe, and they conform to the residence and habits of civilization. These children are half white and their rights are the same as they would be if they were wholly white.

⁸ *Pipey v. Big Pine School Dist. of Inyo County*, 193 U. S. 604, 238 Pac. 620, 629 (1924). See also *McClure v. School Committee*, 107 N. C. 600, 12 S. E. 330 (1900). For construction of legislative intent in this respect, see *Jimmons v. School District No. 5*, 7 B. L. 608 (1904).

⁹ Act of June 16, 1903, 32 Stat. 685, is typical in this regard.

¹⁰ A typical provision is "Proviso, That said school shall be conducted for both white and Indian children without discrimination." Act of June 16, 1903, 32 Stat. 685. Also see Chapter 12, sec. 2.

Many important populations, including the Bill of Rights,¹⁰⁰ of the Federal Constitution, are limited strictly on the power of the Federal Government. Other provisions limit the activities of state governments only,¹⁰¹ or of the federal and state governments,¹⁰² and hence are unapplicable to Indian tribes, which are not creatures of either the federal or state governments.¹⁰³

¹⁰⁰ Amendments 1 to 10 in *infra*.

¹⁰¹ Articles 1 and 14.

¹⁰² Amendment 19.

¹⁰³ *Talton v. Mayes*, 215 U.S. 376 (1909), and *Up. Peltro v. U. General of Seneca Nation*, 261 U.S. 111, 157 N.E. 734 (1927), *Warrick v. Georgia*, 4 P. 715 (1812). *United States v. Kagame*, 118 U.S. 875

The provisions of the Federal Constitution protecting personal liberty and property rights do not apply to tribal action.¹⁰⁴ In *Talton v. Mayes*,¹⁰⁵ the court held that the Fifth Amendment of the Federal Constitution, requiring indictment by a grand jury in most infamous crimes, does not apply to the acts of a tribal government.

(1896), *Warrick v. U. General*, 245 U.S. 151 (1917), 187 U.S. 125 (1902), and *Up. Peltro v. U. General*, 261 U.S. 111, 157 N.E. 734 (1927).

¹⁰⁴ *Op. Sol. I D* 32730 October 23 1914, *Op. Sol. I D* 32710, December 13 1911. See Chapter 7, sec. 2.

¹⁰⁵ 103 U.S. 176 (1900), discussed in *Memo Sol. I D* August 8, 1988.

SECTION II. THE STATUS OF FREEDMEN AND SLAVES

Although a minority race treated as inferior, some of the members of the southern tribes, especially the plantation owners of mixed blood, possessed slaves.¹⁰⁶ Among some of the tribes, particularly the Choctaws, Chickasaws, and Seminoles, the slaves and freedmen¹⁰⁷ numbered from one-tenth to one-third of the population.¹⁰⁸

The agents with the Choctaws, Chickasaws, Chickasaws, and Creeks went over to the Confederacy.¹⁰⁹ After the Union troops withdrew despite treaty obligations to protect them,¹¹⁰ their friendship was cultivated by Albert Pike acting for the Confederate State Department because of the strategic importance of the Indian country from a military and economic view.¹¹¹ The members of the southern tribes in Arkansas aided his diplomacy.¹¹²

Although many of their members remained loyal to the Union and in consequence suffered great privation,¹¹³ most of the southern tribes supported the Confederacy,¹¹⁴ largely because of economic considerations.

Influenced by the Emancipation Proclamation, the Choctaw Nation, when severing its connection with the Confederacy,

abolished slavery in February of 1863.¹¹⁵ The exact date when the slaves of other Indians were emancipated is doubtful. Some contend that they were freed by the Emancipation Proclamation prior to the Thirteenth Amendment of the Constitution of the United States,¹¹⁶ which prohibits slavery within the United States at any place subject to their jurisdiction. Others¹¹⁷ more accurately point out that the Emancipation Proclamation referred only to the states and did not extend to the Indian Territory. Although it has been suggested that the reasoning in *Wick v. Wright*¹¹⁸ and *Johnson v. United States*,¹¹⁹ holding that the Fourteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution did not grant citizenship to the Indians made also be applied in interpreting the Thirteenth Amendment,¹²⁰ it is now established that the Thirteenth Amendment freed the slaves of the United States,¹²¹ and its incorporated territories,¹²² of African, Indian, or mixed descent.¹²³

The treaty following the adoption of the Fourteenth Amendment and 4 months after the end of the Civil War a convention of the principal southern tribes was held at Fort Smith.¹²⁴ Treaties were effected with each of the tribes, which provided for peace and recognized the abolition of slavery.¹²⁵

Treaties containing provisions freeing slaves were also consummated with several northwestern tribes,¹²⁶ both before and after the Civil War.

¹⁰⁶ The Act of July 10, 1862, c. 76, 10 Stat. 734, authorized repayment to legal representatives of a general of Georgia for purchasing captured slaves from Creek warriors while these warriors were serving the United States against the Seminoles Indians in Florida.

¹⁰⁷ The freedmen were persons of African descent embracing free slaves, and their descendants who had been admitted to the rights of citizenship. *U.S. Stat. 224 U.S. 458* (1912). See *Abel*, *The Slaveholding Indians*, vol. 8, p. 209 et seq.

¹⁰⁸ *Sen. Ex. Doc. No. 71* 41st Cong., 2d sess., vol. 2, p. 3, March 24, 1870, *Gov. v. United States*, 224 U.S. 458, 102 (1912). Reports at the Dawes Commission p. 12 (1898). The earliest reference to slaves was found in the Treaty of September 17, 1779, with the Delaware, Art. 4, 7 Stat. 18, 14.

¹⁰⁹ Schmuckebach, *The Office of Indian Affairs*, op. cit. p. 40. The Choctaw Freedmen v. Choctaw Nation and Chickasaw Nation, 103 U.S. 115, 124 (1904). Part of the Ojaga, Quapaw, Seminole, and Shawnee tribes aided centers of influence with the Confederacy on October 2 and 4, 1861. The Choctaw signed such a treaty on October 7, 1861, and on October 25, 1861, adopted a declaration of independence. *Wardlaw*, *Political History of Choctaw Nation* (1938), pp. 182-184, 130. Also see *Op. Sol. I D* 327709, January 22, 1915. Part of the treaties negotiated by the Confederacy with the Indians, see *Abel*, supra, vol. 1 (1915), pp. 157, 158. Three treaties are discussed at pp. 158-180. The Confederacy recognized slavery as a legal institution within the Indian country, p. 180.

¹¹⁰ *Abel*, vol. 1, supra, pp. 14, 206.

¹¹¹ *Id.*, p. 14.

¹¹² Schmuckebach, op. cit. p. 49.

¹¹³ *Id.* The Choctaws, Creeks, and Seminoles were fairly evenly divided. *Abel*, vol. 1, supra, pp. 265-268, vol. 3, supra, pp. 12-304-308. Several appropriation acts authorized the President to expend part of the appropriations for the hostile tribes on the loyal members of such tribes, who were driven from their homes during the Civil War. Act of July 1, 1862, 12 Stat. 612, 628, Act of March 3, 1863, sec. 8, 12 Stat. 774, 793.

¹¹⁴ See *The Choctaw Freedmen*, supra, p. 110.

¹¹⁵ Treaty of July 19, 1863, with the Cherokee Nation, Art. 9, 14 Stat. 799, 801. However, the large slave owners among the Cherokee Nation did not recognize this law until the fall of the Confederacy. *Wardlaw*, op. cit. pp. 173-174.

¹¹⁶ Adopted September 8, 1865. *The Choctaw Freedmen*, supra, p. 124. See *Abel*, vol. 8, supra, p. 209.

¹¹⁷ *Abel*, vol. 8, supra, p. 209.

¹¹⁸ 112 U.S. 94 (1884).

¹¹⁹ 84 C. Cl. 441 (1890).

¹²⁰ See *Wren v. Hays*, 210 Fed. 880, 888 (C. C. A. 8, 1914), Thompson, *The Constitution & the Courts* (1924), p. 559.

¹²¹ *United States v. Thorpe*, 98 C. Cl. 558, 566 (1909), aff'd sub nom. *Choctaw Freedmen*, 193 U.S. 115 (1904). The day before the proclamation of the Thirteenth Amendment, the President approved the Joint Resolution of July 27, 1865, 15 Stat. 264, commencing General Sherman to return from passage women and children of the Navajo Indians removed in the Indian Territory.

¹²² *In re Fish Quail*, 81 Fed. 827 (D. C. Alaska, 1889). In which the court refused to recognize the tribal law of slavery because it contravenes the Federal Constitution.

¹²³ *Wardlaw v. United States*, 203 U.S. 1 (1906).

¹²⁴ *Sen. Ex. Doc. No. 71*, supra.

¹²⁵ Treaty of March 21, 1866, with the Seminoles, Art. 2, 14 Stat. 765, 766, Treaty of June 14, 1866, with the Creeks, Art. 2, 14 Stat. 785, 786, Treaty of July 19, 1866, with the Choctaw, Art. 6, 14 Stat. 799, 801.

¹²⁶ Treaty of January 22, 1865, with the Shawnee and others, Art. 11, 12 Stat. 827, 829. Treaty of January 20, 1865, with the Chickasaws, Art. 12, 12 Stat. 963, 963. Treaty of August 12, 1865, with the Snake, Art. 1, 14 Stat. 683.

Even before the war there were many freedmen in the Indian Territory¹¹⁷ and considerable intermarriage between Negroes and southern Indians.¹¹⁸ Fearing that the emancipation of the slaves might cause prejudice against them, the United States Commissioners required the adoption of important provisions regarding the freedmen in many of the treaties, which included recognition as citizens, the granting of equal rights with Indians¹¹⁹ and the right to share in tribal lands and property.¹²⁰

¹¹⁷The Court of Claims said:¹²¹

* * * It is impossible to find in the history of the Seminoles a trace of hostility towards their slaves or freedmen. . . . (P. 404)

* * * The wife of Osceola, one of their most noted, brave, and celebrated chiefs, was a descendant of a fugitive slave, and it was on account of her capture as a fugitive that this intrepid half-breed chief waged a cruel

and protracted warfare against the whites. . . . (P. 400)

The court added:

An examination of the treaties made immediately after the close of the Civil War with the tribes who had entered into treaties with the Confederacy, unmistakably discloses that the predominant purpose and intent of the Government as to preventing slavery was to protect and care for the freedmen. (P. 406)

The setting up of the freedmen as worthy of special consideration at a time when the Indians were suffering from economic dislocation¹²² earned increased prejudice and among the Chickasaws and Choctaws, a reign of terror.¹²³

Until the passage of the Citizenship Act, tribal Indians were unable to become citizens by the regular naturalization laws, but by the Thirteenth Amendment Negroes who were formerly slaves could become citizens in this way.¹²⁴

Other types of statutes distinguished between Indians and freedmen. For example, the prohibition against the execution and sale of improvements on Indian lands contained in the Act of May 2, 1890,¹²⁵ is applicable only to improvements owned by Indians by blood and not Indians by adoption or marriage.¹²⁶

¹¹⁷ *Id.*, vol. 3, *supra*, p. 272.

¹¹⁸ *Id.* vol. 3, *supra*, p. 24, fn. 14. Even before the Civil War some Indians actively opposed slavery. Opposition to slavery was one of the main objectives of the Keetoowah Society, secret organization of Choctaws, formed almost a century ago. Memo. Vol. I D. July 20, 1937.

¹¹⁹ Cherokee Treaty of July 10, 1866, 14 Stat. 700; Treaty of March 21, 1860, with the Seminole Nation, Art. 2, 14 Stat. 765, 750, interpreted by *Seminole Nation v. United States*, 78 C. Cl. 155 (1923).

¹²⁰ Treaty of March 21, 1860, with the Seminole Nation, Art. 15, 14 Stat. 755. See Chapter 3, sec. 41. On the subsequent history of these provisions, see Chapter 23, sec. 4.

¹²¹ *Seminole Nation v. United States*, 78 C. Cl. 455 (1923).

¹²² *Id.*, vol. 3, *supra*, pp. 200-202, 205.

¹²³ *Id.* p. 278.

¹²⁴ *Cy. United States v. Wright*, 244 U. S. 111 (1917).

¹²⁵ Sec. 81, 26 Stat. 81, 95.

¹²⁶ *Hampton v. Davis*, 4 Ind. T. 508 (1902).

INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS IN TRIBAL PROPERTY

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SECTION 1. THE NATURE OF INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS IN TRIBAL PROPERTY¹

The nature of the individual Indian's interest in tribal property presents one of the most difficult problems in the law of Indian property. It is clearly established that where legal or equitable title to real or personal property is vested in the tribe it is not vested in the individual members thereof, and yet these individual members are not entirely without legal or equitable rights in such property. The right of the individual Indian is, in effect, a right of participation similar in some respects to the rights of a stockholder in the property of a corporation.

In analyzing this right of participation, we shall be concerned, in the present chapter, with six questions:

(1) How does the right of participation in tribal property resemble, or differ from, other forms of property right?

(2) How far is this right of participation limited by the character and extent of the tribal property?

(3) Who is entitled to participate in tribal property?

(4) Under what circumstances, if any, is the individual's right of participation transmissible?

(5) What rights of user may the individual participant exercise while property remains in tribal status?

(6) What rights does the individual enjoy in the distribution of tribal property?

We must recognize that just as the nature of rights of participation in corporate property varies among corporations and among various classes of security holders within a single corporation, so the rights of individual Indians in tribal property exhibit a wide range of variation, and depend, in the last analysis, upon the governmental acts and contractual agreements of the Federal Government, the tribe, and the individual Indian himself.

Answers to our questions are to be found primarily in a series of statutes and treaties, nearly all of which deal with particular tribes. The judicial and administrative decisions in this field are, in nearly every case, dependent upon such particular acts and treaties.

Here, even more than in most fields of law, general principles, no matter how confidently announced by the highest authorities, must be pared down to the facts with which they deal before we are entitled to rely upon them.

With this cautionary introduction we turn to our first question: How does the right of participation in tribal property resemble, or differ from, other forms of property right?

The right of participation in tribal property must be distinguished, in the first place, from tenancy in common. This distinction is particularly important because a good deal of the discussion of tribal property in the decided cases invokes such terms as "ownership in common," which is occasionally used to mean "tenancy in common." The distinction between tribal ownership and tenancy in common may be clearly seen if we consider the fractional interest of an Indian in an allotment in leasehold status where there are so many heirs that every member of the tribe has a fractional interest, and then consider the interest which the same Indian would have in the same land if the land belonged to the tribe. In the first case, the individual Indian is a tenant in common. He may, under certain circumstances, obtain a partition of the estate. His consent is, generally, necessary to authorize the leasing of the land. His interest in the land is inalienable, devisable, and inheritable. In the second case, his interest is legally more indeterminate, although economically it may be more valuable. He cannot, generally, secure partition of the tribal estate. He can act not only as a voter in the leasing of tribal land. His interest in the tribal property is personal and cannot be transferred or inherited, but his heirs, if they are members of the tribe, will participate in the tribal property in their own right.

Observing that the Cherokee lands were held in communal ownership, the Supreme Court, speaking in the case of *The Cherokee Trust Funds*² remarks:

"...that does not mean that each member had such an interest, as a tenant in common, that he could claim a pro rata proportion of the proceeds of sales made of any part of them." (P. 308.)

In the absence of legislation to the contrary, the individual Indian has no right as against the tribe to any specific part of the tribal property.³ It is often said that the individual has only

¹ 17 U S 288 (1890).

² *Delaware Indians v. Cherokee Nation*, 108 U S 127 (1904); *United States v. Chase*, 248 U S 89 (1917); *See McDougal v. McKay*, 237 U S 372 (1915); *Shallibaugh v. McDougal*, 170 Fed. 529 (C. C. A. 8, 1900), app. dismissed 225 U S 551 (1912).

³ On the nature of tribal property see Chapter 15. On individual property see Chapters 10 and 11.

a "prospective right" to future income from tribal property in which he has no present interest.⁸ Other terms used to preface this right are "an incipient interest,"⁹ and a "float."¹⁰ These terms aptly characterize the intangible right of the Indian to share in tribal property. Until the property loses its tribal character and becomes individualized, his right can be no more than this, except insofar as federal law, tribal law, or tribal custom may give him a more definite right of occupancy in a particular tract. In the case of tribal funds, he has, ordinarily, no vested right in them until they have been paid over to him or have been set over to his credit, perhaps subject to certain restrictions.¹¹ In the case of lands, he has no vested right unless the land of some designated interest therein has been set aside for him either severally or as tenant in common.¹²

The statement has often been made that the tribe holds its property in trust for its members.¹³ This statement may be compared with the assertion frequently made that corporate property is held in trust for the stockholders, though, strictly speaking, no fiduciary trust relationship exists in either case.

In speaking of the title to the lands of the Creek Nation, the court in *Shulthis v. McDonald*,¹⁴ declared

The tribal lands belonged to the tribe. The legal title stood in the tribe as a political society, but those lands were not held by the tribe as the public lands of the United States are held by the nation. They constituted the home or seat of the tribe. Every member, by virtue of his membership in the tribe, was entitled to dwell upon and share in the tribal property. It was granted to the tribe by the federal government not only as the home of the tribe, but as a home for each of the members.¹⁵

Indian lands were generally looked upon as a permanent home for the Indians. "Considered as such, . . . it was not unnatural or unequal that the vast body of lands not thus specifically and personally appropriated should be treated as the common property of the Nation."¹⁶

That tribal property should be held in common for the benefit of the members of the Indian community as a whole was, according to the Supreme Court in the case of *Woodward v. de Graffenried*, the principle upon which conveyances of land to the Five

Civilized Tribes were made.¹⁷ Treaties often provided that the land conveyed to the tribe was to be held in common.¹⁸

Likewise certain statutes specify that tribal lands are to be held or occupied in common.¹⁹

Indian tribal laws and customs led governments dealing with Indian lands to adopt the theory that tribal property was held for the common benefit of all.²⁰ The constitution of the Cherokee Nation, both as originally adopted in 1820 and as amended in 1860, declared in section 2, article 1, that the lands of the Cherokee Nation were to remain the common property of the tribe.²¹

In the case of *United States v. Chalks*,²² the court, in referring to the lands occupied by the Tanawanda Band of Seneca Indians, stated, "The reservation lands are held in common by the tribe, although individual members of the tribe may be in possession of a particular tract, and such possession is recognized by the tribe" (P. 348). Many tribal constitutions, adopted under the Wheeler-Howard Act,²³ provide that all lands hitherto unallotted shall be held in the future as tribal property.²⁴

Although tribal property is vested in the tribe as an entity, rather than in the individual members thereof, each member of the tribe may have an interest in the property.

The nature of the individual member's right in tribal property is discussed in *Sanjour Bros. Co. v. United States*.²⁵ The court quotes the words of an Indian witness who compared a river in which there was a common right to fish to a "great title where all the Indians came to partake" (P. 197).

In the case of *Alaoui v. Shaw*, the Treaty of 1855 between the United States and the Chinook²⁶ is discussed. By the terms of article two of the treaty, a tract of land was to be "reserved for the use and occupation of the tribes, . . . and set apart for their exclusive use." The court construed the treaty to give the Indians an exclusive right of fishing in the waters on these lands; the right to fish being enjoyed by all members, even though the treaty was made with the tribe.²⁷

⁸ *Op. Sol. T. D.*, M 8570, August 15, 1922.

⁹ *Taylor v. Taylor*, 51 F. 2d 854 (C. C. A. 10, 1931), cert. den. 294 U. S. 972 (1931). The court reserved individual rights in change tribal interests. For a discussion of special laws governing Osage tribe see Chapter 28, sec. 12.

¹⁰ *Taylor v. Taylor*, 51 F. 2d 854 (C. C. A. 10, 1931), cert. den. 294 U. S. 972 (1931).

¹¹ *McCree v. Irony*, 201 Fed. 74 (C. C. A. 8, 1912), *Woodbury v. United States*, 170 Fed. 802 (C. C. A. 8, 1909). The cases involved rights of an outliee before allotments had been made. In an opinion involving back annuity payments the Solicitor of the Department of the Interior wrote: "The members of a tribe have an inherent interest in the tribal lands and funds, but until segregated by allotment or payment in severalty they remain the common property of the tribe." *Op. Sol. T. D.*, D 42071, December 20, 1921.

¹² Funds due Osage as share in royalties and proceeds from sale of land, not his until actually paid to him or placed to his credit—*Op. Sol. T. D.*, M 8570, August 15, 1922. See Chapter 27, sec. 123. So long as a judgment in favor of a tribe is not procured against individual members, no present or former member has a vested right—Letter of Commissioner of Indian Affairs to Indian Agents, October 9, 1937.

¹³ *Gillette v. Fisher*, 224 U. S. 840 (1912), *Re Shaw v. United States*, 24 F. Supp. 237 (D. C. S. D. Cal. 1938), aff'd — 74 F. 2d — (C. C. A. 10, 1940); 50 T. J. 102 (1937), *McCree v. Irony*, 201 Fed. 74 (C. C. A. 8, 1912).

¹⁴ *Ingon v. Johnston*, 164 Fed. 670 (C. C. A. 8, 1908), aff'd, 223 U. S. 741, *Cherokee Nation v. Hitchcock*, 187 U. S. 204 (1902).

¹⁵ 170 Fed. 538 (C. C. A. 8, 1909), aff'd 225 U. S. 861 (1912).

¹⁶ Also see *W. O. Johnson, Esq. & Son Co. v. Onondaga*, 100 Fed. 788 (C. C. A. 8, 1908). "Title to Creek lands were in nation, occupants had no more than possessory rights."

¹⁷ *Cherokee Nation v. Johnson*, 155 U. S. 106, 215 (1894).

¹⁸ 298 U. S. 284 (1915). Accord, *Heckman v. United States*, 294 U. S. 418 (1912), modifying and affirming *United States v. Allen*, 170 Fed. 19 (C. C. A. 8, 1910). See *Shulthis v. McDonald*, 170 Fed. 549 (C. C. A. 8, 1909), app. dismissed 225 U. S. 561 (1912).

¹⁹ See, for example, Treaty of December 29, 1802, with the United Nation of the Menominee and Shawnee Indians, 7 Stat. 411; Treaty of May 30, 1854, with the United Tribes of Kaskaskia and Peoria, Piankeshaw, and Wen Indians, 10 Stat. 1052; Treaty of June 22, 1805, with Choctaw and Chickasaw, 11 Stat. 611; Treaty of August 6, 1846, with Cherokee, 9 Stat. 971, discussed in *The Cherokees Trust Funds*, 117 U. S. 398 (1886), and *United States v. Cherokee Nation*, 202 U. S. 101 (1906).

²⁰ See, for example, Joint Resolution, June 10, 1902, 32 Stat. 744 (*Walker River, Utah*, and *White River Utah*). Various allotment statutes reserve from allotment lands to be held "in common," specifying occasionally for the reservation of grazing or timber lands, lands containing springs, etc. See, for example, Act of March 8, 1885, 23 Stat. 340 (*Tumacacili Reservation*); Act of March 2, 1880, 25 Stat. 1013 (*United Peruvian and Mammee*); Act of June 3, 1920, 44 Stat. 490 (*Northern Cheyenne Indian Reservation*). See, also, Chapter 15.

²¹ See *McCree v. Irony*, 201 Fed. 74, 740 (1912).

²² Cited and discussed in *Cherokee Internal Usage Cases*, 203 U. S. 70 (1906), and in *The Cherokee Trust Funds*, 117 U. S. 288 (1886).

²³ 28 F. Supp. 840, 848 (D. C. W. D. N. Y. 1938).

²⁴ Act of Feb. 18, 1936, 48 Stat. 864, 26 U. S. C. 461, et seq.

²⁵ *Re Ar. Ar.*, sec. 2, of the Constitution and By-laws for the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes of the Fort Hall Reservation, Idaho, approved April 8, 1903.

²⁶ 240 U. S. 194 (1915), aff'd sub nom. *United States v. Williams v. Sanjour Bros. Co.*, 233 Fed. 679 (D. C. Ore. 1910).

²⁷ 5 F. 2d 253 (D. C. W. D. Wash. 1926). Accord, *Itahabi v. United States*, 298 U. S. 763 (1931), rev'g sub nom. *United States v. Halbert*, 38 F. 2d 793 (C. C. A. 9, 1930).

Where certain lands have been reserved for the use and occupation of a tribe, members of the tribe are entitled to use bodies of navigable water within the reservation.³⁰

³⁰ Op Sol I D, 312139, May 14, 1928. *Of United States v. Poyner*, 355 U.S. 327 (1957), aff'd 34 F.2d 781 (C.A. 9, 1958) and modified 16 F. Supp. 177 (11 C. Ct. 1958) holding that under the Treaty of May 7, 1868, with the Crow Indians, 15 Stat. 640, the waters within the reservation were reserved for the equal benefit of tribal members and when allotments of these lands were made the right to use the waters passed to the allottees. See also *Klam v. United States*, 278

In all these cases, the individual enjoys a right of use derived from the legal or equitable property right of the tribe in which he is a member.³¹

31 *Id.* 93 (C.C.A. 9, 1921), holding that the members of the Shoshone Tribe who occupied tribal lands under Art. 6 of the Fort Bidwell Treaty, July 3, 1868, 15 Stat. 671, and who were awarded allotments of these lands under Art. 8 of the agreement ratified by Act of June 6, 1906, 34 Stat. 672 were entitled to the water rights.

³² See sec. 7, *infra*.

SECTION 2. DEPENDENCY OF INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS UPON EXTENT OF TRIBAL PROPERTY

The individual Indian claiming a share in tribal assets is subject to the general rule that he can obtain no greater interest than that possessed by the tribe in whose assets he participates.³² The use that an individual Indian may make of tribal lands is limited by the nature of the estate in the land held by the tribe. Thus in the case of *United States v. Chase*,³³ the court held that where the Omaha tribe held only a right of occupancy in certain lands, with the fee remaining in the United States, the tribe could not convey more than its right of occupancy to a member without the consent of the United States.

Viewed in this fashion, an allotment system or any act of

treaty which extinguishes tribal title decreases to that extent the quantity of tribal property in which the individual may share.³⁴

In the case of *The Cherokee Trust Funds*³⁵ the court said,

Then [Cherokee Nation] treaties of cession must, therefore, be held not only to convey the common property of the Nation, but to divest the interest therein of each of its members. (P. 308)

The individual's rights in tribal property are affected by any set-offs or claims against the tribe, because the amount of his share that he would otherwise be entitled to is decreased.

³² "The right of the individual member in tribal land is derived from and is no greater than the right of the tribe itself." If the tribe cannot make a lease without the approval of the Department of the Interior, neither can the individual. Memo Sol I D, 10,601, 21, 1938.

³³ 215 U.S. 260 (1917), rev'd 222 Fed. 993 (C.C.A. 8, 1915).

³⁴ For examples of this fact situation see *United v. Carter Oil Co.*, 43 F.2d 322 (C.C.A. 10, 1930), cert. den. 252 U.S. 911, (*United States v. Smith & H. Co.*, 193 Fed. 211 (C.C.A. 8, 1912); *Chase v. Trapp*, 224 U.S. 105 (1912); *The Antis Indians*, 5 Wall. 737 (1864)).

³⁵ 117 U.S. 288 (1886).

SECTION 3. ELIGIBILITY TO SHARE IN TRIBAL PROPERTY

Originally the only requisite to share in tribal property was membership.³⁶ Abandonment or loss of membership forfeited the right to share.³⁷ Acquisition of membership ordinarily carried with it the right to share in tribal property.³⁸ The question

of what constitutes tribal membership is discussed elsewhere.³⁹

Under the rule that membership was necessary to share in tribal property, the right to participate in the distribution could not pass to the member's heirs, nor could it be assigned by the member.⁴⁰ The children of a member could not inherit their parent's right to share. Their only right to share in the distribution of tribal property came from being members themselves. However, had their parent's right to participate in the distribution of tribal assets attached itself to certain property in which he had a vested right, his children might inherit this property.⁴¹ But as soon as the member's right had vested, the property was no longer tribal property. It had become individualized, it was individual property and not tribal property that was being passed on by descent.⁴²

Although originally the right to participate in tribal property was coextensive with tribal membership, this rule has been modified by various congressional enactments. On the one hand, the

they are equally with the native Cherokees the owners of and entitled to share in the profits and proceeds of these lands. (Pp. 210-211.)

See also *Cherokee Intermarriage Cases*, 203 U.S. 870 (1906), and *Delaware Indians v. Cherokee Nation*, 168 U.S. 127 (1894), for a discussion of the rights of the Delaware Indians in Cherokee property. In the case of the *Cherokee Nation v. Shawnee*, 155 U.S. 218 (1894), the court applied the rule of the *Jonesville* case to the Shawnees who were admitted to the Cherokee Nation.

³⁶ See Chapters 1, 5, 7.

³⁷ *Grady v. Faxon*, 254 U.S. 840, 642 (1912), *In Reque v. United States*, 228 U.S. 92 (1915).

³⁸ See Op Sol I D, 14,2071, December 26, 1921.

³⁹ Op Sol I D, M 15064, January 8, 1927, Op Sol I D, M 18270, November 8, 1924, Op Sol I D, M 27881, December 12, 1934.

³⁶ *Hallist v. United States*, 289 U.S. 758 (1933), rev'd sub nom. *United States v. Hallist*, 38 F.2d 703 (C.C.A. 9, 1939), *Tiger v. Poyner*, 22 F.2d 780 (C.C.A. 9, 1927), *In Reque v. United States*, 228 U.S. 127 (1912), aff'd 195 Fed. 945 (C.C.A. 8, 1912), *Shawnee v. Brady*, 253 U.S. 441 (1914), *Grady v. Faxon*, 254 U.S. 840 (1912), *Osage v. United States*, 172 Fed. 805 (C.C.A. 8, 1909), *Pleming v. McQuinn*, 215 U.S. 85 (1910), *Cherokee Nation v. Hitchcock*, 187 U.S. 294 (1902), Op Sol I D, M 15064, January 8, 1927. For regulations governing pro rata shares of tribal funds, see 25 C.F.R. 233.1, 211.7, for regulations governing annuity and other per capita payments, see 25 C.F.R. 234.1-234.5.

³⁷ See Memo Sol I D, March 19, 1938 (*Cherokee River Shores*). In the case of *The Cherokee Trust Funds*, 117 U.S. 288 (1886), in which the court denied the right of those who had remained West and abandoned their membership, to share in proceeds arising from sale of lands of Cherokee Nation, the court stated:

If Indians . . . wish to enjoy the benefits of the common property of the Cherokee Nation, in whatever form it may exist, they must . . . be admitted to citizenship. . . . They cannot live out of its Territory, evade the obligations and burdens of citizenship, and at the same time enjoy the benefits of the funds and common property of the Nation. (P. 811.)

³⁸ In the case of *Cherokee Nation v. Jovneque*, 155 U.S. 190 (1894), the Supreme Court discussed the rights of the Delaware Indians to share in the property rights of the Cherokee Nation, under the contract entered into between the Delaware and the Cherokees on April 8, 1867, in pursuance of a treaty entered into between the United States and the Cherokee Nation, July 19, 1866 (14 Stat. 709, 803). The court decided:

Given, therefore, the two propositions that the lands are the common property of the Cherokee Nation, and that the registered Delaware have become incorporated into the Cherokee Nation and are members and citizens thereof, it follows necessarily that

right to share in tribal property has been denied to certain special classes of tribal members. On the other hand, the right to share in tribal property has been extended to various classes of non-members.

The most important class of members excluded from the right to share in tribal property comprised white men marrying Indian women who, under special tribal laws, were admitted to tribal membership on "citizenship," but were not, in many cases, given any rights at all in tribal property.

The problem created by the claims of these people is discussed in the *Cherokee Intermarriage Cases*.¹ The court traces the policy of the United States and the tribal government to keep tribal property from coming into the hands of whites who married Indians solely for the purpose of sharing in the tribal wealth.²

The policy of the United States toward the rights of non-Indians who claimed rights because of intermarriage is indicated by the Act of August 9, 1868,³ which, excluding the Five Civilized Tribes from its scope, provided

" * * * in white man, not otherwise a member of any tribe of Indians, who may hereafter marry, an Indian woman, member of any Indian tribe * * * shall by such marriage hereafter acquire any right in any tribal property, privilege, or interest whatever to which any member of such tribe is entitled."

An analogous problem arose when the slaves residing in the Indian Territory were granted freedom and citizenship by the Emancipation Proclamation and the Thirteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution. The rights of these "freedmen" in tribal property are elsewhere discussed.⁴

As already noted, the original rule that existing membership was the requisite for sharing in tribal property. But the beginning of the allotment system, and the policy of encouraging the abandonment of tribal relations led to the modification of this rule.⁵

In order to persuade Indians to forsake tribal habits and adopt the white man's civilization, various acts⁶ were passed and

¹ 208 U. S. 70 (1908).

² In 1874, the Cherokee National Council adopted a code which admitted white men to citizenship and if one paid a sum of \$500 (the up proximate value of the share of each Indian) into the national treasury, he became entitled to a share in tribal property. But even this privilege was withdrawn in 1877, and so from that date, whites intermarrying into the Cherokee Nation were admitted to citizenship upon the condition that they should not thereby acquire an estate or interest in the communal property of the nation. In the case of *Whitman v. Cherokee Nation*, 80 U. S. 188, 192 (1869), the court quotes a section of the Cherokee code and adds: "The idea therefore existed, both in the mind and in the laws of the Cherokee people, that citizenship did not necessarily extend to or invest in the citizen a personal or individual interest in what the constitution termed the common property, 'the lands of the Cherokee Nation'." 80 U. S. 188, sec. 1, 20 Stat. 392, 25 U. S. C. 181.

³ See Chapter 8, sec. 11.

⁴ In 1909, Mr. Justice Van Devanter, then on the Circuit Court of Appeals, wrote

"For many years the treaties and legislation relating to the Indians proceeded largely upon the theory that the welfare of both the Indians and the whites required that the former be kept in tribal communities, separated from the latter, and while that policy prevailed, effect was given to the original rule respecting the right to share in tribal property, but Congress later adopted the policy of encouraging individual Indians to abandon their tribal relations and to adopt the customs, habits, and manners of civilized life and, as an incident to this change in policy, statutes were enacted declaring that the right to share in tribal property should not be impaired or affected by such a severance of tribal relations, whether occurring therebefore or thereupon." (*Locke v. United States*, 172 Fed. 305 408 (C. C. 8, 1909)). See Chapter 11, sec. 1.

⁵ *Id.*, the Act of December 10, 1886, 10 Stat. 938, 939, provided that the property rights of the married blacks in the tribal property of the Chippewas would not be impaired if they remained on the lands ceded to the United States and separated from the tribe

to them," adopted guaranteeing to those Indians who complied with this policy the same rights to share in tribal property, as if they had remained with the tribe.⁷ Four of these acts, general in their terms, deserve special mention.

(1) The Act of March 3, 1875,⁸ applying to Indians who had abandoned or who should thereafter abandon their tribal relationships to settle under federal homestead laws,⁹ declares

"That any such Indian shall be entitled to his distributive share of * * * tribal funds, lands, and other property, the same as though he had maintained his tribal relations * * *"

However, where specially provided such as in the Act of February 8, 1871,¹⁰ Indians who wished to leave the tribe and at the same time receive certain lands as their allotments, had to relinquish their rights to share in any further distribution of tribal assets. The Treaty of November 15, 1861,¹¹ with the Potawatomi Nation, discussed in *Goodfellow v. Minkley*,¹² provided that those of the tribe who had adopted the customs of the whites and who were willing to abandon all claims to the common lands and funds would have lands allotted to them in severalty.

(2) Section 64 of the Act of February 8, 1867,¹³ declares

" * * * and every Indian born within the territorial limits of the United States who has voluntarily taken up, within said limits, his residence separate and apart from any tribe of Indians therein, and has adopted the habits of civilized life, is hereby declared to be a citizen of the United States, and is entitled to all the rights, privileges, and immunities of such citizens, whether said Indian has been or not, by birth or otherwise, a member of any tribe of Indians within the territorial limits of the United

⁷ *P. v. Treaty with Choctaws*, September 27, 1850, 7 Stat. 438, dis. applied in *Whitman v. American*, 258 U. S. 878, 888 (1921).

⁸ *Locke v. United States*, 172 Fed. 400 (C. C. 8, 1909); *United States v. Brown v. Tabor*, 6 P. 2d 994 (App. D. C. 1925), *Page v. United States*, 10 P. 2d 219 (C. C. 9, 1927).

⁹ 18 Stat. 402, 420.

¹⁰ While this act is directed particularly at Indians acquiring homesteads on the public domain it has been referred to as applying to any Indians abandoning their tribal relations. *Locke v. United States*, 172 Fed. 305. It is believed, however, that this act can be construed in the following manner. The well-recognized purpose of this act and of similar acts preserving interests in tribal property to Indians was to induce Indians to leave the tribe and to take up the habits and customs of the whites. *See Locke v. United States*, 172 Fed. 305, 408, 409 (C. C. 8, 1909). In fact, the phrase "abandonment of tribal relations" has continuously been interpreted as meaning a physical abandonment of the tribe and the reservation and an undertaking to live as a white person. An example of such an interpretation of the phrase in the Act of 1875 is the Circular of Instructions, issued by the General Land Office on March 28, 1875, requiring Indians desiring to take advantage of the benefits of the Act of 1875 to make affidavit that they have adopted the habits and pursuits of civilized life (2 C. L. O. 44). All cases of which I have knowledge go far beyond into court or before the Department for the purpose of the rights of Indians under the 1875 or 1867 acts; the Indians had physically abandoned their tribe and reservation and this was assumed to prove abandonment of tribal relations.

In view of this purpose of Congress to induce Indians to leave the reservation and the interpretation of the phrase "abandonment of tribal relations" it may be said that the Act of 1875 would not apply to Indians who, without leaving themselves or their membership in a tribe but who, nevertheless, remain upon the reservation of the tribe and continue living as other members of the tribe and continuing the Federal protection of reservation life. *Alamo Sol. I. D.*, March 19, 1938.

¹¹ The Act of January 18, 1861, 21 Stat. 815, 816, gave to those Winnebago Indians of Wisconsin who had adopted the tribal customs and wished to use the money for purposes of settling a homestead on the public domain a pro rata share in the distribution of tribal funds.

¹² 16 Stat. 404 (Stockbridge and Muncie).

¹³ 12 Stat. 2191.

¹⁴ 10 Fed. Cas. No. 5537 (C. C. Kan. 1883).

¹⁵ This section was amended by the Act of May 8, 1900, 34 Stat. 182, 205 U. S. 849.

¹⁶ 24 Stat. 888, 990.

States without in any manner impairing or otherwise affecting the right of any such Indian to tribal or other property."

In the case of *Remond v. United States*,¹¹ a Sioux woman who had been born on the reservation and was a member of the tribe was taken from the reservation by her father. She moved away from the reservation, adopted the habits of white people and married a white man. Her rights to share in the tribal property were recognized under the 1887 statute.

(B) By section 2 of the Act of August 9, 1888,¹² rights in tribal property were preserved to Indian women who thereafter married citizens of the United States and became citizens also.

(4) In furtherance of its policy to induce Indians to break away from the tribal mode of life, Congress included in the Appropriation Act of June 7, 1897,¹³ the following provision granting rights in tribal property to the children of certain Indian women who had left the tribe:

"That all children born of a marriage heretofore solemnized between a white man and an Indian woman by blood and not by adoption, where said Indian woman is at this time, or was at the time of her death, recognized by the tribe shall have the same rights and privileges to the property of the tribe to which the mother belongs, or belonged at the time of her death, by blood, as any other member of the tribe."

Because this statute creates a new class of distributees in tribal property and, to that extent, decreases the property right of those distributees otherwise entitled to share, it has been strictly construed. It does not include the children of a marriage between two Indians,¹⁴ it does not include the children of a marriage between an Indian man and a white woman,¹⁵ it does not

save any rights of children of an Indian woman who married a white man after June 7, 1897,¹⁶ it does not save the rights of children whose Indian mother had married a white man before that date, but who was a member by adoption only, or if she had been a member by blood, who was not considered a member at that date or at her death if it had occurred prior to that time.¹⁷ Nor does it create any rights in any lineal descendants other than children of the Indian woman.

The rights of children of a tribal member are discussed in *Halbert v. United States*.¹⁸

The children of a marriage between an Indian woman and a white man usually take the status of the father, but if the wife retains her tribal membership and the children are born in the tribal environment and there reared by her, with the husband failing to discharge his duties to them, they take the status of the mother.

Whether grandchildhood of such a marriage have tribal membership or otherwise depends on the status of the father or mother as the case may be, and not on that of a grandparent.

As to marriages occurring before June 7, 1897 (as the marriages here dealt with), between a white man and an Indian woman, who was Indian by blood rather than by adoption, and who on June 7, 1897, or at the time of her death, was recognized by the tribe—their children have the same right to share in the division or distribution of the property of the tribe of the mother as any other member of the tribe, but this is in virtue of the Act of June 7, 1897.

In the distribution of tribal assets, the visible evidence of one's right to share is the appearance of his name on the appropriate "roll." If membership was the requisite he had to be on the "membership roll." As a practical matter, acts and treaties providing for distribution of tribal property had to and did set a specific date as to when status must exist. Generally those who did not have a status entitling them to share on that date could not participate even though they might have had such a status before and after that date.¹⁹

¹¹ *Papp v. United States*, 19 F. 2d 219 (C. C. A. 9, 1927).

¹² *Quaker v. United States*, 12 Fed. 305 (C. C. A. 8, 1900).

¹³ 34 U. S. 753, 765-764 (1841), act's with some *United States v. Halbert*, 18 F. 2d 705 (C. C. A. 9, 1910).

¹⁴ For examples of such rolls see the Act of March 1, 1901, 31 Stat. 800, 809-870 (Creek) and the Act of June 40, 1904, 32 Stat. 700, 502-602 (Cheyenne). See Chapter 24, see 7. For a discussion of the power of Congress and the Secretary over enrollment see Chapter 5, sec. 6 and 18.

¹⁵ In view of this act, "the mere transfer of citizenship is not important so far as the question of the rights in tribal property is concerned." *United States v. Brown v. Work*, 6 F. 2d 694, 698 (App. D. C. 1928).

¹⁶ 207 Fed. 655 (D. C. S. D. 1913).

¹⁷ C. 818, 25 Stat. 192. See also *Papp v. United States*, 19 F. 2d 219 (C. C. A. 9, 1927), holding that an Indian woman may receive a share in tribal property even if she marries a white man, becoming a citizen of the United States, has severed tribal relations and has adopted civilized life. *Work v. Gowan*, 18 F. 2d 820 (App. D. C. 1927), holding that a Chickasaw woman, though married to a white man and separated from the tribe, was entitled to share in tribal fund.

¹⁸ 10 Stat. 62, 90, 28 U. S. C. 32, 33.

¹⁹ *Of Stocky v. Indian*, 58 F. 2d 522 (App. D. C. 1932) (Act invoked by Secretary of the Interior, court declined to issue mandamus to compel Secretary to include certain names to tribal rolls).

²⁰ Memo 801 I D, December 18, 1934.

²¹ *Ibid*.

SECTION 4. TRANSFERABILITY OF THE RIGHT TO SHARE

Ordinarily, a right to participate in tribal property cannot be alienated, either voluntarily or by operation of law.²² To be entitled to share, the participant's children must have a status to their own right; they may be entitled to share as members, but not as heirs.²³

However, interests in tribal property may be made transferable by congressional act²⁴ or tribal law and custom.²⁵ In such

event, alienability may be limited to transfer only by operation of law.²⁶

Under the Wheeler-Howard Act, shares in the assets of an Indian tribe or corporation may be disposed of to the Indian tribe or corporation from which the shares were derived or to its successor with the approval of the Secretary of the Interior, but alienation to others is prohibited. The Secretary of the Interior is authorized to permit exchanges of shares of equal value whenever such exchange is expedient and for the benefit of cooperative organizations.²⁷

²² *Stoen v. United States*, 118 Fed. 283 (C. C. Neb. 1902), app. dismissed 198 U. S. 614 (1904). *Woodbury v. United States*, 170 Fed. 802 (C. C. A. 8, 1906), *of Doe v. Wilson*, 26 How. 487 (1856), *Chesley v. Bushong*, 1 Black 352 (1821).

²³ *Of Woodbury v. United States*, 170 Fed. 802 (C. C. A. 8, 1906).

²⁴ *S. G. Act of March 1, 1901*, 31 Stat. 861, 864, and *Act of June 30, 1902*, c. 1828, 32 Stat. 500 (Creek allotments and funds). *Act of June 28, 1906*, c. 8572, 34 Stat. 589, and *Act of April 18, 1912*, 37 Stat. 56 (Cheyenne allotments and funds). For a discussion of these statutes, see Chapter 23.

²⁵ See sec. 5.

²⁶ *Act of June 28, 1906*, c. 8572, 34 Stat. 589 (Owens), providing for alienability did not make interest assignable. *Op. Sec. I. D. M. 8370*, August 13, 1922. *Act of April 18, 1912*, 37 Stat. 56 (Owens), providing for alienability did not make right assignable. *Taylor v. Taylor*, 51 F. 2d 884 (C. C. A. 10, 1941), cert. den., 284 U. S. 672 (1931).

²⁷ *Act of June 18, 1934*, sec. 4, 48 Stat. 984, 985, 28 U. S. C. 164.

SECTION 5. RIGHTS OF USER IN TRIBAL PROPERTY

While property may be vested in a tribe, it is generally the individual members of the tribe who enjoy the use of such property. The question of what rights of user are enjoyed by individual Indians in tribal property may conveniently be considered under four headings:

- (A) Occupancy of particular tracts
- (B) Improvements
- (C) Grazing and holding rights
- (D) Rights in tribal timber

A. OCCUPANCY OF PARTICULAR TRACTS

We have elsewhere noted¹¹ that it is a distinctive characteristic of tribal property that the right of possession is vested in the tribe as such, rather than in individual members.

Nevertheless, as a practical matter, some orderly distribution of occupancy among the members of the tribe is generally necessary in order that the land may be used. Hence, it comes about that individuals are given rights of occupancy in certain tracts of tribal land. The tribe may formally assign a right of occupancy to an individual, or if an individual is in possession by tribal law, usage and custom, a right of occupancy may come to be recognized without such formal assignment.¹²

The right of an Indian tribe to grant occupancy rights in designated tracts is specified in certain treaties.¹³

Many treaties recognize the value of individual occupancy rights on tribal land as well as the individual ownership of improvements, and provide for payments to such individuals for loss or destruction of such rights and improvements.¹⁴

The limitations on the rights of an individual occupant have been defined in several cases. In *Recreation Gas Co. v. Snyder*,¹⁵ it was held that an Indian tribe might dispose of minerals on tribal lands which had been assigned to individual Indians for private occupancy, since the individual occupants had never been granted any specific mineral rights by the tribe.

In *Terrace v. Gray*,¹⁶ it was held that no act of the occupant of assigned tribal land could terminate the control only exer-

cised by the chiefs of the tribe over the use and disposition of the land.

In *Application of Parker*,¹⁷ it was held that the Tonawanda Nation of Seneca Indians had the right to dispose of minerals on the tribal allotments of its members and that the individual allottee had no valid claim for damages.

The nature of the rights conferred by an Indian tribe upon its members with respect to land occupancy depends upon the laws, customs, and agreements of the tribe. In the case of *United States v. Chase*,¹⁸ the Supreme Court held that the making of assignments of land of the Omaha tribe to individual members did not preclude a later revocation of such assignments when the tribe decided that the reservation should be allotted, even though the original assignments were made pursuant to a specific treaty provision, were approved by the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, and guaranteed the possessory right of the assignee. The court per *Van Dewater, J.*, characterized these arrangements as:

* * * leaving the United States and the tribe free to take such measures for the ultimate and permanent disposal of the lands, including the fee, as might become essential or appropriate in view of changing conditions, the welfare of the Indians and the public interests. (P. 300)

Referring to the rights of an occupant of lands of the Cherokee Nation, the court in *The Cherokee Trust Funds*,¹⁹ declared:

He had a right to use parcels of the lands thus held by the Nation, subject to such rules as its governing authority might prescribe, but that right neither prevented nor qualified the legal power of that authority to cede the lands and the title of the Nation to the United States.

The right of the occupant has been likened to that of a licensee or tenant at will. But, in order to assure the occupant of land some security in his possession, tribal law and custom may recognize his right of possession to the extent that the right of occupancy may not be revoked at the mere caprice of tribal officials.

Typical of the laws of the Five Civilized Tribes with respect to occupancy rights was the Creek Act of 1889 by which the Creek Nation conferred on each citizen of the nation who was the head of a family and engaged in grazing livestock the right to enclose for that purpose one square mile of public domain without paying compensation. Provision was made for establishing, under certain conditions, more extensive pastures near the frontier to protect the occupants against the influx of stock from adjacent territories.²⁰ Various laws of the Five Civilized Tribes provided for the sale or lease of these rights in tribal lands to other members of the tribe.²¹ Under these laws, the rights of the grantor and the grantee or the lessor and lessee were protected in tribal and territorial courts. If the lessee refused to surrender possession after the expiration of his term, the lessor could maintain an action of ejectment in federal courts.²² Adverse possession could run against an occupant. The occupant could maintain an action of forcible entry and detainer against

¹¹ Chapin 16, see 2.

¹² *Memo*, Vol. 1, October 21, 1938. "If no definite land assignments are made, it is possible that individual members may assert occupancy rights in tribal land based upon long-continued usage." On the power of the tribe over individual rights of occupancy in tribal land, see Chapin 7.

¹³ See, for example, Art. VI of the Treaty of September 24, 1857, with the Pawnee Indians, 11 Stat., 720, which provided in part:

* * * if they think proper to do so, they may divide and lands among themselves, giving to each person or each head of a family, a farm, subject to their tribal regulations, but in no instance to be sold or disposed of to persons outside or not themselves of the Pawnee tribe.

And see Art. IV of the Treaty of March 6, 1865, with the Omaha Indians, 14 Stat., 661, contained in *United States v. Chase*, 246 U. S. 89 (1917).

¹⁴ On the development of individual allotments, see Chapin 11.

¹⁵ See, for example, Treaty of January 24, 1925, with the Creek Nation of Indians, 7 Stat. 286; Treaty of August 8, 1851, with the Shawnee, Seneca, and Wyandot, 7 Stat. 855; Treaty of May 20, 1843 with the Seneca Nation of Indians, 7 Stat. 586; Treaty of June 5 and 17, 1846, with the various Bands of Potawatomi, Ojibwa, and Ottawa Indians, 9 Stat. 859; Treaty of August 6, 1846, with the Cherokee Nation, 9 Stat. 871; Treaty of October 18, 1846, with the Menominee Tribe of Indians, 9 Stat. 952; Treaty of February 5, 1856, with the Stockbridge and Muncie Tribes of Indians, 11 Stat. 608; Treaty of June 9, 1865, with the Walla-Walla, Cayuse, and Umatilla Tribes and Bands of Indians, 12 Stat. 915; Treaty of June 9, 1866, with the Yakima, 12 Stat. 951.

¹⁶ 150 N. Y. Supp. 216 (1914).

¹⁷ 156 N. Y. Supp. 916 (1916).

¹⁸ 287 N. Y. Supp. 134 (1929).

¹⁹ 245 U. S. 89 (1917).

²⁰ 117 U. S. 258, 308 (1886).

²¹ See *Terrace v. Gray*, 156 U. S. 284 (1915). Art. X of the Compiled Laws of the Cherokee Nation (1862) limited each citizen of the Nation to 50 acres of land for grazing purposes, attached to his farm.

²² *S. G.*, Compiled Laws of Cherokee Nation (1869), Art. XXIII, sec. 700.

²³ *Gooding v. Watkins*, 5 Ind. T. 578, 82 S. W. 913 (1904), *rev'd* on other grounds, 142 Fed. 312 (C. C. A. 8, 1906) (Chickasaw).

a trespasser." *Shulthis v. McDougal*,⁸ describes the nature of the interest held by an occupant of Creek lands, as follows:

From the time they took up their residence west of the Mississippi, the Constitutions of the Five Nations provided that their land should remain "common property," but the improvements made thereon, and in the possession of the citizens of the nation, are the exclusive and indefeasible property of the citizens, respectively who made, or may rightfully be in possession of them." The term "improvements," as here used, meant not only betterments, but occupancy. *Cherokee Nation v. Johnston*, 135 U.S. 189, 210. These "improvements" passed on to the father to son, and were the subject of sale, with the single restriction that they should not be sold to the United States, individual states, or to individual citizens thereof.

As the foregoing cases indicate the federal courts have given full weight to the allotments made by the various tribes with respect to the individual occupancy rights of tribal members.

Congress has repeatedly given recognition to such occupancy rights, as, for example, by providing that compensation be made directly to occupants of tribal land for damage done or property taken in railroad building across such land.⁹ There have been occasions, however, when Congress has felt compelled to modify these tribal arrangements by federal legislation. The Five Civilized Tribes are a case in point.

The following statement of conditions in the lands of the Five Civilized Tribes is found in the Report by the Senate Committee on the Five Civilized Tribes, May 1894.¹⁰

A few enterprising citizens of the tribe, frequently not Indians by blood but by intermarriage, have in fact become the practical owners of the best and greatest part of these lands, while the title remains in the tribe—therefore, in all, yet in fact the great body of the tribe derives no more benefit from their title than the neighbors in Kansas, Arkansas or Missouri.

These conditions were cited in justification of congressional acts providing for the redistribution of occupancy rights and ultimately for the allotment of lands of the Five Civilized Tribes.¹¹

Under the Act of June 18, 1894,¹² the problem of individual rights in tribal land assumes a new importance by reason of the provision prohibiting future allotments in severalty.

On unallotted reservations, tribal constitutions often provide for a single form of assignment, under which each head of a family is entitled to secure the occupancy of a tract of standard acreage under a tenure dependent upon use.¹³

On allotted reservations, the land problem is more complicated, and two types of assignment are common, "standard" assignments and "exchange" assignments. Standard assign-

ments are usually made to landless Indians or to Indians having a lesser amount of land than the standard acreage fixed by the tribe, and are generally made for the purpose of establishing homes. The tribal constitution and the assignment form generally provide that a standard assignment shall be canceled if the land is not beneficially utilized by the assignee for a specified period of time. Exchange assignments may be made to Indians who have an interest in severalty in some land in consideration of their surrendering such interest. Exchange assignments generally include more extensive rights of lease and transfer than are provided in connection with standard assignments, and in this respect approach more nearly to the character of allotments. The chief respects in which exchange assignments differ from allotments are: (1) land under such assignment cannot be alienated (apart from exchanges of land of equal value) during the life of the assignee except to the tribe, whereas allotted land may be transferred upon the removal of restrictions in the instance of a fee patent by the Secretary of the Interior, to any individual, Indian or non-Indian; (2) land under an exchange assignment is not inheritable in the strict sense of the term, as is allotted land, but is subject to reassignment to qualified members of the tribe designated by the original assignee, provided the land is neither subdivided into portions too minute for economic use nor reassigned to persons holding more than a designated maximum acreage of tribal land; (3) land under an exchange assignment is tribal land and is subject to all the protections which the law throws about tribal land.

The rights to improvements placed by individual Indians on the land are, under many constitutions, distinguished from the assigned right of men in the land itself, and are made transferable by devise, lease, or operation of law to certain members of the tribe upon approval by the tribe.¹⁴

It has been administratively held that a tribal grant of occupancy rights to its members does not necessarily involve the conveyance of any interest in tribal land, since the occupant may hold a position similar to that of a licensee.¹⁵

On the other hand, it has been held that an individual member of an Indian Pueblo has such an occupancy interest as will, under the Taylor Grazing Act,¹⁶ justify its preference in the award of grazing rights on the public domain.¹⁷

At this stage in the development of the forms of assignment it is important to avoid over-generalizations on the nature of the legal rights thus created. Possibly a suggestive analogy to the member's occupancy right in tribal land is the right of a member of a membership corporation to reside in an allocated tract of the society's estate.

B IMPROVEMENTS

With reference to improvements placed upon the land, an occupant may acquire a vested right, subject to the limitations of tribal rules and customs.¹⁸ It has been said that the individual has a vested right in such improvements, even as against the tribe because they are his own property, they are not his.

⁸ 118 U.S. 100, 101. See also *Cherokee Nation v. Johnston*, 135 U.S. 189, 210.

⁹ 170 Fed. 620, 641-644 (C. C. A. 8, 1900), app. dism. 228 U.S. 701 (1912).

¹⁰ See, for example, sec. 3 of the Act of March 2, 1890, 30 Stat. 990, 991, amended by the Act of February 28, 1902, 32 Stat. 60, 26 U.S.C. 314. And see also cited in Chapter 15, fn. 14.

¹¹ Sen. Rept. No. 377, 53d Cong. 2d sess. (1894), cited in *Stephens v. Cherokee Nation*, 274 U.S. 449 (1926), and *Eckman v. United States*, 224 U.S. 413, 434 (1911).

¹² For a further statement of conditions, see *Woodward v. de Graft*, 248 U.S. 284 (1918).

¹³ See Chapter 28.

¹⁴ Sec. 1 to 15, 48 Stat. 984, 25 U.S.C. 461-479.

¹⁵ Op. Bol. I. D. M. 27770, May 22, 1938.

¹⁶ E.g., Constitution and Bylaws of Papago Tribe, Ariz., approved January 6, 1937, Art. 8, sec. 8. Constitution and Bylaws of Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe, Nev., approved January 15, 1938, Art. 7, sec. 3.

¹⁷ E.g., Constitution and Bylaws of Cheyenne River Sioux, S.D., approved December 27, 1938, Art. 8, sec. 4.

¹⁸ Constitution and Bylaws of Lower Sioux Community, Minn., approved June 11, 1886, Art. 8, sec. 1, 5.

¹⁸ E.g., Constitution and Bylaws of Fort Belknap Community, Mont., approved December 14, 1935, Art. 7, sec. 8, 7, 8.

¹⁹ *Memo. Bol. I. D. October 21, 1938 (Palm Springs)*, *Memo. Bol. I. D. April 14, 1939 (Pueblo of Santa Clara)*.

²⁰ Act of June 28, 1894, 18 Stat. 1858, as amended June 28, 1898, 40 Stat. 1076, and July 14, 1939 (Pub. No. 174—73rd Cong., 1st sess.).

²¹ Eligibility of Indians and Indian Pueblos for Grazing Privileges under the Taylor Grazing Act, 70 I. D. 79 (1937). See also, Rights of Pueblos and Members of Pueblo Tribes under the Taylor Grazing Act, 60 I. D. 308 (1938).

²² See Chapter 7, sec. 8.

property of the tribe and his right to them is not derived as an interest in tribal property.²⁰

However, the occupant's right of use and disposition of the improvements is qualified by the fact that he does not own the land and that the tribe, in granting him the right of occupancy, has imposed as conditions certain terms affecting improvements. In effect, tribal laws and customs represent conditions upon the grant of individual occupancy rights, to which the individual is deemed to consent upon receiving such rights.²¹

The laws of many tribes contain provisions regarding the placing of improvements upon tribal land by an occupant.²² For example, the laws of the Cherokee Nation compelled the occupant to place at least \$500 worth of improvements upon the land he occupied within 12 months of locating thereon or else the land reverted to the nation.²³ Various tribal constitutions permit the holder of an assignment of land from the tribe to make improvements on the land and allow him to dispose of them by will or by other methods, under such rules and regulations as the tribal council may direct. It is also generally provided that permanent improvements may not be removed from the land without the consent of the tribal council.²⁴

The claim of the individual Indian to the improvements he has placed upon tribal land has been frequently recognized by Congress. Allotment acts generally provided that the Indian who held certain lands as an occupant and had made improvements thereon had prior right of selecting these lands as his allotment.²⁵ The practical value of this was that he could, if he wished, retain a favorable location and save himself the expense of moving and making improvements elsewhere.²⁶

Various statutes recognize the right of the individual who has occupied or placed improvements upon tribal land to the value of

these improvements when they have been taken from him or destroyed.²⁷

C. GRAZING AND FISHING RIGHTS²⁸

Even in the absence of particular assignments of individual lands, numerous tribes limit the use of tribal lands as frequently imposed, either by tribal or by federal authorities, for the purpose of defining and protecting the rights of all the members of the tribe, including those not Indian.²⁹ This control has been exercised most notably to prevent exploitation of tribal grazing lands by a small number of stock owners and to protect the economic life of the tribe against the damage resulting from serious overstocking of the range and soil erosion.³⁰

In the case of *United States v. Biquin*,³¹ the court considered regulations promulgated by the Commissioner of Indian Affairs governing grazing on the Shoshone Indian tribal lands. The regulations provided generally for the free grazing by each family of a limited number of stock, which were to be branded. Indians were allowed to graze cattle in excess of this number by securing a permit and paying a small fee. The court held that an Indian who grazed cattle in violation of these regulations was guilty of trespass and enjoined him from so using the tribal lands.³²

In the case of *United States v. Biquin*,³³ and related cases, the court had before it the power of the Department of the Interior to make grazing regulations on Navajo tribal lands.³⁴ Consent

²⁰ Memo No. I D, October 22, 1888 (Talm Springs). The tribe does not own the improvements placed on tribal land by or under direction of individual members of the tribe. Where the occupant leases, with approval of the tribe and the Department of the Interior, the land and improvements, "there should be a definite provision as to the division of rentals between the individual as the owner of improvements, and the tribe as the owner of the land." Cf. Memo No. I D, October 20, 1937 (P. Belknap).

²¹ See Chapter 7, sec. 8.

²² See Chapter 16, sec. 9 and 10B.

²³ Compiled 1892, Art. III.

²⁴ *U. S. v. Constitution and Bylaws of the Ogala Sioux of Pine Ridge Reservation*, approved January 15, 1896, Art. 10, sec. 9. Constitution and Bylaws of the Colorado Pine Indians, approved August 13, 1897, Art. 8, sec. 9; Art. 1, sec. 2 of the Cherokee Constitution (1892) provided that improvements must be made by the individual occupant and recognized his vested rights therein. The improvements were inheritable and subject to sale, the only restriction being that they were not to be sold to the United States, to any of the states, or to any citizen of the United States. The purpose of this restriction was to keep tribal interests in possession. See *Cherokee Tribal Funds*, 117 U. S. 286, 303 (1885). *Shilshu v. McLaughlin*, 170 Fed. 329, 334 (C. C. S. 1000), app. den. 225 U. S. 351 (1912).

²⁵ Improvements and inclosures on lands held in occupancy made in furtherance of agriculture and grazing purposes by members of the Five Civilized Tribes were permitted to pass, by quitclaim deed or bill of sale from one member to another. See *United States v. Red-Bead Mill & Elevator Co.*, 171 Fed. 601, 604 (C. C. E. Okla. 1908).

²⁶ That all allotments . . . shall be selected . . . in such manner as to embrace the improvements of the Indians making the selection, is the provision found in sec. 2 of the General Allotment Act of February 8, 1887, 24 Stat. 388, 25 U. S. C., sec. 881, 323, 339, 354, 318, 349, 381, 389, 341, 342, and sec. 9 of the Act of March 2, 1889, 25 Stat. 388 (Sonz).

²⁷ Art. 3 of the Agreement of June 6, 1900, §1 Stat. 672, between the Shoshones and the United States provided that the Indians who had taken possession of lands under a prior agreement (Act of February 23, 1869, 25 Stat. 687) and were occupying them as tribal lands and had made improvements thereon had a preference in selecting such lands as contained the improvements for their allotments. See *Steen v. United States*, 273 Fed. 93 (C. C. A. 9, 1921), and see Art. 8 of the Agreement with the Crow Indians, ratified April 27, 1904, c. 1924, 38 Stat. 363.

²⁸ This explains why the selection allotments, contrary to what is said to who had been entitled to occupancy rights.

²⁹ Act of February 15, 1871, 16 Stat. 440 (Menominee); Act of May 18, 1872, 17 Stat. 85 (Klamath); Act of February 19, 1874, 18 Stat. 380 (Bannock); Act of May 15, 1882, 22 Stat. 63 (Miami); Act of February 20, 1895, 28 Stat. 677 (Ute); Act of March 2, 1907, 34 Stat. 1220 (Cheyenne); Act of June 3, 1924, 43 Stat. 387 (Red Lake); Act of January 29, 1925, 43 Stat. 705 (Indians in New Mexico or California).
³⁰ This section deals only with title in tribal property. On rights pertaining to adjacent public lands, under the Taylor Grazing Act, see sec. 108 and 109, *supra*.

³¹ Tribal constitutions sometimes provide that in issuing grazing permits or issuing tribal lands preferences shall be given to Indian cooperative associations and to individual members of the tribe. See, e. g., Constitution of the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe, South Dakota, Art. VIII, sec. 3.

³² The purpose of the general grazing regulations issued by the Secretary of the Interior is set forth as follows:

(a) The preservation . . . of the forest, the forage, the land, and the water resources, and the building up of these resources where they have been determined. (b) The utilization of these resources for the purpose of giving the Indians an opportunity to carry on their own industry and to improve their livestock. (c) The granting of grazing privileges on surplus range lands . . . in a manner which will yield the highest return consistent with conservation of the land. (d) The protection of the interests of the Indians from the encroachment of unduly aggressive and anti-social individuals. 25 F. R. 71.5

³³ (D. C. Wyo. 1928, unreported) D. C. File No. 90-2-8-34.
³⁴ In the case of *United States v. Jansen*, unreported (D. C. W. Wash. 1928), a member of the Yakima tribe was adjudged guilty of trespass on tribal lands when he grazed sheep upon the tribal reservation without securing a permit from the Secretary of the Interior, in accordance with regulations promulgated by the Secretary. See also *United States v. Olney*, unreported (D. C. E. D. Wash. 1919), holding that the Secretary of the Interior has the authority to require an Indian user of tribal grazing lands to first secure a permit and to require him to pay a fee for cattle grazed in excess of the number prescribed as "free" under Department of the Interior regulations.

³⁵ (D. C. Ariz. 1939, unreported) D. C. File No. 90-2-8-34-3.

³⁶ As promulgated, June 2, 1887, these regulations provided, in part:

1. The Commissioner of Indian Affairs shall establish land-management districts within the Navajo and Hopi Indian Reservations, based upon the social and economic requirements of the Indians and the necessity of rehabilitating the grazing lands.
2. The Commissioner of Indian Affairs shall promulgate for each land-management district the carrying capacity for livestock.
3. The Superintendent shall keep accurate records of ownership of all livestock.
4. The Superintendent shall reduce the livestock in each district to the carrying capacity of the range.
5. The Superintendent is authorized to assess and collect trespass fees and, with the consent of the tribal council of the Navajo or Hopi Indians, may also assess and collect fees for the use of the range owned in excess of the base preference number and upon all non-productive stock owned below the base preference number. . . .

Regulations governing grazing on the Navajo and Hopi Reservations are codified in 25 C. F. R. 12.1-12.13.

of the Navajo tribe to the federal grazing regulations had been duly obtained. The court held that under these regulations the Secretary of the Interior could require the removal of horses from the reservation in excess of the number permitted, and in its decree the court compelled the individual stock owners to remove their excess stock. In addition, the court disposed of questions that might cause future litigation by including a declaratory judgment to the following effect:

" * * The Secretary of the Interior of the United States is vested with the power, right, and authority to promulgate rules and regulations for the protection of the tribal lands of the Navajo Reservation within the State of Arizona, and to the effect and extent necessary to prevent waste caused by overgrazing and to prevent injury to unreasonable monopolization of tribal range by individuals, and to provide by rules and regulations a maximum carrying capacity of such districts as may be fixed and determined by said rules and regulations."

A similar problem has arisen in connection with the removal of individual fishing rights in tribal waters. In the case of *Mason v. Burns*,¹²⁸ the court considered the power of the Secretary of the Interior to promulgate regulations with respect to the use by tribal Indians of waters in the Quinault Reservation which had been reserved to the exclusive use of the Indians by the Treaty of July 1, 1857, and January 25, 1856, with the Quinaults and Quilchets.¹²⁹ The scheme of regulations in question has been promulgated by the Department of the Interior, without tribal consent. Under these regulations certain members of the tribe were granted exclusive fishing rights at favored locations upon payment of prescribed fees, and other members were excluded therefrom. The court held that these regulations were invalid. The decision in *Mason v. Burns* is distinguishable from the grazing cases discussed above in two respects. First certain individual members of the tribe were entirely excluded from the right to fish in tribal waters, in *Mason v. Burns*, while in the grazing cases no member of the tribe was entirely deprived of grazing rights on tribal land. Secondly tribal authority for the regulations in question was lacking in *Mason v. Burns* and present in the *Brown* case. (Whether it was present in the other grazing cases is not clear.)

D RIGHTS IN TRIBAL TIMBER

Where a tribe possesses property rights in timber, the question arises: What right has a member of the tribe to cut and to use or sell tribal timber?

By the general Act of February 16, 1889,¹³⁰ for example, the President of the United States was authorized to permit, at his discretion and under such regulations as he might prescribe, Indians living on reservations or allotments, the fee to which was in the United States, to cut, remove, sell or otherwise dispose of dead timber, standing or fallen, on such lands. Pursuant to this statute, permission was given to Indians of the Chippewa reservation in Minnesota to cut tribal timber, subject to certain regulations.¹³¹ As discussed in the case of *Pine River Logging Co. v. United States*,¹³² the regulations permitted "deserving Indians, who had no other means of support, to cut for a single season a limited quantity of dead and down timber. * * *, and to use the proceeds for their support in exact proportion to the scale

of logs hauled by each provided that ten per cent of the gross proceeds should go to the stumpage or poor land of the tribe."

" * * The facts in the *Pine River Logging Co.* case disclosed that the Commissioner of Indian Affairs had approved contracts between several Indians and a logging company for the cutting of a certain amount of dead timber. In its decision the court held that both the Indians and the logging company were trespassers and were liable to the United States for the value of the timber cut in excess of the amount stated in the contract."¹³³

Other acts relating to specific tribes provided that the timber on tribal lands was to be cut and sold under federal supervision and the proceeds thereof were either to be spent for the benefit of the tribe or distributed per capita.¹³⁴

The general Act of June 25, 1910,¹³⁵ contains authority for the sale of standing living and dead and down timber from the unallotted lands of any reservation, except the Ojibwa, the Five Civilized Tribes, and the reservations of Minnesota and Wisconsin.

Pursuant to the foregoing acts, the Department of the Interior has issued general forest regulations.¹³⁶ Insofar as these acts and regulations deal with the rights of the tribe in tribal timber they are elsewhere considered.¹³⁷ The right of the individual Indian to cut tribal timber is covered by section 20 of the current regulations which appears in section 61.27 of Title 25 of the Code of Federal Regulations.

Section 61.27 establishes a permit system which permits approval by duly authorized representatives of the tribe as required to the cutting of timber by individual Indians on tribal lands. As stated in the regulation, the system was devised to meet the needs of "Indians and other persons in limited quantities of timber for domestic, agricultural, and grazing purposes." Individual Indians who need timber for personal use may receive permits without the payment of stumpage charge, but the trees so cut are to be designated by a forest officer or other agency employee. The maximum value of the stumpage which may be thus cut by one person in any one year is not to exceed \$100. Should the individual require more timber for his needs, he may purchase the surplus tribal timber at timber otherwise authorized for sale (\$1.18). The Indian is given the preference of buying stumpage not exceeding \$5,000 in value in open market without having to bid therefor, provided the tribe consents to the sale (\$61.17).

¹²⁸ 304 U.S. 170.

¹²⁹ For a later act relating to rights of individual Chippewas in tribal timber, see the Act of June 27, 1902, 32 Stat. 400.

¹³⁰ 25 U.S.C. § 381, Act of June 14, 1892, c. 118, 25 Stat. 140 (Minnesota), discussed in *United States v. Brown*, 5 U.S.C. § 381, 24 Stat. 994 (App. D. C. 1925), and supplemented by the Act of June 28, 1906, c. 3378, 34 Stat. 547, Act of December 21, 1904, c. 22, 33 Stat. 695 (Alabama), Act of April 23, 1904, 33 Stat. 102 (Florida). Cf. sec. 4 of the Act of March 3, 1921, 41 Stat. 1275 (Fort Belknap) which reserves the right of the individual Indian to cut timber on tribal land. The foregoing statute also provides that the head of a family may take cut from unallotted tribal lands for domestic use (see § 8).

¹³¹ 36 Stat. 855, 857, sec. 7, 25 U.S.C. § 407. The disposition of timber belonging to the Five Civilized Tribes is governed by the Act of June 28, 1898, 30 Stat. 490, Act of January 21, 1902, 32 Stat. 774, Act of April 28, 1906, 34 Stat. 137, Act of August 24, 1913, 37 Stat. 497. Timbers on reservation lands in Minnesota and Wisconsin may be sold in accordance with the provisions of the Act of February 16, 1889, 25 Stat. 979, 25 U.S.C. § 381, the Act of March 28, 1906, 35 Stat. 73 (Minnesota), and the Act of May 18, 1910, 36 Stat. 120, 137 (Red Lake).

¹³² 25 U.S.C. § 381-31-31-29. Office of Indian Affairs, Department of the Interior, General Forest Regulations, approved April 28, 1926. It is provided that the regulations may be suspended by special instructions to particular reservations or by provisions of tribal constitutions, bylaws, or charters, or any authorized tribal action of the tribes thereunder. 25 U.S.C. § 31-6.

¹³³ See Chapter 15, sec. 123, 19.

¹²⁸ 5 P. 2d 265 (D. C. W.D. Wash. 1926).

¹²⁹ 12 Stat. 971.

¹³⁰ C. 172, 25 Stat. 973, 25 U.S.C. § 381. On the right of Indians, under departmental regulations, to cut and sell tribal timber, see Act of March 31, 1889, 25 Stat. 36, entitled:

"An act to confirm certain instructions given by the Department of the Interior to the Indian agent at Green Bay Agency, in the State of Wisconsin, and to legalize the acts done and permitted by said Indian agent pursuant thereto."

¹³¹ 138 U.S. 270, 285-286 (1902).

SECTION 6 INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS UPON DISTRIBUTION OF TRIBAL PROPERTY

The extent of individual participation in the distribution of tribal property is governed, in the first instance by the federal statute or treaty authorizing the distribution, or, where the federal law is silent, by the law of custom of the tribe.

Appportionment and distribution of tribal funds may be affected by acts passed by Congress in the exercise of its plenary power over tribal property.¹¹⁴ The manner in which the plenary power over tribal property could be exercised to affect the individual's rights is discussed elsewhere.¹¹⁵

A. MODES OF DISTRIBUTION

Where Congress has prescribed the method of distributing tribal property, equal division per capita has been the general rule.¹¹⁶ This method of apportionment is consistent with the nature of the individual's interest in tribal property and is found in numerous treaties and acts providing for the distribution of tribal property.¹¹⁷ Every member of the tribe has an interest in preventing one member from getting more than his share.¹¹⁸

However, the act, treaty, or custom providing for distribution may restrict the class of those entitled to participate in a given distribution or deviate from the equality rule by differentiating among various classes of participants. Certain classes of members may receive more tribal property at given times than others.¹¹⁹

Even in the same class there have been inequalities in the distribution of tribal assets. For example, many allotments were made on the basis of acreage rather than value, although equality of acreage might co-exist with wide inequality of values.

Ordinarily, in the distribution of money, the wants of all individuals are, for all practical purposes, infinite and equal, and equal per capita distribution is a well-known universal rule.¹²⁰

Where, however, the Federal Government has provided for a distribution of land or overruns or fawns of oven, differentia-

tions have frequently been made between adults and infants or between heads of families, and dependents or between men and women.¹²¹ Likewise, where divisions exist within a tribe, based upon separations in migration degree of blood, in other historical factors, these factors have frequently been taken into account in treaties and statutes.¹²²

Occasionally Congress, instead of specifying a total amount to be distributed within a given class, has allocated out of the tribal estate a fixed amount of money or property to each member of a tribe,¹²³ or to each member who meets certain qualifications.¹²⁴

¹¹⁴ Thus, for example the annual General Allotment Act of February 8 1887 sec. 1, 24 Stat. 898, 25 U.S.C. § 321 authorized the allotment of land in these terms:

"To each head of a family one quarter of a section,
To each such person over eighteen years of age, one eighth of a section,
To each orphan child under eighteen years of age, one eighth of a section, and
To each other single person under eighteen years now living on the land who has been prior to the date of the order, or the President directing its allotment of the land allotted in only one living one sixteenth of a section.

¹¹⁵ An example of a treaty provision modifying the general rule of equality is Art. 10 of the Treaty of October 1, 1891, with the Sacs and Foxes of the Mississippi 17 Stat. 467-470. Under this treaty half bloods and intermarried Indians might receive certain tribal lands as vested to them in severalty, but that they would have no share in other tribal property, even though they remained members of the tribe.

See, for example sec. 1 and 2, Act of July 29, 1848, 9 Stat. 232, 231-265 (N. C. Cherokee), Act of January 18 1881, 21 Stat. 815 (Winnebae Indians), Act of October 19 1848 23 Stat. 608 (Cherokee Freedmen), Act of October 1, 1890 26 Stat. 816 (Shawnee and Delaware Indians and Cherokee Freedmen), Act of March 1, 1891, 27 Stat. 114 (Rock bridge and Munsee tribes), Act of April 28 1904, 34 Stat. 519 (Wyandotte Indians), Act of March 2 1907 34 Stat. 979 (Sav. and Fox Indians), Act of August 11 1916 39 Stat. 799 (Rosebud Sioux Reservation), Act of March 4 1917 39 Stat. 1195 (Sisseton Sioux), Act of April 24 1924 43 Stat. 95 (Chippewas of Minnesota), Act of May 3 1924 43 Stat. 484 (Shawnee Tribe), Act of March 4 1920 43 Stat. 1200 (Loyal Shawnee Indians), Act of March 3, 1914, 40 Stat. 1495 (Blackfeet Tribe).

The following Appropriation Acts include special provisions for per capita payments to specified individuals or to heirs of individuals within a given tribe, Act of March 1, 1855, sec. 9, 10 Stat. 686 (North Carolina Cherokee), Act of July 11, 1854, sec. 8 (7), 10 Stat. 410, 418 (Cherokee), Act of August 18, 1859, sec. 14 11 Stat. 91, 92 (Cherokee and of the Mississippi), Act of June 14, 1861, 12 Stat. 408 (Cherokee), Act of March 8, 1875, 18 Stat. 402, 412 (Kickapoo), Act of July 4, 1884, 28 Stat. 76, 81 (Kickapoo), Act of June 29, 1888, 28 Stat. 217, 222-224 (Kickapoo), Act of March 8, 1891, 28 Stat. 969, 1010 (Cheek Nation of Indians), Act of June 10, 1895, 29 Stat. 321, 384 (Pawnee Band of Sioux and Santee Sioux in Nebraska) and pp. 328-330, Art. 11 (Apache, Mohave, and Yuma), Act of July 3 1898, 30 Stat. 671, 678 (Kickapoo), Act of March 1 1899 30 Stat. 924, 931 (Kickapoo), Act of March 8, 1905, 38 Stat. 1048, 1052 (Kickapoo) and pp. 1078-1079, Art. II (Fort Madison Indian Reservation) Act of March 4, 1920, 45 Stat. 1562, 1587 (Sisseton Chippewas of Minnesota), Act of May 14, 1880 46 Stat. 279, 285 (Sioux).

Special rights of participation in tribal property granted to mixed bloods of various tribes are also to be noted, e.g., Act of July 17, 1874 18 Stat. 904 (Sioux Nation). See also Appropriation Act of March 3, 1885, 28 Stat. 862, 868 (Kaw or Kansas Tribe).

¹²² Act of August 22, 1911, 37 Stat. 44 (Choctaw, Chickasaw, Cherokee, and Seminole Indians), Act of November 19, 1921, 42 Stat. 231 (Chippewas of Minnesota), Act of January 25, 1924, 48 Stat. 3 (Chippewas of Minnesota), Act of January 20 1925, 49 Stat. 798 (Chippewas of Minnesota), Act of February 19, 1928, 41 Stat. 7 (Chippewas of Minnesota), Act of March 15 1928, 45 Stat. 414 (Chippewas of Minnesota), Act of April 28, 1928, 45 Stat. 467 (Shoshone and Arapahoe of Wyoming), Act of May 11, 1928, 45 Stat. 497 (Roosevelt Sioux Indians), Act of May 26, 1928, 45 Stat. 747 (Pine Ridge Sioux Indians), Act of December 28, 1929, 46 Stat. 64 (Chippewas of Minnesota), Act of March 24, 1890, 46 Stat. 98 (Shoshone and Arapahoe), Act of April 15, 1930, 46 Stat. 160 (Pine Ridge, South Dakota), Act of February 8, 1931, 46 Stat. 1000 (Shoshone and Arapahoe), Act of February 14, 1935, 48 Stat. 1107 (Chippewas of Minnesota), Act of February 14, 1941, 46 Stat. 1107 (Chippewas of Minnesota), Act of February 12, 1932, 47 Stat. 49.

¹¹⁶ See Chapter 5, sec. 85.

¹¹⁷ See Chapter 5, sec. 8.

¹¹⁸ On the application of this rule to the allotment of tribal land see Chapter 11. The application of this rule to the distribution of annuities is discussed in Chapter 10 and 19.

¹¹⁹ E.g., Act of April 1, 1848, c. 206 23 Stat. 94 (Shawnee Nation), Act of April 27, 1904, c. 1020 31 Stat. 431 (Devils Lake Reservation Indians), Act of June 24, 1906, c. 3578, 34 Stat. 547 (Menominee), Act of March 2, 1907, c. 2980 34 Stat. 1280 (Rockford Sioux).

¹²⁰ *Pugh v. Tule Lake Oil Co.*, 18 39 3d 809 811 (C. C. 4 1911).
¹²¹ *U.S. v. Tule Lake Oil Co.*, 18 39 3d 809 811 (C. C. 4 1911).
¹²² (C. C. N. D. Okla. 1930).

¹²³ In passing upon the distribution of a tribal fund created for the purpose of paying to certain Stockbridge-Munsee Indians their share in tribal property, said Indians having been erroneously omitted from the distribution of an earlier fund the Solicitor of the Department of the Interior declared:

The fund created was for one purpose only. Consequently there is no merit to the contention that if the fund be killed or consumed then it must be applied to distribution to the tribal spendthrifts (trust annuities) and that it is necessarily individual and not tribal because all members do not participate in the distribution. The very purpose of the appropriation requires the contention. (Op. Sol. I. T. 1.)

Cf. Treaty of March 28, 1846, with the Ottawa and Chippewas, 7 Stat. 491, providing for payments of different amounts to different classes of half breeds.

¹²⁴ Per capita payment was made the general rule, except where the interest of the Indians or some treaty stipulation otherwise required, by sec. 8 of the Act of March 3, 1855, 10 Stat. 229, 230. This provision superseded a provision to the same general effect in sec. 8 of the Act of August 20, 1852, 10 Stat. 41, 60 which made permanent the clause which had been included as a limitation upon the appropriations made by earlier appropriation acts. See section 5 of the Act of July 21, 1852, 10 Stat. 15, 28. Recent statutes, providing for per capita distribution of various funds are cited in fn 135 and 144 *supra*.

To equalize allotments, various acts provide for the payment ¹¹ or the withholding of payment ¹² of tribal funds to individuals

B TIME OF DISTRIBUTION

Ordinarily, acts providing for the distribution of tribal assets provide for the immediate payment of the entire share to those entitled to it. Individual rights vest immediately upon segregation, and the tribal character of the property is extinguished.¹¹

In some special acts providing for distribution of tribal property, Congress has seen fit to withhold payment of some or all of the Indian's share until some future time.¹⁴⁰

(Chippewas of Minnecota), Act of June 11, 1932, 47 Stat. 1409 (Red Lake at Minnecota), Act of June 11 1932, 47 Stat. 1407 (Mnongwito of Wisconsin), Act of January 20, 1931, 47 Stat. 771; (Chippewas of Minnecota), Act of June 1, 1931 in Stat. 172 (Mnongwito), Act of June 17 1931, 48 Stat. 140 (Seminole), Act of June 13, 1931, 48 Stat. 254 (Red Lake), Act of May 7 1931, 48 Stat. 605 (Chippewas of Minnecota), Act of July 2 1931, 49 Stat. 444 (Red Lake), Act of June 20, 1930, 49 Stat. 1566 (Blackfeet).

¹⁰The Act of April 10, 1898, 25 Stat. 91 (later amended by the Act of June 21, 1906, 31 Stat. 325, 326) established the right to "share benefits" in the following terms:

* * * That each head of family or single person over the age of eighteen years, who shall have or may hereafter take his or her allotment of land in severalty shall be provided with two mouth cows, one pair of oxen, with yoke and chain, one plow, one wagon one harrow, one hoe, one axe, and one pitchfork, all suitable to the work they may have to do, and also twenty dollars in cash. (P. 101)

And see Act of March 3 1909, 15 Stat. 771 (Quipaw, Modoc, Klamath), Act of June 1, 1909, 52 Stat. 1603 (Klamath).

¹² See the Act of April 20, 1906, c. 1876, 34 Stat. 137 (Five Civilized Tribes).

²⁴ See the Act of March 1, 1901, 31 Stat. 611, 862-883 (Chick).

¹⁰ Parallel problems arise in the law of corporations, future interests and trusts. See *Coughnell v Second Nat Bank*, 75 Conn 75, 60 A2d 1059 (1906), and sub nom *Jennings v Coughnell*, 204 U.S. 1 (1907), hold

that the declaration of a dividend payable at some future date creates a debt in favor of the stockholders against the corporation. When a fund out of which the dividend is to be paid is segregated as a trust for the benefit of the stockholders it is imposed upon the segregated fund. See *New York Trust Co v Edwards*, 274 Fed 952 (D C S D N Y 1921), *Staat v Biograph Co*, 286 Fed 454 (C C 2, 1036) 1966, also *Hayward v Blake*, 247 Mass 450, 142 N E 52 (1924) to the effect that income accruing to a life tenant during his lifetime but not yet payable at the date of his death, is payable to his estate.

The Act of January 14, 1880, 26 Stat 642, provided for the sale of certain tribal lands of the Chippewa Indians of Minnesota. See 7 provided in part

That all moneys accruing from the disposal of said lands shall be placed in the Treasury of the United States for the credit of the Department of the Interior, and that the sum of \$100,000,000 be appropriated for the purpose of maintaining said lands as a permanent fund, which said fund interest at the rate of five per centum per annum, payable annually on the first day of January, shall be expended for the benefit of said Indians in maintenance of said Indians. One-half of the said interest shall be paid to said Indians, except in the cases hereinafter otherwise provided, be annually paid in cash in equal shares to the heads of families and the heads of tribes of said Indians, and the remaining one-half of said interest shall during the same period and with the like exceptions be paid to the heads of families and the heads of tribes of other classes of said Indians, and the remaining one-fourth of said interest shall, during the said period of five years, be expended for the maintenance of said Indians in accordance with the provisions of the system of free schools among said Indians, and at the expiration of the said period of five years the said permanent fund shall be divided and paid to all said "Chippewa Indians and their reserves" then living, in cash, in equal shares. The United States shall be entitled to the balance of the said fund, and the said fund shall be intact as aforesaid the sum of ninety thousand dollars and no part thereof shall be expended for the maintenance of said Indians, and shall equal or exceed the sum of three million dollars, less any actual interest that may in the meantime accrue from accumulations of said interest and said fund.

Under this Act, three-fourths of the interest is to be paid annually to the eligible Indians in equal shares per capita. Any advances made must come only from the interest, and the Secretary of the Interior cannot segregate and advance to any individual Chippewa his pro rata share of the permanent fund. If he were allowed to do this, there is a possibility that the permanent fund set apart for the benefit of all Chippewas might be seriously depleted or exhausted (Op Sol I D, M 11879, May 31, 1924). The policy behind keeping the fund intact for the period of 50 years was to prevent the Indians from squandering their wealth. It was

C THE LIMITS OF LEGISLATIVE DISTRIBUTION

Oftentimes, the act or treaty providing for the distribution of tribal lands or tribal funds does not state specifically the proportion each member is to receive, but leaves the distribution to the decision of the tribe.¹²¹ Tribal charters generally limit the amount and mode in which tribal property may be distributed,¹²² and in some cases prohibit any per capita distribution of tribal funds.¹²³

So long as the Federal Government sought to achieve the breaking up of tribal estates, legislative distribution of tribal funds was the order of the day.¹¹

supposed that, during the 50-year period they would have become sufficiently educated to realize the value of their property.

However, by virtue of the Act of May 18, 1916, c. 127, 39 Stat. 121 135, the Secretary of the Interior was authorized in his discretion to advance to any individual entitled to participate in the permanent fund of the Chippewas.

" * * * one-tenth of the amount which would now be coming to said Indian under a pro rata distribution of said permanent fund. Provided further, That no money received hereunder by any member of said tribe or used for his or her benefit shall be deducted from the share of said member in the permanent fund of the said "Chippewa Indians, in Minnesota to which he or she would be entitled."

(Discussed (p. 80) I in M15054 January 9, 1927.)

The question of the proportional distribution of the interest accruing upon the Chippewa land was discussed in an opinion of the Solicitor of the Interior Department (Op. Sol. I D., M 15954, January 8, 1927).

¹⁴⁴The Act of March 1, 1849, 5 Stat. 470, 480, providing for the division and distribution of lands belonging to the Rohlston Indians by a board of commissioners stated that it was the duty of the board "to make a just and fair partition and division of said lands among the members of said tribe, or among such of them as, by the laws and customs and regulations of said tribe, are entitled to the same, and in such proportions, and in such manner as shall be consistent with equity and justice, and in accordance with the existing laws, customs, usages, and regulations of said tribe." Numerous decisions have been made by the distribution of tribal property to the tribe itself are discussed in Chapter 16, §§ 23 and 24.

¹⁴For example the corporate charter of the Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska, ratified August 16, 1938, provides:

The Tifly may issue to each of its members a nontransferable certificate of membership evidencing the equal share of each member in the assets of the Tifly and may distribute per capita, or per share, income or dividends to its members. It may also make loans to member enterprises or income over and above what is necessary to defray corporate obligations and costs and above all sums which are distributed to its members. It may also make loans to member enterprises for the purpose of financing the costs of public enterprises, the expenses of public works, or the expenses of public enterprises for any other purpose. No such distribution of profits or income in any one year amounting to a distribution of more than one half of the net income earned by the Tifly may be made without the approval of the Secretary of the Interior. No distribution of the financial assets of the Tifly shall be made except as provided herein or as authorized by the Secretary of the Interior.

¹⁴³ For example, the corporate charter of the Gila River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community (ratified February 28, 1928) provides, in sec 8 "No per capita distribution of any assets of the community shall be made."

¹²⁴ Act of June 10, 1872, 17 Stat 388 (Ottawa), Act of March 8, 1873, 17 Stat 622 (Ottawa), Act of May 15, 1488, 25 Stat 150 (Omaha), Act of August 19, 1890, 26 Stat 829 (Omaha tribe), Act of February 13, 1891, 26 Stat 749 (Sac and Fox and Iowa), Act of August 11, 1894, 28 Stat 276 (Omaha), Act of February 20, 1895, 28 Stat 677 (Ojibwa), Act of February 25, 1896, 40 Stat 670 (Fotawatomie and Kickapoo), Act of June 6, 1896, 31 Stat 472 (Pot. Ill.), Act of February 22, 1901, 31 Stat 810 (Seneca), Act of February 20, 1904, 33 Stat 1004, 34 Stat 302, 35 Stat 812, 36 Stat 254 (Seneca), Act of April 22, 1904, 38 Stat 802 (Flathead), Act of April 27, 1904, 38 Stat 819 (Devils Lake), Act of April 27, 1904, 38 Stat 852 (Crow), Act of April 23, 1904, 38 Stat 862 (Flathead, Round), Act of December 31, 1904, 33 Stat 800.

Stat 1001 (Grand Ronde), Act of December 22, 1906, 33 Stat 1060 (Yakama), Act of March 8, 1906, 35 Stat 1016 (Shoshone and Wind River), Act of March 20, 1908, 34 Stat 80 (Kiowa, Comanche, and Apache), Act of March 22, 1908, 34 Stat 80 (Colville), Act of June 14, 1906, 34 Stat 262 (Indians in Richardson County, Nebraska), Act of May 30, 1908, 35 Stat 558 (Fort Peck), Act of February 13, 1906, 35 Stat. 623 (Omaha and Winnebago), Act of March 8, 1908, 35 Stat 751 (Quapaw), Act of May 18, 1910, 36 Stat 388 (Richardson County, Nebraska), Act of May 11, 1912, 37 Stat 111 (Omaha), Act of July 1, 1912, 37 Stat 187 (Winnebago), Act of February 14, 1913, 37 Stat.

In recent years, however, the Federal Government, recognizing that per capita payments would lead to the dissipation of the tribal estate and the creation of new demands upon the Federal Treasury on the part of individual Indians, has sought to discourage the per capita distribution of tribal funds,¹⁴⁶ except

075 (Standing Rock), Act of August 26, 1922, 42 Stat. 832 (Riverside County, California); Act of May 16, 1924, 43 Stat. 332 (Lac du Flambeau Band of Chippewas); Act of January 7, 1925, 43 Stat. 720 (Omaha), Act of February 9, 1925, 43 Stat. 820 (Omaha), Act of March 8, 1927, 44 Stat. 1800 (Kiowa, Comanche, and Apache), Act of March 8, 1927, 44 Stat. 1859 (Cheyenne River), Act of March 9, 1927, 44 Stat. 1867 (Shosh. Tribe), Act of April 29, 1928, 45 Stat. 200 (Iowa), Act of March 2, 1931, 46 Stat. 1481 (Pawnee), Act of March 1, 1931, 46 Stat. 1520 (Pinalapp), Act of March 1, 1933, 47 Stat. 1488 (Ute), Act of June 20, 1930, 46 Stat. 1643 (Crow); Joint Resolution of June 20, 1938, 49 Stat. 1609 (Pawnee). For a fuller discussion of problems involved in per capita division of tribal property, and general statutes on the subject, see Chapter 17, secs. 22-24, and Chapter 10, sec. 4-5.

¹⁴⁶Prohibitions against or limitations upon per capita payments are found in the following general statutes: Act of March 8, 1927, 44 Stat. 1847 (tribal oil and gas rentals), Act of June 18, 1934, 48 Stat. 864 (making distribution of tribal assets subject to tribal consent), Pro-

where such funds represent continuing income,¹⁴⁷ or where prior legislative commitments preclude application of the current policy of conserving the tribal estate.

The federal policy of discouraging per capita distribution of tribal funds, coupled with a tendency to cut down federal use of tribal funds for Indian Service administration, has made the activity of the tribe itself in distributing tribal property or rights of use therein a matter of increasing importance.¹⁴⁸

Prohibitions against per capita payments are likewise found in the following special statutes: Act of May 18, 1928, 45 Stat. 602 (Indians of California); Act of December 17, 1928, 45 Stat. 3027 (Winnebago); Act of February 20, 1929, 45 Stat. 1210 (Nez Percé), Act of February 23, 1929, 45 Stat. 1256 (Coeur d'Alene, Lower Umpqua and Shuswap); Act of February 21, 1929, 45 Stat. 1258 (Kaweah), Act of April 21, 1932, 47 Stat. 87 (Wichita and affiliated bands), Act of June 10, 1935, 49 Stat. 484 (Timne and Hauda), Act of August 30, 1935, 49 Stat. 1049 (Chippewa). A precursor of this prohibition against per capita distribution is found in the Act of March 3, 1888, 52 Stat. 819 (Sioux).

¹⁴⁷Act of June 15, 1934, 48 Stat. 964 (Mesquimac), Act of August 26, 1937, 50 Stat. 811 (Palm Springs).

¹⁴⁸See Chapter 7, sec. 8.

CHAPTER 10

THE RIGHTS OF THE INDIAN IN HIS PERSONALTY

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SECTION 1. NATURE AND FORMS OF INDIVIDUAL PERSONAL PROPERTY

The forms of personality held by Indians (*i. e.* funds, personal belongings, notes, mortgages, growing crops, livestock, and choses in action) may be as diverse as those held by non-Indians. So, too, the forms of legal and equitable interests in personal property which may be vested in individual Indians are probably as diverse as among non-Indians. It is not our purpose to analyze those rights in personality which Indians enjoy in common with other citizens. Yet in so far as the Indian is subject to the special guardianship¹ of the Federal Government, problems peculiar to him arise concerning his acquisition, use, and disposition of his goods and chattels.

Under the United States Constitution, the rights of the Indian in his private property, whatever they may be, are "secured and enjoyed to the same extent and in the same way as other residents or citizens of the United States."² Nonetheless, Congress may, acting within the scope of its constitutional power, control and manage his affairs and property.³ The rights of the Indian in his personality are primarily dependent upon the answer to the question: Has Congress, in the particular instance, undertaken to manage the property, and if so, to what extent have powers of management been conferred upon administrative officials?

Where Congress has not imposed restrictions upon the Indians personal property he may exercise the same power to use, destroy, or alienate his personal property which any other citizen possesses. There is nothing about the status of the individual Indian as such that incapacitates him from exercising the ordinary rights enjoyed by other owners of personal property.⁴ Whatever peculiar limitations are to be found in this held are limitations attached to the property rather than limitations affecting the person.

If legal problems in the field of Indian-owned personal property are viewed from this standpoint, the statutory or treaty origin of any property is of final importance in determining what limitations are attached to its use or disposition. If the treaty or statute provides that funds or belongings are to be turned over to an Indian without restriction, that ordinarily ends the matter. The funds or the belongings become the absolute property of the recipient, who may thereafter utilize, destroy, conserve, or give away his property without the consent of any official. On the other hand, if Congress provides that certain property shall be distributed to Indians "under such rules and regulations as the Secretary of the Interior may prescribe," it becomes necessary to examine what those rules and regulations provide in order to determine how far rights ordinarily associated with ownership can be exercised by the Indian and how far they rest with the reservation superintendent or some other government official.

Generally, but not universally, restricted personal property represents a carry-over of restrictions imposed upon land ownership. Since Indian lands have generally been subjected to restrictions on lease or sale,⁵ the treaties and statutes authorizing such lease or sale might, and often did, provide that the cash returns derived from such disposition of lands should be held by the United States in trust for the Indians concerned or should be turned over to the Indians subject to specific restrictions upon use or disposition. The legal justification for such provisions was that the Federal Government, having power to forbid or permit land alienation might condition its permission by extending restrictions to the proceeds derived from restricted lands. The factual justification was, generally, that the Indians might squander the proceeds of their lands and thus render themselves a burden to the Government or a danger to their neighbors unless restrained from doing so by governmental restrictions.

¹ "Guardian-ward" concepts are discussed in Chapter 8, see § 9.

² See *Choate v. Trapp*, 224 U. S. 655, 677 (1912).

³ For the extent of congressional power over Indian affairs and Indian property, see Chapter 5.

⁴ See Chapter 8.

⁵ See Chapter 11, sees. 4 and 5.

The policy problems which are raised in this field involve a balancing of two objectives: on the one hand to safeguard the economic future of the Indian and the purse strings of the Federal Government by preventing the dissipation of the Indian's capital assets, on the other hand to minimize the cost of paternal supervision that such safeguarding entails and to give the individual Indian the right to exercise his own judgment, and to make mistakes in the process, without which practical education in economics is impossible. At different times and in diverging circumstances, the balance between these conflicting objectives has minimally varied. No simple formula will explain why certain property has been restricted and other property turned over to Indian owners without strings. All that can be attempted in this chapter is that regard is to indicate the principal types of legislation in the field.

SECTION 2. SOURCES OF INDIVIDUAL PERSONAL PROPERTY

The same Indian may possess at one time restricted and un restricted funds. With unrestricted funds, as, for example wages earned by the Indian in private employment, he may do just as he wishes, as any other person might.¹ Funds may come from sources not subject to control by the Federal Government, if Congress may restrict the Indian's use of such funds as long as it retains its guardianship over the Indian.² On the other

hand, funds, presently unrestricted, may have had their source in other restricted property.

The chief sources of funds which have given rise to special problems of Indian law are:³

- 1 Proceeds, including income, from restricted allotted lands.
- 2 Tribal funds individualized by per capita distributions to the Indians.
- 3 Payments from the Federal Government.
- 4 Payments of damages for loss of property.
- 5 Proceeds from the sale of restricted crops and livestock.

¹ See *Choteau v. Buntin*, 283 U. S. 891 (1931), 35 Am. Ind. L. 100 (Choteau v. Commissioners of Internal Revenue, 38 F. 2d 876 (C. C. A. 10, 1940)).
² See *Harvey v. United States*, 64 F. 2d 628 (C. C. A. 10, 1933),
United States v. Wells, 212 U. S. 462 (1917), *Bader v. James*, 248 U. S. 88 (1918), and see Chapter 3, sec. 55, 1.

³ Op. Sol. I. D., M. 25258, June 20, 1926.

SECTION 3. SOURCES OF INDIVIDUAL PERSONAL PROPERTY—PROCEEDS FROM ALLOTTED LANDS

Comparatively few of the allotment acts have any specific direction governing the distribution of the proceeds from the disposition of the individual's land, either by sale or lease.⁴ The General Allotment Act of 1887⁵ did not permit any disposition except by descent, of allotted lands for certain periods of time, during which the lands were to be held in trust by the United States. But realizing that the heirs might not want the inherited lands, since they might have allotted lands of their own, and desiring to encourage the sale of such lands,⁶ Congress, in the Appropriation Act of May 27, 1902,⁷ provided that trust lands inherited from Indians might be conveyed in fee by their subject to the approval of the Secretary of the Interior.⁸

The rights of the heirs to the proceeds derived from conveyance are discussed in the cases of *National Bank of Commerce v. Anderson*⁹ and *United States v. Thurston County, Nebraska*,¹⁰ which explain the regulations of the Secretary of the Interior controlling the proceeds under the Act of 1902. The court in the *National Bank of Commerce* case holds that the Act of 1902 does

not indicate an intent by Congress to vacate the trust of the lands held in trust. When the lands are sold with the consent of the Secretary, the trust attaches to the proceeds, which are payable to the heirs under the rules prescribed by the Interior Department. In approving sales by heirs, the Secretary of the Interior had prescribed that all proceeds of such sales be deposited in United States depositories to the individual credit of each heir as his interest in the estate indicated and subject to checks of \$10 per month with the approval of the agent in charge and in larger amounts only when authorized by the Commissioner of Indian Affairs.¹¹

In *United States Fidelity and Guaranty Co. v. Hansen*,¹² the court holds that the purchase price derived from the sale of the land by the heir is a trust fund, that under the provision of the act requiring the Secretary of the Interior to approve a conveyance, he has the authority to exercise the government's option of continuing control or relinquishing it.

In 1907, Congress took the further step and permitted the sale or lease of allotted lands by either the allottee or his heirs during the trust period,

on such terms and conditions and under such rules and regulations as the Secretary of the Interior may prescribe, and the proceeds derived therefrom shall be used for the benefit of the allottee or heir so disposing of his land or interest, under the supervision of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs. * * *

In the same Act of March 1, 1907,¹³ Congress amended the Act of 1902, and relinquished some control over the proceeds derived from the sale of allotments in the White Earth Reservation in Minnesota. The amendment provides for the removal of re-

⁴ See Chapter 31.

⁵ See S. Act of February 8, 1887, 24 Stat. 388, 390.

⁶ The Act of 1902 permits alienation by the heirs, subject to the approval of the Secretary of the Interior, on the assumption that they would be "more competent in many cases to manage their own affairs than would the original allottees have been, and that the Secretary of the Interior should be the judge as to whether that condition has come about." *United States v. Park Land Co.*, 188 Fed. 888, 897 (C. C. Minn. 1911).

⁷ The purpose of the statute evidently is that lands inherited from deceased allottees by heirs who had and were living upon allotments of their own, might be sold and converted into money, rather than remain untitled and unoccupied.
National Bank of Commerce v. Anderson, 147 Fed. 87, 89 (C. C. A. 8, 1906).

⁸ See 7, 82 Stat. 245, 275, 28 U. S. C. 876.

⁹ The approval of the Secretary of the Interior was necessary to the validity of a conveyance by an adult heir of an Indian allottee. *United States v. Leifer*, 187 Fed. 670 (C. C. R. 1906).

¹⁰ 147 Fed. 87 (C. C. A. 8, 1906).

¹¹ 143 Fed. 287 (C. C. A. 8, 1906), rev'd 140 Fed. 450 (C. C. Neb. 1905).

¹² Rules promulgated September 16, 1904, contained in *United States v. Thurston County*, *supra*, in 15 See Chapter 13, sec. 4.

¹³ 38 Okla. 456, 129 Pac. 60 (1912).

¹⁴ Appropriation Act of March 1, 1907, 34 Stat. 1015, 1018, 28 U. S. C. 405. See Chapter 11.

¹⁵ 31 Stat. 1015, 1034.

restrictions on allotments held by adult mixed bloods. In *United States v. Park Land Co.*,¹ the court construes this amendment to remove from federal control of the sale of lands in the White Earth Reservation and the proceeds derived therefrom by the adult mixed-blood Indian, no matter how it has come to him. As for an adult full blood, the act provides that the Secretary of the Interior may remove the restrictions upon the sale of his allotment if satisfied that that Indian is competent to handle his own affairs. Till then, Congress retains control over the land and the proceeds therefrom.

Section 1 of the Act of May 29, 1908,² which expressly excludes from its scope lands in Oklahoma, Minnesota, and South Dakota, permits the sale of allotments on petition of the allottee, his heir, or duly authorized representative.

Provided, That the proceeds derived from all sales hereunder shall be used, during the trust period, for the benefit of the allottee, or his or her, so disposing of his interest, under the supervision of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs. . . .

Sections 1³ and 4⁴ of the Act of June 25, 1910,⁵ provide generally for the control of the proceeds from the sale or lease of the Indian's restricted lands. Section 8 of the act allows the sale of timber on trust allotments with the consent of the Secretary of the Interior and the distribution of the proceeds to the allottee or disposal for his benefit under rules and regulations prescribed by the Secretary of the Interior.⁶

The imposition of a trust on Indian funds may be effected by treaty as well as by statute. In the treaty concluded Sep-

¹ 288 Fed. 383 (C. C. Minn. 1911). In *United States v. First National Bank*, 231 U. S. 245 (1914), 22 L. Ed. 208 Fed. 988 (C. C. A. 8, 1914), a case involving an attempt by the United States to set aside a conveyance of land by an Indian buying less than one-eighth white blood, the Supreme Court held that any identifiable amount of white blood brought an Indian within the scope of the provision of the Act of March 3, 1907, removing restrictions upon the allotments of mixed-blood Indians. 78 Sup. Ct. 444, 25 U. S. C. 404.

² " . . . All sales of lands allotted to Indians . . . shall be made under such rules and regulations . . . as the Secretary of the Interior may prescribe. . . . *Provided*, That the proceeds of the sale of interest in lands shall be paid to such heir or heirs as may be competent and held in trust subject to use and expenditure during the trust period for such heir or heirs as may be incompetent as their respective interests shall appear. . . .

The section permits the deposit of Indian funds held by federal disbursing agents in banks. This provision is not affected by the Act of March 3, 1928, 45 Stat. 101, amending sec. 1. See 25 U. S. C. 372.

³ See 4. *provides for the leasing of allotted lands for a period not to exceed 5 years, subject to and in conformity with such rules and regulations as the Secretary of the Interior may prescribe, and the proceeds of any such lease shall be paid to the allottee or his heirs, or expended for his or their benefit, in the discretion of the Secretary of the Interior.* See 25 U. S. C. 408.

⁴ See Stat. 865. This act applies to proceeds derived from the sale of lands held in trust as well as lands in which the power of alienation is restricted. *United States v. Neesham*, 250 U. S. 484 (1919), rev'd 261 Fed. 687 (D. C. B. D. N. Y. 1919).

⁵ The Act of March 4, 1907, 34 Stat. 1418, provides also for the sale of inalienable timber on allotment on the Jicarilla Reservation and declares that the proceeds therefrom are to be expended under the direction of the Secretary of the Interior for purposes beneficial to the In-

diens. 30, 1854,⁷ between the United States and certain Chipewya Indians, a system of allotting tribal lands was established. Article 3 of the treaty provided that the President was to assign the allotments and that he might issue patents "with such restrictions of the power of alienation as he might see fit to impose." In the exercise of this power, he may include in the patent a restriction against alienation without his consent. In the case of *Stetson v. Campbell*,⁸ it is held that this restriction extends to the timber on the land and therefore the President could regulate the distribution of the proceeds from the sale of the timber.⁹

On the other hand, Congress may permit the leasing of allotted lands, subject to the approval of the Secretary of the Interior, but specifically providing that the allottee, . . . shall have full control of the same, including the proceeds thereof. . . .

A perusal of the acts cited indicates a general intent of Congress to retain, for a time, governmental control of the proceeds from the disposition of restricted allotted lands, and to leave to the discretion of administrative officials the time and manner in which such funds are to be distributed or expended, subject to the qualification that the funds be used in the benefit of the Indian.

In the Appropriation Act of May 18, 1916, 39 Stat. 123 Congress provided for the disposal of sawage rights on the allotments of Indians of the Lac Court Oreilles Tribe. The provision states that:

any allottee on the basis of any deceased allottee, as a condition of granting him or him consent to the location of a sawmill or sawing rights on their respective allotments, may determine, subject to the approval of the Secretary of the Interior, what consideration or rental shall be received for such sawing rights, and in what manner and for what purposes such consideration or rental shall be used or expended, and the consideration or rental shall be paid or expended under such rules and regulations as the Secretary of the Interior may prescribe. (P. 208.)

Under the agreement concluded between the Columbia and Chippewa Indians and the United States on July 7, 1888, ratified by the Appropriation Act of July 1, 1888, 24 Stat. 76, 70-80, allotments of tribal lands are made, but no provision is made for the sale of allotments, hence no problem of rights in funds therefrom could arise. However, by the Act of March 4, 1911, 36 Stat. 1484, Congress authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to sell some of the land held in trust for certain named Indians and to convey the funds for the benefit of the allottee or to invest or expend them for the individuals, benefit in such manner as he might determine. The Act of July 20, 1924, c. 160, 43 Stat. 148, permits the disposition of patented lands by the Columbia or Chippewa allottee, or if he was deceased, the heirs might convey the land in accordance with the provisions of the Act of June 25, 1910, 36 Stat. 856.

⁷ 10 Stat. 1168.

⁸ 208 U. S. 827 (1908).

⁹ See Chapter 11, sec. 413. Under the regulations approved by the President December 8, 1894, proceeds from the sale of timber from allotted lands, after the deduction of expenses, were to be deposited in some national bank, subject to the check of the allottee, counter-signed by the Indian agent. In December 1902 the regulations were amended so that if the allottee were deemed incompetent to manage his own affairs, the agent had the authority, subject to the approval of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, to fix the amounts the Indian could withdraw. For regulations regarding timber, see 25 C. F. R. 61.1-61.20.

¹⁰ See Allotment Act of June 28, 1906, sec. 7, 34 Stat. 638, 645. For a discussion of this statute, see Chapter 28, sec. 12A.

SECTION 4. SOURCES OF INDIVIDUAL PERSONAL PROPERTY—INDIVIDUALIZATION OF TRIBAL FUNDS

A second important source of individual funds is the individualization of tribal funds.¹⁰ Since tribal funds generally repre-

sent the income from disposition of tribal lands, the Federal Government has commonly extended the restrictions on the land to the proceeds therefrom. By a further extension, Congress has frequently imposed, as conditions to the right of the individual to participate in tribal funds, certain restrictions affecting his use of the funds after they have become individualized.¹¹

¹⁰ The nature of tribal funds is discussed in Chapter 15, the right of the individual to share in tribal funds is discussed in Chapter 9. On administrative power over tribal funds, see Chapter 5, sec. 10, and over individual funds, see *ibid.*, sec. 12. On regulations regarding money, tribal and individual, see 25 C. F. R. 221.1-228.7.

¹¹ See Chapter 9.

By the Act of March 2, 1897,¹ Congress provided generally for the distribution of tribal funds among individuals. Those Indians whom the Secretary of the Interior believed capable of managing their affairs could have placed to their credit upon the books of the United States Treasury their pro rata share of the tribal funds held in trust by the United States, and they could draw upon this credit without any further governmental control.² Section 2 of the act provided that the Secretary of the Interior might pay to disabled Indians their shares in tribal property, under such rules and conditions as he might prescribe. As later amended³ this section authorizes the Secretary of the Interior upon application by an Indian "mentally or physically incapable of managing his or her own affairs," to withdraw the pro rata share of such Indian in the tribal funds, and to expend such sums on behalf of the Indian.

Section 2b of the Appropriation Act of May 25, 1918,⁴ which specially excluded from its scope the funds of the Five Civilized Tribes, and the Osages, in Oklahoma, authorized the Secretary of the Interior to withdraw tribal funds from the Treasury of the United States and to credit recognized members of the tribe with equal shares. However, this authority was revoked by section 2 of the Act of June 24, 1938.⁵ Nevertheless, the Indian may still apply for funds as his pro rata share in tribal assets, under the Act of 1907.⁶ The granting of such applications is contrary to the general administrative policy of conserving tribal funds, but in special circumstances such pro rata distributions are still made. It has been held by the Interior Department that, under section 16 of the Act of June 18, 1894,⁷ such applications must receive the approval of the tribal council, if the tribe in question is organized under that act.⁸

The individual may be awarded, by special statute, a specified sum from the tribal funds on deposit in the United States Treasury. A typical act is the Act of February 12, 1889,⁹ providing for payment of \$25 to each enrolled Chippewa of Minnesota from tribal funds, under such regulations as the Secretary of the Interior may prescribe.

In the individualization of tribal funds, Congress has at various times laid down directions under which the Secretary of the Interior should expend the funds.

In the Act of March 8, 1868,¹⁰ Congress provided for the dis-

tribution of tribal funds of the life Indians. The shares of all were to be deposited as individual Indian moneys¹¹ and subject to disbursement for the individual's benefit in the following ways: for improving lands, erecting homes, purchase of equipment, live-stock, household goods and in other ways as will enable them to become self-supporting. The shares of the aged, infirm and other incapacitated members were to be used for their support and maintenance. As for minors, their shares might be invested or spent in the same fashion as prescribed for adults, but when their funds were to be invested or expended, the consent of the parents and the approval of the Secretary of the Interior was necessary.¹²

Acts providing for the payment of judgments in favor of a tribe may limit the rights of the Indian in individualized tribal funds by the stipulation that "the per capita share due each member . . . be credited to the individual Indian money account of such member and expended in accordance with the individual Indian money regulations."¹³ Various resolutions authorizing the distribution of judgments rendered in favor of Indian tribes provide for per capita payments to each enrolled member, such distribution to be made under such rules and regulations as the Secretary of the Interior may prescribe.¹⁴

By virtue of these acts, Congress has given to the Secretary of the Interior authority over individual funds derived from the tribal property held in trust compatible to the authority over funds derived from the individual's restricted property.¹⁵

¹ Individual Indian moneys are funds, regardless of derivation, be loaning to individual Indians which come into the custody of a disbursing agent." 25 C.F.R. 2211. See also 8 *infra*, for a discussion of these regulations.

² *Cy. Act* of June 1, 1918 52 Stat. 607 as amended by sec. 2(b), Act of August 7, 1949, Pub. No. 125, 76th Cong., 1st sess. (Kiamath).

³ Joint Resolution, June 28, 1938, 49 Stat. 1569, authorizing distribution of judgments in favor of Gros Ventre Indians (among enrolled members).
⁴ The Joint Resolution of June 20, 1916, 19 Stat. 1768, provides for a per capita payment of \$63 and places the remainder of the fund awarded to the Blackfoot Tribe at the disposal of the tribal council and the Secretary of the Interior.

Under the Joint Resolution of April 29, 1910, 46 Stat. 260, the Secretary of the Interior is authorized to pay a judgment in favor of the Iowa Tribe to members of the tribe in pro rata shares. The competent members receive their entire shares in cash, the shares of the others, including minors, are deposited to the individual credit of each and subject to existing laws governing Indian moneys.

The right of the Chippewa allottees on the Lac du Flambeau Reservation to the proceeds derived from the sale of tribal timber is controlled by the Act of May 10, 1924, 43 Stat. 1321. After providing for the sale under rules and regulations prescribed by the Secretary of the Interior, the act states that the net proceeds are to be distributed per capita. Those whom the Secretary shall deem competent to handle their own affairs shall receive their shares. As to the others, their shares are deposited to their individual credit and paid to them as used for their benefit under the Secretary's supervision.

¹⁵ See Chapter 6, sec. 11 and 12.

¹⁶ 44 Stat. 1221, 26 U.S.C. 119.

¹⁷ *Op. Sol. T. D.* M-26948, June 26, 1929.

¹⁸ Amended by Act of May 18, 1919, 40 Stat. 124, 128, 26 U.S.C. 121.

¹⁹ 40 Stat. 501, 691-692.

²⁰ 42 Stat. 1037.

²¹ 44 Stat. 1221.

²² Memo Sol. T. D., September 21, 1939.

²³ 48 Stat. 964, 987, 26 U.S.C. 476.

²⁴ 47 Stat. 40. Acts of similar nature are cited in Chapter 9, sec. 6.

²⁵ 47 Stat. 1488.

SECTION 5. SOURCES OF INDIVIDUAL PERSONAL PROPERTY—PAYMENTS FROM THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

A third source of individual personality comprises the various forms of direct payment to individual Indians from the Federal Government. In this connection a distinction must be drawn between obligations assumed by the Federal Government towards the various tribes, by reason of the sale of tribal lands or otherwise, and obligations running directly to the members of the tribes. Problems arising out of the former situation are dealt with elsewhere.¹ For the present we are concerned only with the situations in which the Federal Government has under-

taken to make payments, in money or goods, to individual Indians.

Gifts were sometimes made for the purpose of civilizing the Indians by giving them agricultural aids and clothes.² Gifts

¹ The Act of March 30, 1892, sec. 12, 2 Stat. 140, 143, provides in part:

"That in order to promote civilization among the friendly Indian tribes, and to secure the continuance of their friendship, it shall be lawful for the President of the United States, to cause them to be furnished with useful domestic animals, and implements of husbandry, and with goods or money, as he shall judge proper."

In the Appropriation Act of March 8, 1875, 18 Stat. 420, are numerous appropriations for agricultural pursuits. Manifesto of Kansas has given

² See Chapters 9 and 15.

were also justified simply on the ground that the Indian needed the bounty for subsistence.¹⁸

A ANNUITIES¹⁹

Periodic payments of either money or goods are called "annuities." According to the terms of the instrument, an annuity may be a specific amount for a specified number of years,²⁰ or it may be a specified amount for life²¹ or while the Indians are at peace.²²

Frequently the individual recipients of annuities were the chiefs or others of the tribe who were influential in keeping the peace and in treaty-making.²³ Treaties often provided that a sum of money or other gifts would be paid when a particular treaty went into effect.²⁴ At times the United States would promise to pay the salary of the chief annually,²⁵ but the policy behind this was probably no different than that fostering the payment of annuities.

money for grain and seed for farming purposes (p. 432), money in aid of agricultural pursuits, to be given to Foxes (p. 436), Kiva-Crowns (p. 437), Appropriations for clothes are made to Bannocks (p. 440), to Shoshones (p. 440), Salt Nations of New York (p. 441), Cheyennes and Arapahoes (p. 424), Crow (p. 429).

¹⁸ The Act of April 30, 1868, sec. 17, 25 Stat. 94, 101, and of March 2, 1869, sec. 17, 26 Stat. 885, 895, dividing the Sioux lands, provide for the distribution of cattle and farming implements among the Sioux allottees.

¹⁹ The Appropriation Act of March 4, 1875, 18 Stat. 420, makes an appropriation for subsistence to those Apaches of Arizona and New Mexico "who go and remain upon said reservation, and refrain from hostilities." * * * (p. 423), appropriation for the aged, sick, maimed and orphans among the Apaches (p. 424), the Blackfeet, Bloods, and Higans (p. 434).

²⁰ The Appropriation Act of June 27, 1864, 13 Stat. 161, provides for the subsistence of Indians who remain loyal to the United States, including members of the Five Civilized Tribes and affiliated tribes (pp. 180-181). The Appropriation Act of March 8, 1866, 18 Stat. 643, provides for the subsistence of a number of Chippewas of the Mississippi.

²¹ In the Treaty of August 6, 1814, with the Creek Nation, 7 Stat. 120, the United States agreed to furnish members of the Creek Nation with the necessities of life until they were able to take care of themselves to some extent.

²² For regulations regarding annuity and other per capita payments, see 25 U. S. 224-224-5.

²³ By the Treaty of October 7, 1865, art. 10, 13 Stat. 673, 675, with the Tabagache Band of Utah Indians, each family receives a number of sheep and cattle annually for 5 years.

²⁴ Treaty of January 20, 1826, with Choctaw Nation, 7 Stat. 284, Treaty of September 26, 1817, with Chippewa, Ottawa, and Potawatami Indians, 7 Stat. 431, Treaty of September 24, 1820, with Delaware Indians, 7 Stat. 827, Treaty of January 7, 1805, 7 Stat. 101, 102 (Cherokee chief receives \$100 per year for life), Treaty of September 20, 1823, 7 Stat. 817, 818 (Potawatami chief receives \$100 per year in goods for life).

²⁵ Appropriation Act of March 8, 1875, 18 Stat. 420, 423 (supplies to those who refrain from fighting). Act ratifying agreement with Utah, April 29, 1874, 18 Stat. 86, 88.

²⁶ Art. V of the Treaty with the Chippewas, October 2, 1863, 18 Stat. 667, provides that the Chippewa chiefs may receive a house and annuity, to encourage peace and to encourage others to become elderly.

Treaty with the Chickasaw, October 10, 1818, 7 Stat. 192, 194. Because of their friendliness to the United States, the chiefs receive \$150 in cash or in goods.

²⁷ Appropriation Act of July 2, 1856, 5 Stat. 78, 79.

²⁸ The Act of April 29, 1874, 18 Stat. 36 provides for the payment of salary to the head chief of the Oto Nation by the United States at the rate of \$1,000 per year for the term of 10 years, or as long as he remains head chief and at peace with the United States.

The Act of December 15, 1874, 18 Stat. 303, provides for salary of \$500 per year by the United States for a term of 5 years. Acc't of Treaty of June 11, 1865, 12 Stat. 967 (salary of Nez Perce chief to be paid), Treaty of June 26, 1865, 12 Stat. 963 (salary of chief of Oregon bands to be paid), Treaty of June 9, 1865, 12 Stat. 951 (salary to be paid to Yakama chief).

In order to induce Indians to settle upon homesteads²⁷ or accept allotments,²⁸ Congress generally provided that those Indians who accepted the benefits of homestead and allotment acts would not lose any rights in annuities, and other personality and that those Indians who did receive allotments would be assured of receiving compensation for damages occasioned by trespasses of Indians who had not received allotments by payments from annuities due the trespassers.²⁹

B METHOD OF PAYMENT

While ordinarily the obligations of the United States under treaties and agreements with the Indian tribes were considered obligations owing to the tribes, even when the Federal Government assumed the task of paying over the promised sums per capita to the members of the tribe,³⁰ there have been cases in which the obligation of the United States ran directly to individual Indians.

In the treaty with the Shawnees on May 10, 1864,³¹ the United States was to pay certain sums to these Indians. Section 8 of the treaty provides that competent Shawnees should receive their portions in seven annual payments and in money. As for those incompetent to manage their own affairs, the President was to dispose of their portion in a manner he believed to be for the best interests of them and of their families after consulting the Shawnee Council. The funds due the minor orphan children were to be appropriated by the President in a manner considered to be for their best interest.

The payments due the orphan children became a matter of litigation which reached the Supreme Court of the United States in 1894 in the case of *United States v. Blackfeather*.³² The Court discussed the treaty of 1864 and finds that under it the President had determined that the orphans' funds should be paid to them in severalty. He committed some of the money to a United States Indian superintendent for distribution but said officer embezzled it. Another portion was paid to guardians of the orphans who were created by the Shawnee Council, but because of laches or dishonesty, this portion never reached the orphans. The Shawnee Tribe brought this action to collect this money from the Government. In its decision, the court holds that the tribe has no authority to sue for these moneys under a jurisdictional act authorizing suit for moneys claimed in tribal capacity. The Court also holds that the Government is not liable to the tribe for the portion paid to the guardians appointed by the tribal council, but intimates that the Government may have a moral obligation to reimburse the money embezzled by the Indian superintendent.³³

Because of difficulties of the type that arose under the Shawnee treaty and described above, Congress in 1862 passed an act prohibiting the payment of money to any person appointed by any Indian council on behalf of incompetent or orphan Indians, and providing that said moneys shall remain in the United States Treasury at 6 percent interest until ordered to be paid by the Secretary of the Interior.³⁴

²⁹ Appropriation Act of March 8, 1866, 18 Stat. 641, 662, sec. 4, relating to Blackfeet and Kiowa Indians, Appropriation Act of March 8, 1875, 18 Stat. 408, 420, sec. 15 (general act).

³⁰ Act of March 8, 1848, 5 Stat. 645 (Blackfeet).

³¹ Act of June 14, 1862, 12 Stat. 427 (general act).

³² See Chapter 15, sec. 22-23.

³³ 10 Stat. 1008.

³⁴ 15 U. S. 180 (1864).

³⁵ In the Appropriation Act of July 7, 1864, 28 Stat. 248, 249, an appropriation was made for that purpose.

³⁶ Sec. 6, Act of July 5, 1862, 12 Stat. 612, 659-680, which is embodied in R. S. § 2108 and 25 U. S. C. 169.

SECTION 6. SOURCES OF INDIVIDUAL PERSONAL PROPERTY—PAYMENTS OF DAMAGES

The Indian may receive funds because of being dispossessed from all or some of his lands. Acts or treaties which convey or reserve to the Indian tribe or to its members certain rights in land usually provide that the United States guarantees to them security and protection in the exercise of such rights.¹² The right of the individual to receive compensation for damages to his lands and property used in connection with it is derived in part from such provisions.

The loss of his land may be occasioned by the Government's taking.¹³ A more frequent disposition of the Indian's land occurs when Congress grants rights-of-way across the land for railroad and similar purposes. Some treaties, such as the 1854 treaty with the Shawnees,¹⁴ provide specifically for payment to Indians for any lands made through their lands. The acts granting such rights-of-way provide for payment of compensation for the taking of the land and for any damages done to his other property, such as chattels.¹⁵ Although the property taken may have been restricted, nevertheless, it is a general policy of the acts by not to free from Government control the expenditure of the funds by making provision only for the supervision of payment to the Indians. The Act of May 6, 1910,¹⁶ is a typical illustration. It provides that the railroad company shall pay to the Secretary of the Interior the amount of the damages and compensation. The act continues: "that the damages and compensa-

tion paid to the Secretary of the Interior by the railway company taking any such land shall be paid by said Secretary to the allottee sustaining such damages."

Similarly, many acts or treaties providing for the removal of the Indian from the land of which he has possession stipulate that he is to receive money or other goods as payment for any improvements he made on the land or chattels he must leave behind.¹⁷

Related to moneys and other personal property given to Indians for property left behind are the gifts made to the individual Indians to aid them in their emigration from the land ceded.¹⁸

¹² Treaty with Cherokee, July 8, 1817, 7 Stat. 130, 138, provides that the Cherokee emigrants are to be paid for loss of improvements by receiving rules and other personal property. Treaty with Winnebago, etc., September 28, 1817, 7 Stat. 100, 106. Treaty with Chickasaw, October 10, 1818, 7 Stat. 102, 191. Treaty with Choctaw, October 15, 1820, 7 Stat. 210, 212-213. Treaty with Quapaw, November 15, 1824, 7 Stat. 232, Article 11. Treaty with Creek, January 24, 1826, 7 Stat. 260, 284. Treaty with Cherokee, May 6, 1828, 7 Stat. 113, 41-42, 11. Treaty with Seneca, February 28, 1831, 7 Stat. 448, 340. Treaty with Winnebago, etc., July 20, 1831, 7 Stat. 351, 352. Treaty with Ottawa, August 30, 1831, 7 Stat. 359, 360, Article 9. Treaty with Cherokee, December 29, 1837, 7 Stat. 478, 482. Treaty with New York Indians, January 15, 1838, 7 Stat. 660. Treaty with Menominee, October 18, 1845, 9 Stat. 1052, 954. Treaty with Stockbridge and Algonquian, February 6, 1850, 11 Stat. 603, 607. Treaty with Seneca, November 5, 1857, 11 Stat. 750, 757. Act of April 30, 1888, 25 Stat. 84, 101 (Hou.), Act of March 2, 1889, 25 Stat. 888, 897-898 (Hou.), Act of February 20, 1893, 28 Stat. 677 (Hou.).

¹³ Appropriation Act of July 20, 1818, sec. 4 (17 Stat. 359) and 5, 9 Stat. 232, 264-265 (Each Cherokee to receive a sum of money when he moves west). Joint Resolution, March 3, 1845, 8 Stat. 642 (Those Minn. moving west of the Mississippi receive 1000 dollars). Treaty with Choctaw, September 27, 1850, Art. 20, 7 Stat. 358, 108 (Each emigrating Choctaw without money, rifle, etc.). Treaty with Cherokee, December 29, 1837, Art. 8, 7 Stat. 478, 182 (Money for moving expenses paid).

¹⁴ Treaty with Miami, November 6, 1834, 7 Stat. 568, 571. See Chapter 15, sec. 10.

¹⁵ The Act of April 28, 1924, c. 134, 43 Stat. 111, appropriates a sum of \$60,000 for the benefit of dispossessed Niquilly Indians. Sec. 2 provides that the sum "shall be expended, in the discretion of the Secretary of the Interior, for the benefit of the said dispossessed families, or individual Indians, under such rules and regulations as he may prescribe."

¹⁶ May 10, 1910, sec. 18, 10 Stat. 1053, 1058.

¹⁷ See Chapter 15, sec. 1, 17.

¹⁸ 39 Stat. 249.

SECTION 7. FEDERAL PROTECTION OF INDIVIDUAL PERSONAL PROPERTY

Though the Indian enjoys the legal capacity to enforce his property rights in court, nevertheless his ability to do so has often been hampered by unfamiliarity with legal processes and rules of law.¹⁹ To aid the Indian in the protection of his rights and to supplement these rights, the Government has at various times sought to give additional protection to the individual Indian. The extent to which the United States may bring suit or intervene in litigation affecting Indian property²⁰ and the statutory responsibility of the United States attorneys in Indian litigation are discussed elsewhere.²¹

In various treaties and acts of Congress may be found provisions informing the Indian of his rights respecting depredations committed by whites and by other Indians, or provisions creating rights of damages therefrom.

Treaties may contain declaratory provisions stating the Indian's rights of property. Article 10 of the Treaty of November 6, 1885, with the Miami²² provides in part: "the United States shall protect the said tribe and the people thereof, in their rights and possessions, against injuries, encroachments, and oppressions of any person or persons, tribe or tribes whatsoever."

In the Treaty of Dancing Rabbit Creek²³ with the Choctaws, Article 12 protected the Indian's personality. It provided in part:

Private property to be always respected and on no occasion taken for public purposes without just compensation being made therefor to the rightful owner.

And if a white man unlawfully take or steal any thing from an Indian, the property shall be restored and the offender punished.

Similar provisions protecting the Indians' rights to their personality are found in acts of Congress. As early as 1796 Congress indicated a policy to protect Indian property by the passage of the Indian Trade and Intercourse Act of May 10, 1796.²⁴ It provided that any white person who takes Indian property shall upon conviction of crime be sentenced (in addition to the usual sentence) to pay to the Indian to whom the property taken belongs, a sum twice the just value of such property. Furthermore, the United States Treasury is directed to pay the Indian the just value of stolen or destroyed property if compensation cannot be secured from the white criminal. This protection was continued by subsequent acts.²⁵

¹⁹ Entered into September 27, 1850, 7 Stat. 333, 335, proclaimed February 24, 1851.

²⁰ Sec. 4, 1 Stat. 406, 470.

²¹ Act of March 3, 1796, sec. 4, 1 Stat. 743, 744-748; Act of January 17, 1800, sec. 4, 2 Stat. 6; Act of March 30, 1802, sec. 4, 2 Stat. 139, 141; Act of June 30, 1804, sec. 10, 4 Stat. 725, 731; R. S. § 2154, § 2155, 25 U. S. C. 237, 228.

²² See Chapter 8, sec. 6.

²³ See Chapter 19, sec. 2A(1) and (3).

²⁴ See Chapter 12, sec. 2.

²⁵ 7 Stat. 569, 571.

Other treaties provide for reimbursement to the Indian for damages to his personality. For example, Article 4 of the Treaty of 1832 with the Potawatamies⁷⁰ contains a schedule listing the names of various Indians whom the United States agrees to reimburse for horses stolen from them during a war between the United States and the Sacs and Foxes.⁷¹

⁷⁰ Concluded October 20, 1832, proclaimed January 21, 1834, 7 Stat. 878, 379.

⁷¹ For examples of other treaties containing provision of payment by the United States for damages sustained, see Treaty with Shawnees, May 10, 1821, Art. 11, 10 Stat. 1051, 1077; Treaty with Shawnees, etc., February 23, 1807, Art. 12, 15 Stat. 513, 516; Treaty with Kickapoos, June 26, 1802, Art. 6, 13 Stat. 628; Treaty with Tuleagueche Band of Utah Indians, October 7, 1863, Art. 6, 13 Stat. 674; Treaty with Pawnee and Arapaho Tribes, June 24, 1818, Art. 6, 7 Stat. 175, 179; Treaty with Chickapows of the Mississippi, May 7, 1804, Art. 8, 13 Stat. 608.

SECTION 8. EXPENDITURE AND INVESTMENT OF INDIVIDUAL INDIAN MONEYS

As may be noted in the statutes cited in this chapter, the rules and regulations prescribed by the Secretary of the Interior with reference to the disposition of individual Indian money are subject to the congressional requirement that the funds shall be used for the use and benefit of the Indian. The Secretary may not make gifts or donations on behalf of the Indian, nor create private trusts in which he might transfer the supervision and control that was intrusted to him.⁷² Nevertheless, the meaning of the term "for the use and benefit of the Indian" is relative, and in absence of a showing of fraud or a lack of understanding as to what might be involved in the purchase of this phase, the court will not set aside the act and judgment of the Secretary of the Interior.⁷³

It has been held by the Solicitor for the Interior Department that the money is not spent for the use and benefit of the Indian when the Secretary of the Interior deducts from the royalties accruing to respective allottees from mining leases money to pay for the upkeep of the local Indian agency. For by his so doing the allottees who have royalties accruing pay an object of general welfare, while other Indians who benefit from the maintenance of its agency but who have no such royalties according to them pay nothing.⁷⁴

Large amounts of individual moneys are under the control of the Secretary of the Interior.⁷⁵

The regulations provide that withdrawal of money from the Indian's account shall be made by check, upon the application of the disbursing agent, approved by the Commissioner of Indian Affairs.⁷⁶ Minors and adults may receive monthly allowances not to exceed \$50 per month, specific authority from the Secretary of the Interior must be obtained for payment of larger amounts.⁷⁷ Another regulation provides that the disbursing agents, in their discretion, may turn over to any Indian who has received a patent in fee of his allotted land any individual funds then on deposit to his credit or which in the future accrue to his credit.⁷⁸

⁷² See Chapter 5, secs. 6D and 12.

⁷³ *United States v. McGowan*, 28 F. 2d 76 (D. C. Kans. 1928), and *United States v. Scott*, 37 F. 2d 869 (C. C. A. 10, 1900), rev. 228 U. S. 874 (1900), aff'd sub nom. *Scott v. United States*, 288 U. S. 747 (1931), indicate how different courts can disagree as to whether an act of the Secretary of the Interior was in fact for the use and benefit of the Indian.

⁷⁴ Op. Sol. I. D., March 22, 1917, October 6, 1927.

⁷⁵ The statement of the Indian Office shows that as of June 30, 1899, it had in its control the sum of \$59,200,000 belonging to individual Indians.

⁷⁶ 25 C. F. R. 221.2.

⁷⁷ *Ibid.*, 221.4.

⁷⁸ *Ibid.*, 221.6.

In accordance with treaties and acts of this type, Congress has at various times caused to be paid to Indians sums for property taken from them.⁷⁹

⁷⁹ Act of March 15, 1852, 6 Stat. 480 (Cherokee paid for slaves taken by white man); Act of July 1, 1852, 1 Stat. 576 (Cherokee Indians paid for livestock taken by United States citizens); Act of June 30, 1914, 6 Stat. 794 (check to be paid for horse stolen by white man); Appropriation Act of September 10, 1950, 9 Stat. 514 668 (Seminoles reimbursed for money stolen by United States soldiers); Appropriation Act of March 1, 1865, 12 Stat. 774, 794 (Omaha chief paid for horses killed by white soldiers); Appropriation Act of March 3, 1865, 13 Stat. 511 560 (Chippewa chief paid for loss of horse and furniture); Act of January 19, 1891, 29 Stat. 720 (Indians of Standing Rock and Cheyenne tribes ordered to be paid for losses taken by United States); Appropriation Acts of December 22, 1937, 46 Stat. 2, 16, and of March 4, 1940, 47 Stat. 1530.

Among the regulations are found several which provide that certain payments of money may be made to the Indian for his unrestricted use.⁸⁰ The purpose of this is stated to be the encouragement of personal responsibility, self-reliance, and business experience which will enable the Indian to become an independent and progressive member of the community.⁸¹

The regulations authorize the expenditure of money for educational and agricultural purposes.⁸² Further regulations provide that disbursing agents may pay necessary medical and funeral expenses, within specified maximum limits.⁸³ Administrative practice permits the superintendent to apply restricted funds of an Indian toward the support of an illegitimate child of such Indian.⁸⁴

"Debts of Indians will not be paid from funds under the control of the United States . . . unless previously authorized by the Superintendent, except in emergency cases necessitating medical treatment or in the payment of last illness or funeral expenses . . ." and any other exceptional cases where specific authority is granted by the Indian Office.⁸⁵

The regulations provide that, when personal property, such as wagons, horses, farm implements, etc., is purchased for an Indian, singly or in the aggregate value of \$50 or more, the superintendent shall take a bill of sale therefor in his name as vendee, expressly in trust for the Indian.⁸⁶

In the case of *United States v. O'Gowan*,⁸⁷ under a regulation such as the above, the superintendent of the Winnebago Agency bought several horses with the trust money held by him for an incompetent Indian. The bill of sale, which was promptly received, recited that the horses were bought with trust funds and that the sale was made to the superintendent. The Indian was permitted to have the use of the team of horses and hired the defendant to care for it. When he failed to receive payment for his services, the defendant asserted a claim of lien against the team. The court held that as no trustee, the United States could maintain an action of replevin to recover the team from the possession of the defendant.⁸⁸

^{79a} 221.5, 221.6, 221.6, 221.18.

⁸⁰ *Ibid.*, 221.5.

⁸¹ *Ibid.*, 221.10-221.14.

⁸² *Ibid.*, 221.8, 221.17.

⁸³ Memo Sol. I. D., September 8, 1908.

⁸⁴ 25 C. F. R. 221.20.

⁸⁵ *Ibid.*, 221.27.

⁸⁶ 257 Fed. 135 (C. C. A. 8, 1928).

⁸⁷ In *ex parte O'Gowan v. United States*, 276 Fed. 701 (C. C. A. 8, 1921).

⁸⁸ For a fuller discussion of the rights of the United States with respect to trust property, see Chapter 5. On the protection from State taxation of property purchased with restricted funds, see *United States v. Hughes*, 6 F. Supp. 972 (D. C. N. D. Okla. 1964), and see Chapter 13.

SECTION 9. DEPOSITS OF INDIVIDUAL INDIAN MONEYS

Ordinarily, restricted Indian funds, are held in the custody of a Government official. Several statutes, however, authorize the deposit of such funds under prescribed conditions.

Section 1 of the Act of June 25, 1910,¹³⁹ provided that any "Indian agent, superintendent or other disbursing agent of the Indian Service" might "deposit Indian moneys, individual or tribal, coming into his hands as custodian, in such bank or banks as he may select," subject to certain bond requirements.

The Appropriation Act of May 25, 1918,¹⁴⁰ provided for the segregation of tribal funds to the credit of the individual member. The funds so segregated were to be deposited to the individual's credit in any bank selected by the Secretary of the Interior, in the state or states in which the tribe is located. The act contained general legislation in the form of a proviso:

That no individual Indian money shall be deposited in any bank until the bank shall have agreed to pay interest thereon at a reasonable rate and shall have furnished an acceptable bond on collateral security thereof, and United States bonds may be furnished as collateral security for individual funds so deposited, in lieu of surety bonds: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of the Interior may invest the trust funds of any individual Indian in United States Government bonds.

The Act of June 24, 1938,¹⁴¹ superseding section 2 of the Act of June 25, 1910, and section 28 of the Appropriation Act of May 25, 1918,¹⁴² provides that the Secretary of the Interior may deposit individual trust moneys in banks selected by him, under such rules and regulations as he may prescribe, provided that the bank agrees to pay a reasonable rate of interest thereon and to furnish security of a specified type. The Secretary of the Interior may waive interest on demand deposits. The act also permits the Secretary, if he deems it for the best interest of the Indian, to invest the Indian moneys in any federal public-debt obligations and in any other obligations which are unconditionally guaranteed both as to interest and principal by the United States.¹⁴³

¹³⁹ Sec. 1, 36 Stat. 855, 860, amended in other respects by Act of February 14, 1913, 37 Stat. 678, 26 U. S. C. § 778. This provision was unchanged by the Act of March 8, 1908, 46 Stat. 101, and the Act of April 30, 1904, 48 Stat. 647, 26 U. S. C. § 772, amending the Act of 1910, but was superseded by the Act of June 24, 1938, discussed below.

¹⁴⁰ 40 Stat. 561, 591, 26 U. S. C. 102.

¹⁴¹ 52 Stat. 1097, 26 U. S. C. 102.

¹⁴² Sec. 28, 40 Stat. 651, 691, 26 U. S. C. 102.

¹⁴³ The authority to waive interest on demand deposits included in the 1938 act was occasioned by the passage of the Banking Act of

In practice, the deposit of individual Indian moneys is made in the name of the United States, the disbursing agent keeping account of the amounts due the various individuals, the bank in which the funds are deposited has no account with the various individuals on whose behalf the funds were deposited.

Though these funds are deposited by the United States in its representative capacity, yet in case the bank fails, such deposits, being debts due to the United States, are entitled to priority under it. See § 408. In the case of *Klamath v. United States Fidelity & Guaranty Co.*,¹⁴⁴ the court under it. See § 408, giving the United States priority in payment of claims against an insolvent estate, granted priority to deposits of Indian moneys, individual and tribal, made by the superintendent of the Klamath Reservation.

In enforcing the terms laid down by Congress for the deposit of Indian funds, the Department of the Interior issued regulations governing deposits. Under regulations approved March 5, 1938,¹⁴⁵ a bank seeking to qualify as a depository must file an application showing its financial condition, the amounts of money it will accept, the rate of interest that will be paid and the type of security that will be furnished. The regulations provide for deposits in the name of the disbursing agent and interest is payable semiannually. Monthly statements of receipts and checks on the Indian money account and other statements of information shall be furnished when required. Definite provisions as to the type of security, such as bonds of corporations, individuals, or of the United States are made.

August 23, 1936, 49 Stat. 684, 714, 715. The Act of May 25, 1918, had limited the class of eligible depositories of Indian funds to those paying reasonable interest. But under the 1936 act, as interpreted by the Solicitor of the Department of the Interior (*Op. Sol. I. D. M. 2823*, March 12, 1936), banks which are members of the Federal Reserve System or of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation are prohibited from paying any interest on demand deposits and all statutory requirements inconsistent with this prohibition are repealed. Following a parallel opinion of the Attorney General in the case of postal savings funds, the Solicitor of the Interior Department held that deposits might be made without interest in banks prohibited, under the 1936 Banking Act, from paying interest.

¹⁴⁴ 202 U. S. 483 (1926), *aff'd* 399 Fed. 705 (C. C. A. 9, 1924), *aff'd* 206 Fed. 831. See also *United States v. Barnett*, 7 F. Supp. 878 (D. C. N. D. Okla. 1934). Cf. *United States v. Johnson*, 11 F. Supp. 897 (D. C. N. D. Okla. 1935), *aff'd* 87 F. 2d 105 (C. C. A. 10, 1936) (holding United States not entitled to priority in debt of bank to guardian to whom funds had been unlawfully paid). On rights of creditors of Indians, see Chapter 8, sec. 7C.

¹⁴⁵ Regulations of March 2, 1938, Department of the Interior, Office of Indian Affairs, 25 C. F. R. 230.1-230.13.

SECTION 10. BEQUEST, DESCENT, AND DISTRIBUTION OF PERSONAL PROPERTY

A. IN THE ABSENCE OF FEDERAL LEGISLATION

In the absence of federal legislation, the bequest, descent, and distribution of the Indian's personality is subject to tribal rule and custom.¹⁴⁶

Because the inheritance of allotted lands is governed on substantive questions by state law,¹⁴⁷ the Indians of allotted reservations have, in some cases, adopted the state law as their own with respect to the descent of personality, thus achieving the advantage of having a single body of law determine the descent of

real and personal property.¹⁴⁸ A typical body of rules governing descent and distribution of unrestricted personality is that set forth in the Code of Ordinances of the Gila River Pima-Maricopa

¹⁴⁶ *Swinomish Law and Order Code*, chap. 8, sec. 5 (adopted March 15, 1938, approved March 24, 1938), *Pine Ridge Tribal Court and Code of Offenses*, chap. 4, sec. 1 (adopted February 20, 1937, approved March 2, 1937); *Cheyenne River Code*, chap. 3, sec. 2 (adopted October 5, 1938, approved October 8, 1938). The *Blackfeet Code of Law and Order* (May 6, 1937) provides that the tribal court shall apply its own law if proved, otherwise, the state law is to be used. Similar provisions are to be found in the *Flathead Code* (adopted December 22, 1936, approved December 24, 1936), and the *Malak Tribal Court and Code of Offenses* (adopted February 15, 1938, approved February 28, 1938). And of *Gray v. Coffman*, 10 Fed. Cas. No. 5, 714 (C. C. Kan. 1874), where the court points out that the Wyandot probate laws have been copied from the laws of Ohio with certain modifications, such as a provision that only living children should inherit.

¹⁴⁷ See Chapter 7, sec. 6. *Op. Tupillo v. Prince*, 12 N. M. 337, 78 P. 2d 145 (1938), holding that the state court has power to appoint an administrator for a deceased tribal Indian to enforce a right of action created by a state wrongful death statute.

¹⁴⁸ See Chapter 11, sec. 6.

Indian Community adopted June 3, 1906, approved August 24, 1906. The governing ordinance¹²⁰ provides that after the payment of the debts and funeral expenses, the remainder passes to the surviving spouse. If no spouse survives, then the property descends to the children or grandchildren of the deceased. If none of these exist, then the property goes to the parents or parent of the deceased. And if no parents survive, the nearest relatives take. The code provides that if there is more than one heir, the heirs are to meet and decide among themselves what share each shall take and file their decision with the tribal court. If these heirs cannot agree, upon petition by any one of them, the tribal court will pass upon the distribution.

B. UNDER FEDERAL ACTS¹²¹

By virtue of its power over Indian property,¹²² Congress may provide for a system of bequest, descent, and distribution of an Indian's personality.

1. *Descent*—Congress has never enacted general legislation¹²³ governing the descent of an Indian's personal property, and this is a matter, therefore, that remains generally subject to tribal jurisdiction.¹²⁴ Congress has provided, however, that upon the death, intestate, of "any Indian to whom an allotment of land has been made . . . before the expiration of the trust period and before the issuance of a fee simple patent," the Secretary of the Interior shall determine the heirs of the allottee and his decision shall be final.¹²⁵ Although this statute is directed primarily to the problem of the inheritance of allotments, and is discussed in more detail in connection with that subject,¹²⁶ the Interior Department has construed the power to determine heirs in the cases specified, as a power to determine heirs for all purposes.¹²⁷ Thus, in determining the heirs of an allottee, the Secretary of the Interior actually rules on the descent of personal property in the decedent's estate. This practice probably has the force of law, with respect to the estates of allottees, and it may be argued that an established course of administrative construction has extended the power of the Department to persons who are not within the language of the statute because they are not Indians "to whom an allotment of land has been made."

The regulations of the Interior Department refer to "all Indians of any allotted reservation,"¹²⁸ which obviously defines a broader class than the class defined by the statute, since there are many Indians on allotted reservations who were born too late to receive allotments. The regulations of the Interior Department do not provide for departmental distribution of estates on unallotted reservations, although this practice is occasionally resorted to with the consent of all parties in interest where tribal judicial agencies are unavailable.

Under the Law and Order Regulations of the Indian Service, the Court of Indian Offenses determines hearsay with respect to

"property other than an allotment or other trust property subject to the jurisdiction of the United States."¹²⁹

Tribal courts of organized tribes sometimes exercise like jurisdiction over all personal property.¹³⁰

In some cases, tribal councils have requested the Interior Department to handle estates involving personal property, and the Department has done so.

The question of what law applies to an estate of personal property should be distinguished from the question of what agency shall administer the estate. The Secretary of the Interior may apply tribal custom and the tribal councils may apply state law. As a matter of justice, the examiners of inheritance, acting for the Interior Department and applying state law to the determination of the inheritance of real property, commonly apply the same rules to the inheritance of personal property. Where, however, the record shows a discrepancy between tribal custom and state law, a determination by an inheritance examiner of the descent of the personal estate of an unallotted Indian in accordance with state law and in violation of tribal custom has been held illegal. In *Estate of Yellow Bear, Unallotted Navajo*,¹³¹ the Solicitor for the Interior Department disapproved such a determination, declaring:

I believe that this conclusion is unwarranted either as a matter of strict law or as a matter of policy. On the legal question I call your attention to the following paragraph in the opinion of this Department, approved December 25, 1934, on "Powers of Indian Tribes" (21-27781) [See 35 I D 14]:

With respect to all property other than allotments of land made under the General Allotment Act, the inheritance laws and customs of the Indian tribe are still of supreme authority.

On the policy question involved I can see no necessity for departmental regulation of inheritance of personal property of Navajo Indians. The recently promulgated departmental regulations relating to the determination of heirs and the approval of wills specifically reserve departmental supervision over the inheritance of personal property to reservations which have been allotted (Sections 18 and 22). Likewise, the recently approved law and order regulations provide that Indian judges shall apply tribal custom in the distribution of personal property.

I therefore recommend that instead of retaining this case for the purpose of redistributing in accordance with Arizona law the personal property which has been distributed in accordance with tribal custom, it should be returned so that the entire estate may be distributed in accordance with tribal custom. The Examiner of Inheritance should take testimony as to such customs of inheritance, in their application to the facts of this case, and submit a revised order determining heirs for departmental approval.

2. *Bequest*—The power to bequest personality is specifically granted by Act of February 14, 1913,¹³² amending the Act of June 25, 1910.¹³³ It provides that any person of the age of 21 years or over may dispose of his interest in any restricted allotment, trust moneys, or other property held in trust by the United States before expiration of the restrictive period, by will in accordance with regulations prescribed by the Secretary of the Interior. To be valid, the will must be approved by the Secretary of the Interior. The act provides further:

That the Secretary of the Interior may approve or disapprove the will either before or after the death of the testator, and in case where a will has been approved and is subsequently discovered that there has been fraud in

¹²⁰ Chapter 4, sec. 7.

¹²¹ This discussion excludes the Five Civilized Tribes and Osages. For a discussion of descent and related problems affecting them, see Chapter 28, secs. 9, 12D.

¹²² See Chapter 5, sec. 5.

¹²³ The Act of January 19, 1891, 26 Stat. 720, provides for the payment to individual Indians of the Standing Rock and Cheyenne River agencies for ponies they were deprived of and states that "if any Indian entitled to such compensation shall have deceased the sum to which such Indian would be entitled shall be paid to his heirs at law, according to the laws of the State of Dakota . . ."

¹²⁴ See Chapter 7, sec. 6.

¹²⁵ Act of June 25, 1910, sec. 1, 36 Stat. 855, 26 U S C 872.

¹²⁶ See Chapter 11, sec. 6.

¹²⁷ 26 C F R 81.33, 81.25. Regulations governing Determination of Heirs and Approval of Wills of Indians, approved May 21, 1935, sec. 18, 22, 35 I D 204, 206, 208. This rule does not bind organized tribes.

¹²⁸ See 22, 115, 24922.

¹²⁹ 26 C F R 161.81, 55 I D 401, 407 (1935).

¹³⁰ See Chapter 7, sec. 6.

¹³¹ 65 I D 426, 427-429 (1935). Also see Chapter 7, sec. 6.

¹³² Sec. 2, 37 Stat. 678, 679, 26 U S C 878.

¹³³ 36 Stat. 855.

connection with the execution or procurement of the will the Secretary of the Interior is hereby authorized * * * to cancel the approval of the will, and the property of the testator shall thereupon descend or be distributed in accordance with the laws of the State wherein the property is located.¹²⁴

In the case of *Blaisdel v. Gaidin*,¹²⁵ the Supreme Court held that a will by a Chiniquap allottee disposing of her moneys derived from her restricted lands and which were held in trust by the United States is governed by the 1913 act. The Court held unapplicable a statute of the State of Oklahoma regulating the portion of an estate that may be transferred by will, stating that the will is valid if approved by the Secretary of the Interior and executed in accordance with his regulations.

¹²⁴ The act provides also that the death of testator and the approval of the will does not terminate the trust, and that the Secretary of the Interior may in his discretion regulate the distribution and expenditure of the money belonging to the legatee.

¹²⁵ 256 U. S. 310 (1921). Aff'd 261 Fed. 209 (C. C. A. 8, 1919). Thus case is also discussed in Chapter II, sec. 110(2), Chapter 8, sec. 2A, and Chapter 11, sec. 6B. See also *Blaisdel v. Wallace*, 287 U. S. 378 (1932).

The right of the Indian to bequeath his shares in a tribal corporation organized under the Wheeler-Howard Act¹²⁶ is limited to the extent that he can give them only to his heirs, to tribal members, or to the tribal corporation.¹²⁷

Since the statute governing the bequest of restricted personality does not apply to unrestricted personality, the tribal law on testamentary disposition of unrestricted personality is supreme.¹²⁸ Even though the bequest of restricted personality be subject to the rules and regulations of the Secretary of the Interior, nevertheless such rules and regulations¹²⁹ implicitly authorize approval of wills made in accord with tribal customs or tribal laws regarding testamentary disposition where there has been no compliance with state law.¹³⁰

¹²⁶ Act of June 18, 1934, sec. 4, 48 Stat. 984, 985, 25 U. S. C. 464.

¹²⁷ 55 I. D. 285, 270 (1935).

¹²⁸ *Estate of Yellow Hair, Unaffiliated Navajo*, 55 I. D. 426 (1935).

¹²⁹ The rules and regulations prescribed by the Department of the Interior for the execution of wills, as approved May 31, 1935, may be found in 55 I. D. 288, 275-280.

¹³⁰ 55 I. D. 14, 42 (1934). See also *Estate of Yellow Hair, Unaffiliated Navajo*, 55 I. D. 426 (1935).

SECTION 11. INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS IN PERSONALTY—CROPS

Early in its dealings with the Indians, the government sought, by granting them agricultural lands, to encourage them in peaceful pursuits, that would provide a means of subsistence.¹³¹

As has been observed elsewhere in this chapter, when the Indian was compelled to vacate his land, provision was made for his reimbursement for the property he could not take with him, including crops.¹³² Where possible, the Indian may have been permitted to remain on the land until he harvested his growing crops.¹³³

Problems arising today concern chiefly the Indian's rights to dispose of all or some of his interest in his crops grown on restricted lands.

The law is not settled as to whether an Indian may without departmental approval, sell or mortgage¹³⁴ crops grown on restricted lands, but severed therefrom. A memorandum of the Solicitor of the Department of the Interior¹³⁵ presents the argu-

ments on either side. On the one hand, it may be contended that even though severed from the restricted land, the crops are trust property while situated on the land. For as long as they remain there, the mortgage cannot enter upon the land without the Government's consent. The contrary argument is that the sale or mortgage of severed crops does not come within the restrictions of the Indian's privilege to contract¹³⁶ nor does it affect the reversion since severed crops are not part of the land, that there are no restrictions on the Indian's disposing of his crop as best he can.

To secure a loan from a tribal corporation under the Wheeler-Howard Act,¹³⁷ an Indian may mortgage his crops to the corporation,¹³⁸ since he might convey the land itself to the corporation.¹³⁹

¹³¹ For restrictions on the power to contract, see Chapter 8, sec. 7.

¹³² 48 Stat. 984, 25 U. S. C. 461, et seq.

¹³³ Memo. Amst. Sec'y I. D., August 17, 1938. This memorandum discloses an opinion of the Attorney General of North Dakota, which holds that the 1933 Crop Mortgage Act of North Dakota, which declares void mortgages on growing and unharvested crops, does not apply to such mortgages given by Indians to Indian corporations. The opinion holds that the proviso in the amendment of 1933 exempting from the scope of the 1932 act "any mortgage or lien in favor of the United States * * * or any department or agency of either thereof" excepts such tribal disposition as a federal instrumentality.

¹³⁴ Memo. Sol. I. D., March 25, 1938.

SECTION 12. INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS IN PERSONALTY—LIVESTOCK

To induce Indians to adopt agricultural pursuits, treaties with Indians frequently contained a promise by the United States that it would furnish livestock to them.¹⁴⁰ When these promises were fulfilled, the livestock remained the property of the United States, the Indian having the right to possession and use.¹⁴¹ Livestock was also purchased by the United States for the Indian, with his own money.¹⁴²

¹⁴⁰ E. g., Treaty with the Sioux, April 29, 1868, Art. 10, 15 Stat. 635, 639.

¹⁴¹ See *United States v. Anderson*, 228 U. S. 52 (1913), rev'g 189 Fed. 262 (D. C. Ore., 1911).

¹⁴² *United States v. Anderson*, 228 U. S. 52 (1913), rev'g 189 Fed. 262 (D. C. Ore., 1911).

In the Appropriation Act of July 4, 1884,¹⁴³ Congress prohibited the sale of any cattle or other livestock, in possession or control of an Indian, which were purchased by the Government, to any person not belonging to the tribe to which said Indian belonged or to any citizen of the United States, except with the written consent of the agent of the tribe to which said Indian belonged. In the case of *United States v. Anderson*,¹⁴⁴ the Court held that this act applied to cattle purchased by the Government even with the Indian's funds. It has also been held that the Act of 1884 is not limited in application to cattle in possession of Indians.

¹⁴³ 23 Stat. 76, 94, 25 U. S. C. 195.

¹⁴⁴ 228 U. S. 52 (1913), rev'g 189 Fed. 262 (D. C. Ore., 1911).

at the time of its encumbrance.¹⁴⁴ Since a sale cannot be made without the written consent of the agent, a mortgage on the cattle without such consent has been held void.¹⁴⁵

However, a sale or other disposition of the livestock to non-members of the tribe, even with the consent of the agent, may be made illegal, as where the statute making the appropriation specifically states that no sales to such outsiders shall be made.¹⁴⁶

The Appropriation Act of June 30, 1919,¹⁴⁷ also restricted the disposition of livestock purchased or issued by the United States, and any increase. It provided that such animals could not be sold, mortgaged, or otherwise disposed of, except with the written consent of the federal office in charge of the tribe, any transaction in violation of the statute would be void. It was further provided that all such stock was to be branded with the initials I D (referring to Interior Department) or with the reservation brand and could not be removed from the Indian country without the consent of the federal office or by order of the Secretary of War in connection with troop movements.

¹⁴⁴ *Edley v La Clair*, 77 Wash 488, 138 Pac 8 (1914).

¹⁴⁵ *Ibid*.

¹⁴⁶ Appropriation Act of March 2, 1889, sec 17, 25 Stat 885, 804 making provision for distribution of livestock among Sioux. Effect of this act upon Act of 1881 is discussed in *Fisher v United States*, 226 Fed 196 (C C A 8, 1915).

¹⁴⁷ Sec 1, 41 Stat 8, 9, 25 U S C 108.

An additional act affecting an Indian's interest in his livestock is the Appropriation Act of March 3, 1885,¹⁴⁸ which permits an Indian agent to sell livestock belonging to Indians which is not needed for subsistence. The sale is to be under rules and regulations prescribed by the Secretary of the Interior and the proceeds used for the benefit of the Indian.

In accordance with the federal policy of encouraging Indians in peaceful agricultural pursuits and of providing them with a means of livelihood and subsistence, the Secretary of the Interior has provided for certain preferential rights to Indians in the acquisition of grazing permits on Indian lands for his livestock.¹⁴⁹

On reservations where sufficient tribal land is available, free grazing privileges may be granted to Indians by the tribal authorities, as an encouragement for the breeding and raising of livestock.¹⁵⁰

The Indian is protected in his title of livestock by regulations seeking to prevent the spread of contagious diseases among stock on Indian lands.¹⁵¹

¹⁴⁸ Sec 9, 19 Stat 541, 551, R S § 2147, 25 U S C 102. See Chapter 4, sec 9.

¹⁴⁹ 25 C F R 71.11, 71.13, 72.8.

¹⁵⁰ *Ibid*, 71.9.

¹⁵¹ *Ibid*, 71.22, 72.10.

INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS IN REAL PROPERTY

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The process of allotment shifted the rights of individual In-property, already discussed,¹ to rights of ownership in individual lands in real property from the rights of participation in tribal tracts.

¹ See Chapter 9. Also see Chapter 2, secs 2B, 2C, 2D.

SECTION 1. BACKGROUND OF THE ALLOTMENT SYSTEM

The background, the inception, and the operation of this system are set forth with a wealth of detail in J. P. Kinney's study, *A Contentious Land—A Civilization Won* (1937) and, more briefly, in a "History of the Allotment Policy" by D. S. Otis, which, presented in hearings¹ leading to the enactment of the Act of June 15, 1884,² provided the chief factual basis for the termination of the allotment system by that act.

A. EARLY DEVELOPMENT OF THE ALLOTMENT SYSTEM

The origins of the allotment system, as of every other important legal institution in the field of Indian affairs, are to be found in Indian treaties. As early as 1798 tribal lands were allotted to individuals or families.³ Allotment was then, as it has been generally ever since, an incident in the transfer of Indian lands to white ownership. Chiefs and councils might cede vast areas over which a tribe claimed ownership, but when it came to ceding a plot of land which some member of the tribe had improved and on which he lived, a different situation was presented. In this situation many treaties provided that there should be "reserved" from the cession tracts of land for the use, or occupancy, or ownership, of designated individuals or families.⁴ These early allotments were commonly known as reservations. Various forms of tenure were imposed upon

these reservations. In some cases lands were held in trust for the individual.⁵ In other cases the Indian acquired title either

Treaty of September 29, 1817, with the Wyandot, Seneca, and other tribes, 7 Stat. 100; Treaty of October 2, 1818, with the Potawatami Nation, 7 Stat. 185; Treaty of October 2, 1818, with the Win Tribe, 7 Stat. 186; Treaty of October 3, 1818, with the Delaware Nation, 7 Stat. 188; Treaty of October 6, 1818, with the Miami Nation, 7 Stat. 189; Treaty of February 27, 1819, with the Cherokee Nation, 7 Stat. 195; Treaty of August 20, 1821, with the Ottawa, Chippewa, and Potawatami Nations, 7 Stat. 218; Treaty of June 2, 1825, with the Great and Little Osage Tribes, 7 Stat. 240; Reservations for "half-breeds", Treaty of June 3, 1828, with the Kansas Nation, 7 Stat. 244 (reservations for "half-breeds"), Treaty of October 16, 1828, with the Potawatami Tribe, 7 Stat. 245; Treaty of October 23, 1828, with the Miami Tribe, 7 Stat. 250; Treaty of July 26, 1829, with the United Nations of Chippewa, Ottawa, and Potawatami Indians, 7 Stat. 320; Treaty of August 1, 1829, with the Winnebago Nation, 7 Stat. 325; Treaty of September 27, 1830, with the Choctaw Nation, 7 Stat. 333; Treaty of August 30, 1831, with the Ottawa Indians, 7 Stat. 350; Treaty of March 24, 1832, with the Creek Tribe, 7 Stat. 368; Treaty of September 15, 1832, with the Winnebago Nation, 7 Stat. 370; Treaty of October 20, 1832, with the Potawatami Tribe, 7 Stat. 378; Treaty of October 20, 1832, with the Chickasaw Nation, 7 Stat. 381; Treaty of October 27, 1832, with the Potawatami, 7 Stat. 389; Treaty of October 27, 1832, with the Kaskaskia Tribe, 7 Stat. 403; Treaty of February 18, 1833, with the Ottawa, 7 Stat. 420; Treaty of September 26, 1833, with the United Nation of Chippewa, Ottawa, and Potawatami Indians, 7 Stat. 481; Treaty of May 24, 1834, with the Chickasaw Nation, 7 Stat. 450; Treaty of October 28, 1834, with the Miami Tribe, 7 Stat. 463; Treaty of December 29, 1835, with the Cherokee Tribe, 7 Stat. 475; Treaty of April 25, 1836, with the Wyandot Tribe, 7 Stat. 502; Treaty of November 6, 1838, with the Miami Tribe, 7 Stat. 509.

⁵ Treaty of June 1, 1798, with the Onondaga Nation, unpublished treaty, Archives No. 28; Treaty of September 20, 1816, with the Chickasaw Nation, 7 Stat. 150.

¹ Hearings, Committee on 2nd Aft., 73d Cong., 2d sess., on H. R. 7902, 1884, pt. 0, pp. 428 et seq.

² 48 Stat. 984, 25 U. S. C. 461 et seq.

³ Treaty of June 1, 1798, with the Onondaga Nation, unpublished treaty, Archives No. 28.

⁴ Treaty of September 20, 1816, with the Chickasaw Nation, 7 Stat. 150; Treaty of July 8, 1817, with the Cherokee Nation, 7 Stat. 166;

under a restriction against alienation without the consent of the President," or in fee simple.¹

Somewhat later allotment came to be used as an instrument for terminating tribal existence. Allottees surrendered their interest in the tribal estate and became citizens.²

During the 1850's, this break-up of tribal lands and tribal existence through allotment assumed a standard pattern.³

During the last years of the treaty-making period, and for two decades thereafter, the treaty provisions on allotment served as models for legislation.

The legislative development leading up to the General Allotment Act, and the purposes and background of that act are analyzed in Otis' study from which the following excerpts are taken:

In the 1870's the Government's policy of general allotment of Indian lands in severalty gradually took form. . . . By 1835 the Government had, under various treaties and laws issued over 11,000 patents to individual Indians and 1,200 certificates of allotment.⁴ The fact that 8,936 of these patents and 1,185 of these certificates were issued under laws passed and treaties ratified during the period 1850-69 suggests that the forces which produced the General Allotment Act of 1887 were coming to life in the mid-century. In 1802 Congress saw fit to pass a law for the special protection of the Indian interest in the enjoyment and use of his land.⁵ And in 1875 Congress gave further momentum to the whole land-in-severalty movement by extending to the Indian head-of-household privileges (18 Stat. L. 420).

⁴ Commissioner of Indian Affairs (1887), 820, 821.
⁵ H. Rep. No. 1020, 40th Cong., 2d sess., 7.

In the meantime, the Indian Administration was gravitating steadily to the position of supporting allotment as a general principle.⁶

. . . . In 1877 Secretary Schurz recommended allotment to heads of families on all reservations, "the enjoyment and profit of the individual ownership of property being one of the most effective civilizing agencies."⁷ From that date onward the Service as a whole worked for the speeding up of allotment under previous acts and treaties and the passage of a general law.⁸

⁶ Report of the Secretary of the Interior, 1877, x.

LEGISLATION

In the late seventies there was a growing public opinion in support of the allotment movement. The Commissioner in 1878 declared:

"[Allotment] is a measure correspondent with the progressive age in which we live, and is endorsed by

¹ Treaty of October 2, 1818, with the Potawatamie Nation, 7 Stat. 180, Treaty of October 2, 1818, with the Win Tribe, 7 Stat. 185, Treaty of October 6, 1818, with the Delaware Nation, 7 Stat. 188, Treaty of October 10, 1820, with the Potawatamie Tribe, 7 Stat. 205, Treaty of October 28, 1820, with the Miami Tribe, 7 Stat. 900, Treaty of July 30, 1820, with the United Nations of Chippewa, Ottawa, and Potawatamie Indians, 7 Stat. 850, Treaty of August 1, 1820, with the Winnebago Nation, 7 Stat. 858.

² Treaty of September 20, 1817, with the Wyandot, Seneca, and other tribes, 7 Stat. 100, Treaty of October 6, 1818, with the Miami Nation, 7 Stat. 189, Treaty of August 20, 1821, with the Ottawa, Chippewa, and Potawatamie Nations, 7 Stat. 218, Treaty of June 8, 1825, with the Great and Little Osage Tribes, 7 Stat. 340 (reservations for "half-breeds"), Treaty of June 8, 1825, with the Kansas Nation, 7 Stat. 244 (reservations for "half-breeds"), Treaty of September 15, 1832, with the Winnebago Nation, 7 Stat. 370.

³ Treaty of November 24, 1848, with the Stockbridge Tribe, 9 Stat. 955 (division of tribe into "Osage" party and "Indian" party), Treaty of April 1, 1850, with the Wyandot, 9 Stat. 987 (Treaty of August 5, 1820, with the Chippewa Tribe, 7 Stat. 290, providing for allotments to half-breeds, Treaty of September 27, 1850, with the Choctaw Nation, 7 Stat. 988, Treaty of December 29, 1850, with the Cherokee Tribe, 7 Stat. 478, Treaty of July 8, 1817, with the Cherokee Nation, 7 Stat. 166).

⁴ See Chapter 8, see 49.

all true friends of the Indian, as is evidenced by the numerous petitions to this effect presented to Congress from citizens of the various States.⁹

⁵ Commissioner of Indian Affairs (1880), xvi.

Early the following year a joint committee of Congress, appointed to consider the matter of transferring the Indian Bureau to the War Department, reported a decision adverse to the change and proceeded to make recommendations of measures to civilize the Indians. One of their proposals was a general allotment law providing for a stipend to be paid to a settler on a reservation allotment.¹⁰ That same day, January 31, 1879, Chairman Scales of the House Committee on Indian Affairs reported a general allotment bill.¹¹ In the next Congress various bills were introduced to the same effect.¹² The House committee on May 28, 1880, reported favorably an allotment bill and accompanied it with statements of the majority and minority views.¹³ In the Senate the measure which was to be known in the next few years as the "Coke bill" was introduced.¹⁴

⁹ H. Rep. No. 84, 41st Cong., 1st Cong., 4d sess., 8-20.
¹⁰ Congressional Record, Jan. 31, 1879, 894. (See also H. Rep. No. 9, 1879, 45th Cong., 3d sess.)
¹¹ Congressional Record, Jan. 12, 1880, 274, Mar. 8, 1880, 1304, May 19, 1880, 850.
¹² H. Rep. No. 1078, May 28, 1880, 47th Cong., 2d sess.
¹³ Congressional Record, May 10, 1880, 8507.

B THE GENERAL ALLOTMENT ACT

The circumstances surrounding the enactment of the General Allotment Act are thus summarized in Dr. Otis' study:

Senator Dawes in 1885 cited Carl Schurz with regard to the bill. His provisions were substantially the same as those of the late Daniel D. Coates, except that the Indian was not thereby declared a citizen.¹⁵ The Coke bill passed the Senate in 1884 and in 1885 and in this latter year was favorably reported in the House.¹⁶ In the meantime certain tribes by special laws were given the privilege of allotments in severalty—*the Crow* on April 11, 1882 (22 Stat. L. 42), the *Ojibwas* on August 7, 1882 (22 Stat. L. 841), and the *Umatillas* on March 3, 1885 (23 Stat. L. 840). These acts applied to specific reservations the principles of the Coke bill.

¹⁵ Proceedings of the Third Annual Meeting of the Lake Mohonk Conference of Friends of the Indian (1886) in Miscellaneous Documents, XIII, 10182.

¹⁶ Congressional Record Jan. 20, 1881, 778, 779. For debate on the question of amending the bill to extend citizenship to the Indian, see Congressional Record, Jan. 24, 1881, 875-880.
¹⁷ Report of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs (1884), xii.
¹⁸ Report of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs (1885), vi.
¹⁹ H. Rep. No. 2217, Jan. 9, 1885, 48th Cong., 1st sess., 4d sess.

The allotment movement seemed rapidly to be gaining strength in 1880. President Cleveland in his annual messages in 1885 and 1880 advocated the policy.¹⁷ In 1880 General Sheridan, reporting as lieutenant general of the Army to the Secretary of War, likewise urged the allotment scheme.¹⁸ Finally, Congress acted early in the following year and the President signed the Dawes Act on February 8, 1887 (24 Stat. L. 888).¹⁹ The chief provisions of the act were:

(1) a grant of 160 acres to each family head, of 80 acres to each single person over 18 years of age

¹⁷ George F. Parker (ed.), The Writings and Speeches of Grover Cleveland (New York, 1898), 410-413.
¹⁸ In Miscellaneous Documents Relating to Indian Affairs (collected in Indian Office Library), XV, 11900-11904.

¹⁹ The writer recalls that time has not furnished a careful study of the Government documents, especially of the Congressional Record, relating to the Dawes Act. The study, however, by implication shows some light on the forces at work to secure its passage. There is a well-founded suspicion that all the members of the legislation were not conversant merely with the Indian's welfare. The study would at least show the duty of opinion. In 1887 President Grover Cleveland, in a study of the National Indian Association that passage of the Dawes bill 8 years previously would have been "an absolute impossibility." His wife said that the women's petition with 10,000 signatures, which was presented to Congress in 1882, met with "dense ignorance," and the influence and the influence of the Indian Bureau. Miscellaneous Documents Relating to Indian Affairs (collected in Indian Office Library), XV, 11908, 11909. In its last stages the bill met with no opposition at all. Debate dated only with details.

and to each orphan under 18, and of 40 acres to each other single person under eighteen."

"Certain tribes were exempted from the provisions of the act, viz, the Five Civilized Tribes, the Osages, Micmacs, and Potomac, Sacs, and Foxes, in Indian Territory, the Senecas in New York State and the inhabitants of the strip south of the Sioux in Nebraska (see 8)

(2) a patent in fee to be issued to every allottee but to be held in trust by the Government for 25 years, during which time the land could not be alienated or encumbered.

(3) a period of 4 years to be allowed the Indians in which they should make their selections after allotment should be applied to any tribe—failure of the Indians to do so should result in selection for them at the order of the Secretary of the Interior.

(4) citizenship to be conferred upon allottees and upon any other Indians who had abandoned their tribes and adopted "the habits of civilized life."

AIMS AND MOTIVES OF THE ALLIOTMENT AGREEMENT

That the leading proponents of allotment were inspired by the highest motives seems conclusively true. A Member of Congress, speaking on the Dawes bill in 1886 said, "It has . . . the endorsement of the Indian rights associations throughout the country, and of the best sentiment of the land."

"Congressional Record, Dec 15, 1886, 106

The supreme aim of the friends of the Indian was to substitute white civilization for his tribal culture, and they shrewdly sensed that the difference in the concepts of property was fundamental in the contrast between the two ways of life. That the white man's way was good and the Indian's way was bad, all agreed. So, on the one hand, allotment was counted on to break up tribal life. This blessing was dwelt upon at length. The agent for the Yankton Sioux wrote in 1877:

"As long as Indians live in villages they will retain many of their old and ignominious habits. Frequent feasts, community in food, heathen ceremonies, and dances, constant visiting—these will continue as long as the people live together in close neighborhoods and villages. . . . I trust that before another year is ended they will generally be located upon individual lands of farms. From that date will begin their real and permanent progress."

"Reports of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs (1877), 75-76 (See also Reports of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs (1878), 25 (1880), 21 (1886), iv, 2)

On the other hand, the allotment system was to enable the Indian to acquire the benefits of civilization. The Indian agents of the period made no effort to conceal their disgust for tribal economy.

But voices of doubt were here and there raised about allotment as a wholesale civilizing program. "Baibaiism" was not without its defenders. Especially were the Five Civilized Tribes held up as an example of felicity under a communal system in contrast to the deplorable condition of certain Indians upon whom allotment had been tried. A minority report of the House Committee on Indian Affairs in 1880 went so far as to state that Indians had made progress only under communism. At this point it is worth remarking that friends and enemies of allotment alike showed no clear understanding of Indian agricultural economy. Both were prone to use the word "communism" in a loose sense, in describing Indian enterprise. It was in fact made an inaccurate term. Gen. O. O. Howard told the Lake Mohawk Conference in 1889 about a band of Spokane Indians who worked their lands in common in the latter part of the 1870's, but certainly in the vast majority of cases Indian economic pursuits were carried on directly with individual rewards in view. This was primarily true even of such essentially group activities as the Omaha annual buffalo hunt. Agricultural economy was certainly but rarely a communal undertaking. The Pueblos, who had probably the oldest and most established agricultural economy, were individualistic in turning and pooled their efforts only in the care of the irrigation system. What the allotment debaters meant by

communism was that the title to land invariably vested in the tribe and the actual holding of the land was dependent on its use and occupancy. They also meant vaguely the co-operative and clanlike—the strong communal sense—of barbaric life, which allotment was calculated to disrupt.

"Memorial to Congress from Cherokee Nation in Congressional Record, January 29, 1881, 781
"H. Rept. No. 1579, May 28, 1880, 46th Cong., 2d sess., 10
"Present and Reports of the Board of Indian Commissioners (1889), 112

"Vice C. Fletcher and Frances, La Placide, the Omaha Tribe, in Twenty-seventh Annual Report of the Bureau of American Ethnology to the Secretary at the Smithsonian Institution, 1905-6 (Washington, 1911), 273-274
"Reports of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs (1864), 832

In any event, the doubters were skeptical as to whether this allotment method of civilizing would work. They placed much emphasis upon the fact that Indian life was bound up with the communal holding of land. In 1881 Senator Teller quoted a chief's explanation why the Nez Percés went on the warpath:

"They asked us to divide the land, to divide our mother upon whose bosom we had been born, upon whose lap we had been reared."

"Congressional Record, January 20, 1881, 781-782 (See also H. Rept. No. 1376, May 28, 1880, 46th Cong., 2d sess., 7-10)

The minority of the House Committee on Indian Affairs doubted whether private property would transform the Indian. The minority report said:

"However much we may differ with the humanitarians who are riding this hobby, we are certain that they will agree with us in the proposition that it does not make a farmer out of an Indian to give him a quarter-section of land. There are hundreds of thousands of white men, rich and poor, who are owners of sections of Anglo-Saxon civilization, who cannot be transformed into cultivators of the land by any such gift."

"H. Rept. No. 1376, May 28, 1880, 46th Cong., 2d sess., 8

The believers in allotment had another justification, which was to protect the Indian in his present land holding. They were confident that if every Indian had his own strip of land, guaranteed by a patent from the Government, he would enjoy a security which no tribal possession could afford him. If the Indians' possession was further safeguarded by a restriction upon his right to sell it they believed that the system would be foolproof.

It must also be noted that while the advocates of allotment were primarily and sincerely concerned with the advancement of the Indian they at the same time regarded the scheme as promoting the best interest of the whites as well. For one thing, it was loudly but erroneously hoped that settling the Indian on his own feet would relieve the Government of a great expense. In 1870 the Indian Commissioner, in recommending an allotment bill to Secretary Schurz, wrote, "The evidently growing feeling in the country against the continued appropriations for the care and comfort of the Indians indicates the necessity for a radical change of policy in affairs connected with their lands." Speaking in favor of the Dawes bill, a member of Congress said in 1886, "What shall be his future status? Shall he remain a pauper slave, blocking the pathway of civilization, an increasing burden upon the people? Or shall he be converted into a civilized farmer, contributing to the support of the Government and adding to the material prosperity of the country? . . . We desire, I say, that the latter shall be his destiny."

"Committee to Secretary Schurz in H. Rept. No. 168, March 24, 1870, 41st Cong., 1st sess., 10
"Commissioner of Indian Affairs (1884), xxii

"Congressional Record, December 16, 1886, 100

The chief advantages that the new system was to bring to the country as a whole were to be found in the opening up of surplus lands on the reservation and in the attendant march of progress and civilization westward. In his report of 1880, Secretary Schurz wrote:

"[Allotment] will eventually open to settlement by white men the large tracts of land now belonging to the reservations, but not used by the Indians. It will thus put the relations between the Indians and their white neighbors in the western country upon a new basis, by gradually doing away with the system of large reservations, which has so frequently provoked these contentions which in the past have led to so much cruel oppression and so many disastrous collisions."

"Report of the Secretary of the Interior, 1880, 12

It must be reported that the using of these lands which the Indians did not "need" for the advancement of civilization was a logical part of a whole and sincerely idealistic philosophy. The civilization policy was in the long run to benefit Indian and white man alike. But doubters of the allotment system could see nothing in the policy but dire consequences for the Indian. Senator Teller in 1881 called the Coke bill "a bill to despoil the Indians of their lands and to make them vagabonds on the face of the earth."

"Congressional Record, January 26, 1881, 634

At another time he said,

"If I stand alone in the Senate, I want to put upon the record my prophecy in this matter, that when 30 or 40 years shall have passed and these Indians shall have parted with their title, they will curse the hand that was raised in their defense in their desire to secure this kind of legislation and if the people who are clamoring for it understood Indian character, and Indian laws, and Indian morals, and Indian religion, they would not be here clamoring for this at all."

"Ibid., January 26, 1881, 784

"Senator Teller had charged that allotment was in the interests of the land-grabbing speculators," but the minority report of the House Indian Affairs Committee in 1880 had gone even further in its accusations. It said

"The real aim of this bill is to get at the Indian lands and open them up to settlement. The provisions for the apparent benefit of the Indian are but the pretext to get at his lands and occupy them. . . . If this were done in the name of greed, it would be bad enough, but to do it in the name of humanity, and under the cloak of an ardent desire to promote the Indian's welfare by making him take on himself, whether he will or not, is infinitely worse."

"Congressional Record, January 28, 1881, 728

"Ibid. Report No. 1076, May 28, 1880, 46th Cong., 2d Sess., 10

It is probably true that the most powerful force motivating the allotment policy was the pressure of the land-hungry western settlers. A very able prize thesis written at Harvard by Samuel Taylor puts forth this theory. The author copiously and convincingly cites evidence to show the cupidity of the westerners for the Indian's lands and their unrestrained zeal in acquiring them.

"Samuel Taylor, The Origins of the Dawes Act of 1887 (unpublished manuscript, Philip Washburn Price Thesis, Harvard, 1927), 25-26

A special enterprise which undoubtedly affected the establishing and working out of the allotment program was the railroads. It must again be remembered that the 1880's were a time of feverish railroad building.

"It is interesting that the same session of the same Congress that passed the Dawes Act went in for grants of railroad rights-of-way through Indian lands on a new and enlarged scale. Of 9 Indian bills that became law, 6 were railroad grants. . . . Of the remaining 3, 1 was the Dawes Act, 1 was the appropriation act, and the third was an amendment to the land-sales law. In September 1887 the Indian Commissioner remarked in his report, 'The past year has been one of unusual activity

in the protection and building of numerous additional railroads through Indian lands."

"Reports of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs (1887), 272-276

It is significant that one of the foremost of these empire builders was discovering that under the old reservation system the way of the railroads was limited. The biographer of James J. Hill tells of the difficulties which the builder of the St. Paul, Minneapolis & Manitoba Railroad experienced in securing a right-of-way across the Fort Belknap and Blackfoot Reservations in 1886 and 1887. Eventually the railroad got its grant (24 Stat. L. 402), but the way was paid for acquiring more easily a second grant, extending the right-of-way westward, by the Blackfeet agreement of 1889. This agreement (25 Stat. L. 114) cut the reservation up into several smaller ones. (Art. I), allowed the sale of the surplus land, provided for allotment in severalty (Art. VI), and stipulated that rights-of-way might be granted through any of the separate reservations "whenever in the opinion of the President the public interests require the construction of railroads, or other highways, or telegraph lines." (Art. VIII). Again, the writer of this paper has no evidence to show that the railroad was active in promoting this agreement. But a later comment of James J. Hill indicates that he had been well aware of the disadvantages of the old reservations for railroading.

"When we built into northern Montana, and I want to tell you that I look forth to do it, from the eastern boundary of the State to Fort Benton we needed Indian land, no white man had a right to put two toes on top of the other. If he undertook to remain too long in passing through the country, he was told to move on. When cattle crossed the Missouri River during the first years to come to our trains, the Indians asked \$40 a head for allowing across the land a distance of 8 miles, and they wanted an additional amount per head. I don't remember what it was, for the water they drank in crossing the Missouri."

"Jas. G. Hyde, Life of James J. Hill (2 vols., Garden City, N. Y., 1917), I, 384

"Jas. G. Hyde, Life of James J. Hill (2 vols., Garden City, N. Y., 1917), I, 386

"Jas. G. Hyde, Life of James J. Hill (2 vols., Garden City, N. Y., 1917), I, 385, 386

INDIAN ATTITUDES AND CAPACITIES

In 1881 the Commissioner, in a letter to Senator Hill, listed the principal tribes that had petitioned for allotment and concluded by saying, "It may truthfully be said that there are at this time but few tribes of Indians, outside of the Five Civilized Tribes in the Indian Territory, who are not ready for this movement." As early as 1878 agents were reporting Indian sentiment in favor of allotment and presenting Indian petitions and this activity increased up to 1887.

"Congressional Record Jan. 20, 1881

"See Agents' reports, Reports of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs (1878), passim; *Ibid.* (1878), 142 (1880) 26, 50, 57, (1881), 135, 182, 177; especially agents' reports, *ibid.* (1882) and (1883).

From the repeated statements of those Indians who favored allotment it is clear that what was first and foremost in their minds was a hope that patents in fee would protect them against white men who were removed and against the danger of removal by the Government. A comment as early as 1876 from the Siletz agent in Oregon as to his charges' desire for allotment is typical. He said "Nothing gives them so much uneasiness as the constant efforts of some white men to have them removed to some other country." There seems to have been little understanding of or desire for a new agricultural economy on the part of the Indians. This was quite as true of the Omahas who at the time were regarded by white proponents of allotment as especially enlightened.

"Ibid. [Reports of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs] (1876), 194. See also Miscellaneous Documents relating to Indian Affairs collected in Indian Office files, 1875-1880, Reports of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs (1880), 25

One of the 55 members of the tribe who asked for allotment expressed his sense of the change over but concluded his statement (he nearly all the fifty-five did) with the usual argument. He said:

"The road our fathers walked is gone; the game is gone; the white people are all about us. There is no use in any Indian thinking of the old ways, he must now go to work as the white man does. We want title to our lands, that the land may be secure to our children."

¹⁴ Fletcher and La Flesche, 610, 697, see also Reports of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, (1882), 112.

There were many expressions of Indian opposition to allotment in the early 1880's. The minority report of the House Committee on Indian Affairs in 1880 noted that since the act of 1862 provided for special protection of allottees in their holdings it was "moving strange" that so few had availed themselves of their privileges.¹⁵ The Senecas and the Creeks made bold to denounce Congress against disrupting with allotment their systems of common holding.¹⁶ Realizing that they were opposing the trend of official policy the Creeks remarked:

"In opposing the change of Indian land titles from the tenure in common to the tenure in severalty your memorialists are aware that they differ from nearly every one of our holding office under the Government in connection with Indian affairs, and with the great body of philanthropists whose desire to promote the welfare of the Indian cannot be questioned."

¹⁵ H. Rept. No. 1376, May 28, 1880, 46th Cong., 2d sess., 7.
¹⁶ H. Ex. Doc., No. 88, Mar. 1, 1882, 47th Cong., 1st sess., 2d, 2d.

Certain tribes had specific objections to allotment. A memorial from the Creeks, Choctaws, and Chickesaw in 1881 read:

"The change to an individual title would throw the whole of our domain in a few years into the hands of a few persons."

¹⁷ Congressional Record, Jan. 20, 1881, 781.

* * * There is a final fact which must be taken into consideration in interpreting reports of Indian sentiments and of the results of allotment experiments, namely, that allotment had become an official policy. As Senator Teller manifested with probable accuracy there would be a tendency on the part of agents and subordinate officials to be influenced in their estimates consciously or unconsciously by the knowledge that allotment was the program to be furthered.¹⁸

¹⁸ Congressional Record, Jan. 20, 1881, 783.

What can be said from this survey is that there was no apparent widespread demand from the Indians for allotment.

C. CONSEQUENCES OF THE ALLOTMENT SYSTEM

The General Allotment Act proved to be the cornerstone of a system which involved a considerable amount of legislation that supplemented and amended the terms of that act. The working out of the allotment system in its early years is sketched in Part II of Dr. Otis' study, from which the following quotations are taken.

There was no doubt in the minds of the proponents of the allotment system that they were on the road to the complete solution of the Indian problem. * * * Senator Dawes went so far as to say that the general allotment law had obviated the need for tinkering with the organization of the [Indian] service. He said:

"It seems to me that this is a self-acting machine that we have set going, and if we only run it on the track it will work itself all out, and all these difficulties that have troubled my friend will pass away like snow in the spring time, and we will never know when they go; we will only know they are gone."

¹⁹ Nineteenth Report of the Board of Indian Commissioners (1887), 54.

Indeed this "self-acting machine" would finally render obsolete all Government machinery whatever. Senator Dawes went on to express a prediction of which an echo has been heard in discussions of the present proposed policy.²⁰

"Suppose these Indians become citizens of the United States with this 160 acres of land to their share use, what becomes of the Indian reservations, what becomes of the Indian Bureau, what becomes of all this machinery, what becomes of the six commissioners appointed for life? Their occupation is gone, they have all vanished, the work for which they have been created * * * is all gone, while you are making them citizens * * * That is why I don't trouble myself at all about how to change it [the machinery of administration]."

Dr. Lyman Abbott said:

"The Indian is no longer to be cared for by the executive department of the Government, he is coming under the general protection under which we all live, namely, the protection of the courts."²¹

²⁰ Ibid. (1887), 55.
²¹ Ibid. (1887), 53.

THE APPLICATION OF ALLOTMENT

The application of allotment to the reservations was above all characterized by extreme haste.

In September 1887—7 months after the passage of the Dawes Act—the author of the measure told the Lake Mohonk Conference how President Cleveland had remarked when signing the bill that he intended to apply it to one reservation at a time, and then gradually to others. Senator Dawes went on to say:

"But you see he has been led to apply it to half a dozen. The bill provides for expediting the remainder of the land for the benefit of the Indian, but the speed of the landmaster is such as to press the application of this bill to the utmost * * * There is no danger but this will come most rapidly, too rapidly, I think, the greed and hunger and thirst of the white man for the Indian's land is almost equal to his hunger and thirst for righteousness."

²² Nineteenth Report of the Board of Indian Commissioners (1887), 58.

In 1890 the Commissioner reported,

"In numerous instances, where clearly desirable, Congress has by special legislation authorized negotiations with the Indians for portions of their reservations without waiting for the slower process of the general allotment law."²³

²³ Ibid. (Report of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs) (1890), xxxvii.

In 1888 Congress had ratified five agreements with different Indian tribes providing for allotment and the sale of surplus lands.²⁴ The following year Congress passed eight such laws.²⁵ A member of the Board of Indian Commissioners in 1891 estimated that the 104,814,840 acres of Indian reservations in 1880 had been reduced by 12,000,000 acres in 1890 and by 8,000,000 acres in the first 9 months of 1891.²⁶

²⁴ Ibid. (1888), 264, 302, 320, 322, 335-338, 340-344.
²⁵ Ibid. (1889), 421, 452, 438, 440, 447, 449, 460, 468, 464.

²⁶ Twenty-third Report of the Board of Indian Commissioners (1891), 51.

In the meantime, the work of applying allotment was pushed rapidly forward. * * * In 1888 the Commissioner had reported that 3,840 allotments had been approved since the passage of the Dawes Act.²⁷ There were 1,988 allotments approved in 1889, 2,880 in 1890, 5,764 in 1892, and in this last year Commissioner Morgan reported that since February 1887 the Indian Office had given its approval to 21,274 allotments.²⁸ In this same year, 1892, he told the Mohonk Conference that the allotments which were about to be made would bring the grand total of all the allotments which the Government had made to over

80,000. He concluded it was time to slow down.⁴ His successors seem to have acted upon his advice until the opening of the new century, as the following figures show:

Allotments approved 1897-1900

Years	Number	Years	Number
1893	4,561	1897	3,229
1894	3,061	1898	2,055
1895	4,971	1899	1,011
1896	4,414	1900	8,702

⁴Table in Report of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs (1910), 64.

⁵Ibid. (1899), 194.

⁶Twenty-fourth Report of the Board of Indian Commissioners (1895), 47.

⁷Report of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs (1893), 28 (1894), 20 (1895), 19 (1896), 25 (1897), 21 (1898), 40 (1899), 43 (1900), 63, 64.

In the years prior to 1887 the Government had approved 7,403 allotments with a total acreage of 394,423; from 1887 through 1910 it approved a total of 63,108 with an acreage of nearly 5,000,000. * * *

⁸Ibid. (1910), 93, 94.

* * * So satisfactory was the speed of allotment to Board of Indian Commissioners that in 1884 it was contemplating a very early discontinuance of Government supervision over the Indian. The Board's report stated in that year:

"* * * When patents have been issued and homesteads secured, when Indians are declared and acknowledged citizens, and are actually self-supporting, the supervision of the Government and the arbitrary rule of the agent may be safely withdrawn. * * *

This faith that the allotment system would mean an early decline of Government supervision and placing the Indian on his own responsibility continued to be expressed by the friends of the Indian through the 1890's. But the hope was not realized. In 1900 there were in existence 91 agencies—8 more than in 1880.⁹ But while the maintenance of the agency system was in large measure dependent upon the needs of the service, it was apparently even more dependent on the needs of the agents. The Indian Rights Association reported in 1900 that Commissioner Jones had recommended to Congress the discontinuing of 15 agencies but that the agents had been able to bring such pressure through their friends at the Capitol that Congress had agreed to the eliminating of only one.¹⁰

⁹Twenty-second Report of the Board of Indian Commissioners (1890), 9.

¹⁰Report of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs (1890), 512-511, Ibid. (1900), 743-746.

¹¹Nineteenth Annual Report Indian Rights Association (1900), 37. This report lists the agencies as 96 in 1900 but Report of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs (1900) lists 81. See pp. 748-749.

"There is no doubt that the idea of allotment was making headway with the Indians, but there is considerable doubt that its progress was the result of a spontaneous and wide-spread interest of the Indians in becoming hard-working American farmers. * * * In that same year [1888] the Yankton agent wrote about a determined opposition to allotment which was led by the old chiefs and which was successfully overcome by two companies of soldiers from Fort Randall.

The agent concluded by remarking that when the survey was finished there was not one Indian on the reservation who did not want his allotment." * * *

¹²Ibid. [Report of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs] (1888), 70, 208.

There is considerable testimony to the fact that the Indians knew pretty well what the white man's system had meant for their race. One of the members of the Board of Indian Commissioners reported in 1880,

"The Osages as a tribe are almost unanimously opposed to taking their land in severalty. Eighteen years ago they purchased this reservation of the Chickasaws for a home, and as such they want it to be. They argue that the time for such action has not yet come, that they are not prepared in any way to have white settlers on their neighbors, and especially that variety of white men with whom it has been their misfortune to come in contact. About 250,000 acres of an area of over 1,500,000 is tillable land, the other is only suitable for grazing, and thus they contend is no more than is needed for themselves and children."

¹³Ibid. [Twenty-first Report of the Board of Indian Commissioners] (1899), 27. The Osage population was about 1,500 in 1890, which would allow for an average of about 100 acres of arable land per capita.

This refrain is repeated in the reports of various agents.

In that year [1887] the International Council of Indian Territory, to which 19 tribes sent 67 representatives, voted unanimously against allotment and the granting of individual rights-of-way through their lands. The council's resolution on the allotment question, which was sent to the President of the United States, asked these tribes "sad experience" with allotment and assailed the policy as one which would "engulf all of the nations and tribes of the territory in one common catastrophe, to the enrichment of land monopolists."

¹⁴Report of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs (1887), 116, 117.

* * * there is a compelling impetus to the appeal of the International Council of 1887.

"Take other people, the Indian needs at least the germ of political identity, some governmental organization of his own, however crude, to which his pride and manhood may cling and claim allegiance, in order to make true progress in the affairs of life. This peculiarity in the Indian character is elsewhere called patriotism, the wise and patient fashioning and guidance of which alone will successfully solve the question of civilization. Preclude both from him and he has little else to live for. The law to which objection is urged does this by enabling any member of a tribe to become a member of some other body politic by electing and taking to himself a quantity of land which at the present time is the common property of all."

¹⁵Ibid. [Report of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs] (1887), 117.

The following year the agent to the Five Tribes observed that the half-breeds, who were becoming favorably inclined toward allotment but, he said,

"The full-bloods are against it, as a rule, as they fear it will destroy their present government, to which they appear attached."

¹⁶Ibid. (1888), 138.

This same cleavage which characterized Indian opinion before the passage of the Dawes Act is apparent all through the nineties.¹⁷ This cleavage expresses the fundamental fact that the allotment controversy was a struggle between two cultures. With the irresistible penetration of the white civilization, the conflict within the tribes crystallized into two factions, the half-breeds and the full-bloods, the young and the old, the "progressives" and the "conservatives," the sheep and the goats.

¹⁷See miscellaneous documents relating to Indian Affairs (collected in Indian Office library), xvi, 14600. Report of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs (1888), 93 (1889), 182, 280 (1890), 31 (1892), 284, 457 (1895), 256 (1900), 338, 381.

ADMINISTRATION AND CHANGES IN POLICY LEADING

Those who were dissatisfied with the results achieved by the Dawes Act saw various causes of failure. For one thing, the whole emphasis of the allotment policy was laid upon farming, and critics from time to time pointed out

(that large sections of the Indians' lands were not suitable for agriculture. * * *

For another thing, the Government was continuing a policy which was a curse, as well as an index of allotment's failure. A speaker at the 1880 Mohawk Conference described at length the evil consequences of the rationing system. He showed how it had impoverished the Indians and now deterred them from farming, since they feared if they raised crops the Government would cut down their allowances. *

* Ibid. [Twenty-second Report of the Board of Indian Commissioners] (1890), 112.

Many friends of the Indian who believed that the allotment system was not accomplishing all that it should were inclined to hold the Government responsible because of its failure to give adequate aid to the allottees. * * * It was not true that the Government made no efforts whatever to equip the Indians for farming. But it made very slight efforts. The appropriation act passed in 1888 provided for the allotment of \$30,000 to the purchase of seed, farming implements, and other things "necessary for the commencement of farming" (25 Stat. L. 244). In 1888 alone 3,608 allotments had been made. The appropriation, therefore, granted less than \$10 to every new allottee setting out on his farming career. There is, furthermore, no way of knowing how much of this money was expended for this purpose. *

* Report of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs (1888), 444.

The following year the same amount was provided (25 Stat. L. 968) but in 1890 no such appropriation was made. In 1891 Congress raised \$15,000 for the purpose (26 Stat. L. 1007) and this sum was continued through the next 2 years (27 Stat. L. 187, 630). After 1893 the appropriation acts up to 1900 included no such items. *

* The Omaha treaties of 1854 (10 Stat. L. 1048) and of 1868 (24 Stat. L. 607), which provided for a form of allotment, required the Government to furnish the Indians with implements, stock, and milling services. Yet these promises were never carried out. One of the Indians who signed the petition for the Omaha allotment bill in 1881 said:

"Three times I have cut wood to build a house. Each time the agent told me the Government wanted to build me a house. Every time my wood has lain and rotted, and now I feel ashamed when I hear an agent telling me such things." *

* Fletcher and La Moche, 628, 624.

* Ibid., 637.

Defects in the system which * * * occupied the attention of the friends of the Indian were those resulting from the fact that allotted lands must be free from State taxation. The Dawes Act, providing for the 25-year Federal trust period during which time the land might not be encumbered (24 Stat. L. 389), meant, it was clear, that no State could tax the allottee's holdings. As a result, the friends of the Indian were noting in 1890, States were refusing to assume any responsibilities for Indian communities and were withholding such services as the upkeep of schools and roads. It was also apparent that this situation was a source of great hostility to Indians on the part of white neighbors. * * *

* Twenty-first Report of the Board of Indian Commissioners, (1889) 107-109.

* * * the most enthusiastic supporters of the allotment policy felt that its first results showed that it needed important revision, itself. In his report for 1890 the Commissioner observed that Indians were asking for equal allotments to all individuals, and he recommended that the law should be so amended. He noted that there was a special need to protect the married women whom the Dawes Act had excluded from allotment benefits. * * *

* The Board of Indian Commissioners that same year urged upon Congress the equalization of allotments. *

* Report of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs (1890), 17.

* Ibid. [Twenty-first Report of the Board of Indian Commissioners] (1889), 9.

This proposed change was, significantly, bound up with another and still more important change which most friends of the Indian came to demand. *

* The Mohawk Conference that year heard some talk about the leasing of Indian lands and the freeing of the Indian from bondage. Justice Stone, previously associate justice of the United States Supreme Court, said:

"But on one subject I am perfectly convinced, namely, that the Government has not the shadow of a right to interfere with an Indian's having an allotment, either with the use of his property or with the manner in which he shall educate his children. * * *

* Ibid. [Ibid. (1889), 105-109].

But especially the point was emphasized that leasing part of his land would hang the Indian the wherewithal to cultivate the rest. * * * Other arguments from time to time were brought forward by Indian sympathizers to show how leasing would help him.

* Ibid. (1889), 110, 112.

The decision to allow the Indian to lease his land was fraught with grave consequences for the whole allotment system. Probably it was the most important decision as to Indian policy that was made after the passage of the Dawes Act. Yet, interestingly enough, the significance of the leasing question seemed to be dwarfed in the eyes of contemporaries by the pressing matter of equal allotments. It is true that after the Attorney General ruled in 1885 that tribal grazing leases were illegal, the Commissioner of Indian Affairs recommended annually until 1890 a law permitting such leases. * But he made no proposal of leasing allotments.

* Report of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs (1888), xxxix.

And no doubt his advocating of grazing leases was looked at with suspicion by the friends of the Indian, as were most of his official acts. * The question of leasing allotments had been raised at the 1880 Mohawk Conference, * but the Indian Office took no stand on the question in that year. As has been said, Commissioner Morgan was interested in the question of granting equal allotments to Indians of all ages and both sexes. * In January 1890 he wrote a letter to the Secretary of the Interior enclosing a bill providing for the granting of 100 acres to every Indian—man, woman, and child. The following month the President transmitted the bill, (together with Commissioner Morgan's letter to the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs. * The Commissioner suggested several tribes which had opposed allotment because they disliked the system of unequal grants to the different classifications and he thought that if 100 acres were given each Indian "there would be less hesitation on the part of many of the tribes to the taking of land reservation." * He also stressed the predominance of one-of-one Indian versus the existing system and the importance of dealing more liberally with the young Indians who were the future hope of the race. *

* The criticism directed at the Commissioner especially by the Indian Rights Association was claimed by that organization to be the cause of the Commissioner's dismissal and of the appointment of J. H. Oberly in his place. Seventh Annual Report Executive Commissioner Indian Rights Association (1890), 9, 10.

* See above p. 101.

* Ibid., p. 100.

* S. Ex. Doc. No. 64, February 17, 1890, (Stat. Cong., 1st sess., 1-4).

* Ibid., 2.

* Ibid., 8.

Accordingly, on March 20, 1890, Senator Dawes introduced in the Senate a bill to "amend and further extend the benefits" of the Dawes Act. * Section 1 of the bill provided for the granting of 100 acres to every Indian. The previous agitation of this question by the official and unofficial friends of the Indian furnished an adequate introduction to this legislative proposal. But section 2 of the bill seems to have come almost unheralded from Senator Dawes, the man who a few months later publicly expressed his misgivings about the leasing policy. * Section 2 of the Senator's bill read: *

"That whenever it shall be made to appear to the Secretary of the Interior that, by reason of age or other disability, any allottee under the provisions of said act or any other act of treaty cannot personally and with benefit to himself or to any person, his allotment, or any part thereof, the same may be leased upon such terms, regulations, and conditions as shall be prescribed by said Secretary for a term not exceeding 3 years for farming or grazing, or 10 years for mining purposes."

¹⁰ Congressional Record, March 10, 1890 2098

¹¹ See above, p. 102

¹² Copy of bill in Senate Document Room files

"A conference committee reached a compromise which was accepted by both Senate and House on February 23, 1891. Eighty acres were to go to each Indian, but an Indian could rent his land only when unable to work it "by reason of age or other disability." The Indian must apply for a lease to the Secretary of the Interior directly and not to the agent, and farming and grazing leases of allotted lands could be for no longer than 3 years. In other words, there was to be something in the way of restraint exercised upon Indian leasing. The President signed the bill on February 23, 1891 (46 Stat. L. 794).

"The Indian administration set out at a very cautious gait to apply the leasing provision to allotments. The

¹³ Ibid. [Congressional Record], Feb. 23, 1891, 2118, 2132

¹⁴ Sec. 5, 46 Stat. L. 794

Commissioner in his report for 1892 said

"Agents are expressly directed that it is not intended to authorize the making of any lease by an allottee who possesses the necessary physical and mental qualifications to enable him to cultivate his allotment, either personally or by hired help."

¹⁵ Ibid. [Report of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs] (1892), 71

He said that but two allotment leases had thus far been approved by him. The next year the Commissioner promulgated a set of rules for the making of leases. The rules were primarily concerned with defining the terms in the phrase "by reason of age or other disability." "Age" applied to all Indians under 18 and all those disabled by senility. "Other disability" applied to all unmarried Indian women, married women whose husband or sons were unable to work the land, widows without able-bodied sons, all Indians with chronic sickness or incurable physical defects, and those with "native defect of mind or permanent incurable mental disease." The Commissioner reported that four allotment leases had been allowed that year.

¹⁶ Ibid. (1893), 72

¹⁷ Ibid. (1893), 477, 478

¹⁸ Ibid. (1893), 27

The Senator [Davies] had secured an amendment to the House bill taking away from the agents the power of recommending leases and requiring the Indians to apply directly to the Secretary of the Interior. But in 1893 the Commissioner wrote

"The matter of leasing allotted lands has been placed largely in the hands of Indian agents in charge of the agencies where allotments in severalty have been made."

¹⁹ Congressional Record, Feb. 28, 1891, 3115

He went on to say that all leases must be approved by the Secretary after recommendation by the agent. How much this administrative change was in itself responsible for the subsequent speeding up of leasing cannot be said for at that point a most important change was made in the law.

²⁰ Report of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs (1893), 27

"... the general Indian appropriation act which became law August 16, 1894, contained a provision which changed the critical phrase in the act of 1891 to read "by reason of age, disability or inability," extended the term of agricultural and grazing leases to 5 years and permitted 10-year leases for business, as well as mining purposes (28 Stat. L. 303). Nevertheless, the Commissioner said in his report that year

"It has been repeatedly stated that it was not the intent of the law nor the policy of the office to allow indiscriminate leasing of allotted lands. If an allottee has physical or mental ability to cultivate an allotment in personal labor or by hired help, the leasing of such allotment should not be permitted."

²¹ Ibid. [Report of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs] (1894), 82, 84

But a new rule which the Commissioner added to those defining "age" and "disability" read

"The term 'inability' as used in said amended act, cannot be specifically defined as the other terms have been. Any allottee not embraced in any of the foregoing classes who for any reason other than those stated is unable to cultivate his lands or a portion of them, and desires to lease same may make application therefor to the proper Indian agent."

"... the Indian Appropriation Act of 1897 changed the leasing system back to its original form. Indeed in one respect the provisions were even more restrictive than were those of the 1891 law. The maximum term for mining and business leases was fixed at 5 years. The term for farming and grazing leases was changed back to 3 years, and the word "inability" was dropped so that "age or other disability" became the only legal grounds for permitting leases (30 Stat. L. 85). The Commissioner's report for 1897 commented on the fact that the leasing periods had been changed by the Indian appropriation act but, interestingly enough, he made no mention of the dropping of the word "inability." The Commissioner approved 1,185 allotment leases in 1890 and 2,300 in 1900. In this latter year, the system was again changed by the Indian appropriation act. "Inability" was restored as a reason for permitting allotment leases, and the maximum period of leasing for farming purposes was extended once more to 5 years (31 Stat. L. 229). Apparently the change in policy had not been the doing of the Commissioner. He wrote in his report for 1900

"The better to assist them the allottees should be divided into small communities, each to be put in charge of persons who by precept and example would teach them how to work and how to live.

"This is the theory. The practice is very different. The Indians are allotted and then allowed to turn over his land to the whites and go on his useless way. This pernicious practice is the direct growth of vicious legislation. The first law on the subject was passed in 1891.

"It is conceded that where an Indian allottee is incapacitated by physical disability or derelictude of age from occupying and working his allotment, it is proper to permit him to lease it, and it was to meet such cases as that that the law referred to was made. But 'inability' has opened the door for leasing in general, until on some of the reservations leasing is the rule and not the exception, while on others the practice is growing.

"To the thoughtful mind it is apparent that the effect of the general leasing of allotments is bad. Like the gratuitous issue of rations and the periodical distribution of money it fosters indolence with its train of attendant vices. By taking away the incentive to labor it defeats the very object for which the allotment system was devised, which was, by giving the

Indian something tangible that he could call his own, to incite him to personal effort in his own behalf."

¹³ Ibid (1894), 321

¹⁴ Report of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs (1897), 40-43
¹⁵ First Report of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs (1879)
60 (1900), 70-78.

¹⁶ Report of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs (1900), 32

Thus it seems that the leasing policy had been pushed much further than the friends of the Indians desired. As to who had been pushing it there one can only guess. It is significant that white settlers and promoters had found leasing a new and effective technique for exploiting Indian lands. So had Indian agents—according to the Indian Rights Association—the report for 1900 described the evil consequences of the leasing system under the new law and set forth grave charges.

¹⁷ Eighteenth Annual Report of the Executive Committee Indian Rights Association (1900), 58

RESULTS OF ALLOTMENT TO 1900

Analysis of the achievements of the allotment system requires first some appraisal of the leasing practice which vitally affected allotment results. These were defenders of the leasing system all through the 1890's. It had certain immediate consequences which recommended it to friends of the Indian who were sincere if lacking in vision. There was the simple fact of allotted lands lying idle which the Indians either could not or would not cultivate. Such waste seemed wicked to a generation that was coming increasingly to set store by efficiency. How much better it was for the lands to be used and the Indians to be deriving an income from them. In 1896, before the passage of the leasing act, a member of the Board of Indian Commissioners regretted that the Government had ousted white share workers from the Kiowa, Comanche, and Apache Reservations. He said:

"Farms that could only be worked in this way, owing to peculiar circumstances, are now lying tenantless and abandoned."

¹⁸ Twenty-second Report of the Board of Indian Commissioners (1896), 31

In 1895 various agents expressed their approval of the way leasing was working since it was bringing in to the Indians a sizeable revenue.

¹⁹ Report of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs (1895), 260, 262, 265

But for the most part, the agents who expressed their approval of allotment leasing saw it as productive of practical results. It took care of widows, women, and the old folks, and it was economically profitable. One agent said the Indians got more out of the leased lands than if they worked them themselves. Leasing was undoubtedly a spur to the taking of allotments. But it seems hardly to have been a spur to the Indian becoming a farmer.

²⁰ Thirtieth Report of the Board of Indian Commissioners (1898), 34

²¹ Ibid (1898) 18, see also p. 15, and Report of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs (1900), 361.

Perhaps the most flagrant example of the corrosive influence of leasing was that of the Omahas and Winnebagoes, in Nebraska. The Omahas were the great hope of the allotment enthusiasts. But in 1893 the agent wrote that leasing had gone far among the Omahas and Winnebagoes and that the former were renting their lands without the consent of the agent or Government. In 1894 Professor Painter told the Mohonk conference of his bitter disappointment in the Omahas especially, about whom he had been satisfied and enthusiastic as they had started out under the allotment system. He had recently visited the two reservations and found most of the land in white hands. Real-estate syndicates had leased lands even before the allotment was completed. One company had rented 47,000 acres from the Winnebagoes

at from 8 to 10 cents an acre and sublet to white farmers for \$1 to \$2 an acre. The Winnebagoes got enough income from these lands to stay drunk part of the time. But the Omahas got much more.

²² Ibid (Report of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs) (1893), 164-165, see also (1892), 260
²³ Twenty-sixth Report of the Board of Indian Commissioners (1894), 128.

The illegal leasing of allotments had apparently gone to great lengths on these two reservations. In 1894 the agent thought that the Indians were anxious to recover their lands and till some portion of them. The following year this feeling about set out in a vain effort to bring to head a powerful land company. The Government immediately furnished him with 50 extra police and 70 rifles as the local authorities refused to support of the land company and were reported to be arming a hundred desperadoes. Confronted by an injunction in the State courts restraining him from evicting the company's tenants, the agent at last gave in. In 1894 the agent had written,

"The settlers would almost unanimously prefer to lease under the rules and regulations of the Department; but are held, pecuniarily, by the lawless corporations and individuals who have subverted to them."

²⁴ Report of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs (1895), 87, 88
²⁵ Ibid (1894), 187, 188
²⁶ Report of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs (1895), 87-41
²⁷ Ibid (1894), 188.

In 1895 the Commissioner explained the effective technique of this particular land company which had been able to flout the Federal authority. His explanation suggests, very clearly why this outlaw corporation received the community's support. In many instances the company accepted notes from their subtenants in place of money rent. These notes in turn came into the hands of local bankers. As a result all of the powerful interests in the community were galvanized in opposition to the Government in its attempt to force evictions or collect legal rents.

²⁸ Ibid (1896), 41

Whatever progress the Omahas, especially, might have made under the original allotment system it was clear that the leasing policy doomed their efforts to failure and themselves to demoralization.

The passionate denunciation of leasing by the Omahas and Winnebago agent in 1895 perhaps says the last word on the matter. He wrote that out of 140,000 acres allotted on the two reservations, 112,000 acres had been leased. He then wrote:

"Leasing of allotted agricultural lands should never be permitted. The Indians should be compelled to live upon their allotments and support themselves by cultivating the land. They can do so, but will not unless compelled to. Not 1 acre of allotted agricultural land should be leased to a white man, and it would be far better to burn the grass on the allotted lands than to lease them for pastures to the white man."

²⁹ Thirtieth Report of the Board of Indian Commissioners (1898), 26

It was the allotment policy begun and continued as an act of faith. So it was possible for an agent to report that allotment was working well on his reservation and at the same time submit figures which showed that the greater portion of the Indian lands were leased to white men. Indeed, the testimony which comes even from the friends of the Indian as to the dire results of the leasing policy toward the end of the century makes it seem improbable that the allotment system in the main was working well.

The writer's scepticism as to the real success of the allotment system in the period of the 1890's is based not alone on inference and deduction. The following table contains figures that are pertinent to the question whether or not allotment was producing results:

Land and crop statistics

[Unless otherwise indicated the figures are taken from the current volume of the Annual Report of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs. The figures in parentheses are page references.]

Date	Total number of allotments made to date		Total number of families living on and cultivating the allotment		Number of acres cultivated by Indians	Indian national production (in bushels)					Page
	Total	Number of allotments made to date	Total	Number of families living on and cultivating the allotment		Wheat	Oats and barley	Corn	Vegetables		
1890	13,166	2,751	288,611	58,611	948,149	215,070	179,297	82,300	(192)		
1891	17,000	3,588	311,219	62,119	1,115,218	276,001	230,701	101,471	(106)		
1892	20,700	4,302	342,921	66,421	1,282,713	375,634	313,161	158,162	(816)		
1893	11,261	2,476	354,397	68,897	1,122,096	381,170	325,431	161,871	(221)		
1894	11,022	2,301	365,698	71,199	1,207,909	384,671	319,630	163,143	(998)		
1895	11,611	2,499	377,197	73,697	1,225,011	376,222	313,161	158,162	(816)		
1896	11,571	2,461	388,668	75,168	1,240,111	380,111	313,161	158,162	(816)		
1897	10,841	2,301	399,469	76,969	1,255,111	385,111	313,161	158,162	(816)		
1898	10,811	2,291	410,280	78,780	1,270,111	389,111	313,161	158,162	(816)		
1899	10,841	2,301	421,111	80,111	1,285,111	393,111	313,161	158,162	(816)		
1900	10,811	2,291	432,000	81,000	1,300,111	397,111	313,161	158,162	(816)		

1 Over 850,000 bushels of wheat raised by white lessees on Unsettled Reservations.

2 Exceeded amount of wheat, oats, barley, and corn raised by white lessees on Indian lands.

3 Not—Allotment and lease totals, 1891-1900 taken from figures given above, pp. 81, 111-112.

The figures, given above, while by no means conclusive, indicate that the allotment system was not producing the results which the originators of the policy hoped for. In computing the number of allotments with the number of families living and working on them, one must bear in mind that several allotments might be made to one family. The act of 1891 which granted 80 acres to every Indian made it possible for one family to possess an even greater number of allotments than before. It is unfortunate that there is no way of knowing the number of specific families allotted and the average number of allotments to each. But the above figures show that the number of families cultivating their allotments was by no means keeping pace with the allotment figures. The number of allotments per family grew from 2.5 in 1890 to 5.4 in 1900. Since it may be supposed that when Indians accepted allotments, the family took as many as they could get, and since the only change in the law after 1890 which affected the question of eligibility for allotment was the extension of the privilege to married women, this increasing rate of allotments to families cultivating them suggests a decline of Indian husbandry. Or, at least, it suggests a failure to reach the goal envisaged by the friends of the Indian. Even more disquieting are the statistics of Indian agriculture. The above figures show an increase in acreage of Indian farming from 1890 to 1895 which was far from proportionate to the number of allotments made in these years. Then from 1895 to 1900, although more than 19,000 allotments were made, the area of the land tilled by Indians actually decreased by over 26,000 acres. Not if one takes the figures of crop production for what they are worth, can one observe the progress in Indian agriculture during these 10 years which the friends of allotment expected.

If the allotment system were to have succeeded the Indians would, certainly, have had to be made over. The significance of this fact was never fully grasped by the philanthropists and the Government. So the Indian hopefulness if not enthusiastically, went unexpressed, not upon the allotment, as in usual man would go unwittingly into a forest of wild boasts.

For if white land seekers and business promoters did not create the allotment system, they at least turned it to their own good use.

Besides the lands that were thrown open to settlement, white men were interested in tribal lands that remained. This was especially true of the cattlemen.

When it came to the actual designation of allotments, while influence was also busy, General Whittlesey, of the Board of Indian Commissioners, said to the Mohawk Conference in 1891, "Another hindrance to the allotting of lands is the influence in might to bear by surrounding white settlers, who are waiting to get possession of the lands that may be reserved after allotments are completed. If there is any valuable tract of land, they try to prevent those lands from being allotted, and to prevent Indians from selecting them, by bribery and by other means."

2nd [Report of the Board of Indian Commissioners] (1891), 96.

In 1890, General Whittlesey reported that there was a growing demand for the Government to distribute among the Indians on a per capita basis tribal lands that had been so heavily swelled by sales of surplus lands. He said, "That is their own desire, and the desire of many of those who surround them, who know how soon such money disappears." The Unsettled agent who found agriculture languishing on his reservation in 1894—especially among the full bloods—wrote

"The few mixed bloods who farm their allotments do so with scanty machinery, and provisions furnished by merchants or bankers, who take a mortgage on the crop, afterwards taking all the crop."

3rd [Report of the Board of Indian Commissioners] (1900), 125.

4 Report of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs (1894), 249.

And there was a long story of flagrant corruption and exploitation in the activities of lumbering companies who manipulated the allotment system to their great profit, on up into the twentieth century.*

5 See W. K. Moorhead, *The American Indian in the United States* (Andover, Mass., 1914), 50, 62, 71 ff.

By the middle of the 1890's the friends of the Indian began to express dismay at the course that humanitarian policy had taken in the hands of persons who were not always humanitarian.

In 1895 the Commissioner showed himself well aware of the forces that were crippling Indian development. He made a shrewd comment on his times and a significant forecast. He said

"The whites in some sections of the country seem to have very little respect for the rights of Indians who have segregated themselves from their tribes and sought to avail themselves of the benefits of the Indian homestead and allotment laws enacted expressly for them by Congress, and I apprehend that the opposition to them will increase as the public domain grows less and less."

6 Report of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs (1895), 22.

* * * One student of the allotment movement believes that the act of 1891 was the most important step toward ruin. This law by granting the Indian the right to lease and at the same time allotting to each member of the family—to father and mother and an equal amount of land developed in the Indian wilderness and avowed children ceased to be a responsibility and became indirectly a source of revenue through their leased allotments. As a result the family was disrupted as a producing unit and the Indian's interest became pecuniary instead of industrial. The present writer agrees with this analysis, but he is inclined to think that basically the leasing policy in almost any form would have meant ultimate defeat for the allotment system.

7 Fols, Warren Seymour, *Story of the Red Man* (New York, 1899), 379, letter from Mrs. Seymour to the writer.

D APPRAISAL OF THE ALLOTMENT SYSTEM

A critical appraisal of the consequences of the allotment system is found in a memorandum submitted to the Senate and House Committees on Indian Affairs by Commissioner Collier

on February 19, 1934.¹¹ This memorandum provided at least part of the basis for those provisions of the Act of June 18, 1934,¹² which put an end to the process of allotment.

The Indians are continuing to lose ground, yet Government costs must increase, while the Indians must still continue to lose ground, unless existing law be changed.

Two thirds of the Indians in two thirds of the Indian country for many years have been drifting toward complete impoverishment.

While being stripped of their property, these same Indians continually have been disorganized as groups and pushed to a lower social level as individuals.

During this time, when Indian wealth has been shrinking and Indian life has been diminishing, the costs of Indian administration in the identical areas have been increasing. The complications of inadequate management have grown steadily greater.

Rum for the Indians, and still larger costs to the Government, are insured by the existing system.

Neither the Indians themselves, nor the Indian Service, can reverse the downward process, at even materially delay it, unless certain fundamental impracticabilities of law can be changed.

The disastrous condition, peculiar to the Indian situation in the United States, and sharply in contrast with the Indian situation both of Canada and of Mexico, is directly and inevitably the result of existing law—jurisprudence, but not exclusively, the allotment law and its amendments and its administrative complications.

The approximate one third of the Indians who are yet outside the allotment system are not losing their property, and generally they are increasing in industry and are rising, not falling, in the social scale. The costs of Indian administration are markedly lower in these unallotted areas.

The backbone of Indian law since 1887 has been the allotment act and its amendments and administrative regulations.

The law originally possessed, and still possesses, virtues which can be preserved and made effective. The bill does preserve them. But these virtues, potential rather than realized, have been slighted when contrasted with the destructive effects of the law and the system.

HOW ALLOTMENT HAS WORKED AND NOW WORKS

Land allotment, under the general and special allotment acts, has been mandatory. To each Indian—man, woman, and child—living and enrolled at a specified date, a separate parcel of land has been allotted. The residual lands, strictly so called "surplus," have been mandatorily bought from the tribes by the government and thereafter have been disposed of to whites.

The individually owned parcels of land have been held under Government trust, over longer or shorter periods. Sometimes, where the land was agricultural, the Indian family has lived upon it and has used one or more of the allotments attached to its several members. Where the land was of grazing character, or was timberland, allotment precluded the integrated use of the land by individuals or families, even at the start.

Upon the allottees' death, it has been necessary to partition the land equally among heirs, or to sell it, and in the interim it has been leased.

Most likewise of the land of living allottees has been leased to whites.

STATISTICS OF LOSS OF LAND THROUGH ALLOTMENT

Through sales by the Government of the fictitiously designated "surplus" lands, through sales by allottees after the trust period had ended or had been terminated by administrative act; and through sales by the Government of heirship land, virtually mandatory under the allotment act. Through these three methods, the total of Indian landholdings has been cut from 158,000,000 acres in 1887 to 48,000,000 acres in 1934.

These gross statistics, however, are misleading, for, of the remaining 48,000,000 acres, more than 20,000 acres are contained within areas where the special reasons have been exempted from the allotment law, whereas the land loss is chargeable exclusively against the allotment system.

Furthermore, that part of the allotted lands which has been lost is the most valuable part. Of the residual lands, taken from all Indian-owned lands into the allotment, nearly one half, or nearly 20,000,000 acres, are desert or semidesert lands.

Allotment, commenced at different dates and applied under varying conditions, has devised a kind of title to their property at unequal ages. For about 100,000 Indians the divestment has been absolute. They are totally landless as a result of allotment. On some of the reservations the divestment is as yet only partial and in part is only provisional. Many of the heirship lands, owing sale to whites under existing law, have not yet been sold, and the Indian title is not yet extinguished. Under the allotment system it inevitably will be extinguished.

The above statement relates solely to land losses. The facts can be summarized thus:

Through the allotment system, more than 80 percent of the land value belongs to all the Indians in 1887 has been taken away from them, more than 80 percent of the land value of all the allotted Indians has been taken away.

And the allotment system, working through the partitionment or sale of the land of deceased allottees, mathematically insures, and practically requires that the remaining Indian allotted lands shall pass to whites. The allotment act empowers total landlessness for the Indians of the third generation of each allotted tribe.

THE REMAINING LANDS RENDERED UNUSABLE

A yet more debilitating feature will immediately follow the above statement. Far equally important with the outright loss of land is the effect of the allotment system in making such lands as remain in Indian ownership unusable.

There have been presented to the House Indian Committee numerous land maps, showing the condition of Indian-owned lands on allotted reservations. The Indian-owned lands are parcels belonging (a) to allottees and (b) to the heirs of deceased allottees. Both of these classes of Indian-owned land are checkerboarded with white-owned land already lost to the Indians, and on many reservations the Indian-owned parcels are mere islands within a sea of white-owned property.

Parting, at least at the subsistence level, and commercial farming within irrigated areas, is still possible on these parcels belonging to living allottees. But grazing, upon the grazing land of living allottees, and businesslike or conservative forest operation, upon the allotted forest land of living allottees, are largely, often absolutely, impossible.

On the checkerboarded land maps, the heirship lands each year become a greater proportion of the total of the remaining Indian land. These heirship lands belong to numerous heirs, even up to the number of hundreds.

And one heir possessed equities in numerous allotments, up to the number of hundreds.

The above conditions force some of the Indian allotted land out of any profitable use whatsoever, and they force nearly all of it into the condition of land rented to whites, and rented under conditions disadvantageous to the Indians. The denial of financial credit to Indians is, of course, an added influence.

The Indians are practically compelled to become absentee landlords with petty and fast-dwindling estates, living upon the always diminishing pittance of lease money.

And here there becomes apparent the administrative impossibility created by the allotment system.

ALLOTMENT COSTS THE GOVERNMENT MILLIONS IN BARREN EXPENDITURES THAT CANNOT SAVE THE INDIAN LANDS OR CAPITAL, WHILE EMPOWERING AND RUINING THE INDIANS.

The Indian Service is compelled to be a real-estate agent in behalf of the living allottees; and in behalf of the more numerous heirs of deceased allottees. As such

¹¹ See Hearings, Committee on Ind. Aff., 74d Cong., 2d sess., on H. R. 7902, pp. 15-18.

¹² 48 Stat. 984, 25 U. S. C. 461, et seq.

real-estate agent, selling and renting the hundreds of thousands of parcels of land and fragmented equities of parcels, and dispossessing the tenant. (Sometimes to more than a hundred heirs of one parcel, and again to an individual heir with an equity in a hundred parcels), the Indian Service is forced to expend millions of dollars a year. The expenditure does not and cannot save the land, or conserve the capital accruing from land sales or from rentals.

The operation keeps men at bay, under the existing system of law it cannot get anywhere, it creates between the Indians and the Government a relationship of hostility, embittered, full of contempt and despair. It keeps the Indians' own minds focused upon pity and dawning equities which inevitably vanish to nothing at all.

For the Indians the situation is necessarily one of frustration, of impatient discontent. They are forced into the status of a landless class, yet it is impossible for them to control their own estates, and the estates are unworkable to yield a decent living and the yield diminishes year by year and finally stops altogether.

It is difficult to imagine any other system which with equal effectiveness would paralyze the Indian while impoverishing him, and sicken and kill his soul while paralyzing him, and cast him in so timed a condition into the final status of a moribund dependent upon the States and counties.

The Indian Bureau's costs must rise, as the allotted lands pass to the heirship class. The multiplication of individual patentable estates by the Indian Service must grow as the complications of heirship grow with each year. Such has been the record, and such it will be, unless the Government, in impatience or despair, shall summarily retreat from a hopeless situation, abandoning the victims of its allotment system. The alternative will be to apply a constructive remedy as proposed by the present bill.

The bill breaks this hopeless impasse.

For a number of years it has been clearly recognized within the Indian Service that conditions must continue to grow worse, regardless of attempted administrative reforms, unless the allotment situation in its totality be modified.

SECTION 2. RIGHT TO RECEIVE ALLOTMENT

Section 1 of the Act of June 18, 1884¹⁸ provides:

That hereafter no land of any Indian reservation, ceded or set apart by treaty or agreement with the Indians, Act of Congress, Executive order, purchase, or otherwise, shall be allotted in severalty to any Indian.

Its obvious purpose is to preserve in communal ownership all tribal lands of Indian reservations. It accomplishes that purpose by the declaration that no such lands shall be allotted. To that extent, the act is incompatible with and, therefore, supplants all prior laws, both general and special, purporting to authorize allotments in severalty in any form on any reservation to which the act applies, and this notwithstanding the fact that the act contains no general repeal provision.¹⁹

The act extends to and binds all Indians under the jurisdiction of the Federal Government save those tribes expressly excluded by section 13 and those reservations which, in the exercise of the privilege conferred by section 13, vote against its application.

Since allotments have been discontinued under the mandate of this statute, and under a policy preceding this enactment

And for a number of years the directions of judicious modification have become increasingly clear, both within the Indian Service and among observers outside it. The indicated solution has been stated with clarity, and more than once, in debates on the Senate floor and in reports by the Indian Investigation Committee of the Senate. The preceding administration recognized the impasse which had been reached under the allotment system, but did not put forward legislation to break the impasse.

The present bill, in those aspects which are most truly emergency legislation, is a bill to enact the allotment system, as was the remaining lands, enabling the Indians to get their lands into usable shape, and providing the machinery and authority for restoring to those Indians already rendered landless, usable lands, at they will demonstrate their wish to possess and use the restored lands.

E. TERMINATION OF THE ALLOTMENT SYSTEM

The allotment system involved four critical steps:

- 1 The allotting of tribal lands.
- 2 The termination of fixed periods or periods of restricted alienability, after a fixed term of years.
- 3 The termination of such restrictions prior to the expiration of the statutory period by administrative action.
- 4 The alienation of allotted lands prior to the termination of such periods.

The Act of June 18, 1884, stopped the continuance of the allotment system at points 1 and 2²⁰, and placed severe limitations on the operation of the system at points 3 and 4²¹.

The operation of the Act of June 18, 1884, upon the statutory basis of the allotment system at each of these points is analyzed in the following pages:

¹⁸ See Act of June 18, 1884, sec. 1 and 2, 48 Stat. 884, 25 U. S. C. 403-402.

¹⁹ See Act of June 18, 1884, sec. 4 and 5, 48 Stat. 884, 25 U. S. C. 404-405.

which applies even to tribes not under the act, a detailed study of the allotment statutes will not be attempted. However, inasmuch as allotments may be made on reservations which have ceded the Wheeler-Howard Act and the surplus lands have been completely disposed of or until prohibited by Congress²² and individual rights of Indians in real property have vested under the allotment statutes, it may be useful to offer a short summary of the provisions and legal effect of such statutes.

Section 1 of the General Allotment Act of February 8, 1887,²³ later amended by general acts of February 28, 1891,²⁴ and of June 25, 1910,²⁵ and now embodied in section 381 of title 25 of the United States Code authorized the President of the United States to allot land²⁶ in severalty to Indians living on reserva-

²⁰ Op. Sol., I. D. M. 30258, May 31, 1930. The Act of June 15, 1905, 34 Stat. 878, provided that all laws affecting any Indian reservation which voted to exclude itself from the application of the Indian Reorganization Act shall be deemed to have been continuously effective as to such reservation notwithstanding the passage of that act. *Id.* On the power of the Secretary over individual lands, see Chapter 5, sec. 15.

²¹ 24 Stat. 388.

²² C. 828, sec. 1, 28 Stat. 794.

²³ C. 481, sec. 17, 26 Stat. 825, 829, 25 U. S. C. 881.

²⁴ Section 346 of title 25 of the Code, derived from the Act of February 14, 1893, c. 70, 42 Stat. 1246, makes the provisions of secs. 884, inclusive, and 828 and 841 heretofore discussed (and secs. 848-850, inclusive, and 881 to be discussed subsequently) applicable to "all lands heretofore purchased or which may be purchased by authority of Congress for the use or benefit of any individual Indian or band or tribe of Indians."

¹⁸ 48 Stat. 884, 25 U. S. C. 401.

¹⁹ Where a reservation has by vote come under the act, land may not thereafter be allotted under a prior statute. Op. Sol. I. D. M. 27770, May 22, 1925. But where an Indian secured rights by a proper selection which was approved prior to the passage of the act, it has been held that the Secretary may issue a patent, and where lands had been selected but not approved before the passage of the act, they could be approved and patented to the allottee, the approval not requiring the exercise of discretion. Op. Sol. I. D. M. 28085, July 17, 1925, 55 I. D. 226.

tions, whenever, in his opinion, the reservation or any part thereof might be advantageously utilized for agricultural or grazing purposes. Provision is made for allotments "not to exceed eighty acres of agricultural or one hundred and sixty acres of grazing land."²²

The allotment policy was by no means uniform, certain tribes, for example, being exempted from provisions of the General Allotment Act of 1887.²³

In addition to the general statute of 1887, Congress passed special acts authorizing the allotment of lands of specific tribes.²⁴ For those Indians not residing on reservations and who could otherwise not receive an allotment, Congress provided in section 4 of the General Allotment Act (incorporated in title 25 of the Code as sec 384) for their receiving allotments upon any surveyed or unsurveyed lands of the United States not otherwise appropriated.

Where under this section an allotment was erroneously made and a person thereto applied for homestead entry upon such

²²The Act of 1887 provided for allotments of varying amount to various classes of Indians. For example, a head of a family was to receive a quarter of a section, while only one eighth of a section was to be allotted to a single person over 18 years of age as an unmarried man. To "each other single person under eighteen years now living, or who may be born prior to the date of the order of the President," sec 1 specifies the allotment of one-eighth of a section.

²³Thus sec. 380 of title 25 of U. S. C. which is derived from sec 8 of the General Allotment Act expressly provided that:

"* * * sections 241 to 243, inclusive, 280, 341, 348 to 350, inclusive, and 381 (all the title) shall not extend to the territory occupied by the Cherokee, Creek, Choctaw, Chickasaw, Seminole, and Osage, Delaware and Iroquois, and Sars and Shaw, in Oklahoma now or any of the reservations of the Seven Nations of New York Indians and the State of New York, to that portion of territory in the State of Nebraska adjoining the Sioux Nation on the south already under Executive order."

By a proviso annexed to the Act of February 28, 1891, 26 Stat. 790 it was provided that no allotment of lands shall be made or annuities of money paid to any of the Sars and Foxes of Michigan who are not enrolled as members of said tribe on January 1, 1890.

On the other hand the provisions of sec 351 to 354, 356, 341, 349, 350, and 381 of title 25 of U. S. C. (Supp.) have by sec 340, which is derived from the Act of March 2, 1889, 25 Stat. 1014, been extended to:

"* * * the Confederated Wea, Peoria, Kaskaskia, and Piankeshaw tribes of Indians, and the Western Miami tribe of Indians, located in the northeastern part of the former Indian Territory and in their reservation, in the same manner and to the same extent as if said tribes had not been excepted from the provisions of said sections, and as otherwise hereinafter provided."

²⁴See Act of February 26, 1920, c 87, 41 Stat. 453 for the Flathead Indians and the Act of March 8, 1921, c 135, 41 Stat. 1855 for the Gros Ventre and Assiniboine Tribes in the Fort Belknap Reservation.

Broadly speaking, the act of 1889, known as the Nelson act, provided for the cession by "all the different bands or tribes of Chippewa Indians in the State of Minnesota" of all their title and interest in and to their reservations in said State not needed for allotments, for allotments of land in severalty to conformity with the act of February 8, 1887 (21 Stat. 388), and for the sale of the remaining land.

The act of April 28, 1904 (33 Stat. 639), known as the Steenerson act, providing for allotments to Indians on the White Earth reservation in Minnesota, authorized allotment "to each Chippewa Indian now legally residing upon" that reservation under treaty or laws of the United States in accordance with the express provision made by the Commissioners appointed under the act of January 14, 1889, 25 Stat. 1, D. M. 1694, January 8, 1927.

"* * * We frequently find acts of Congress directing allotments on particular Indian reservations to be made in accordance with the general allotment laws of the United States. When so made, for all practical purposes, such allotments are to be regarded as coming within the scope of the general allotment act. The chief difference lies in the fact that the allotments made under the general allotment act ordinarily, each Indian receives 80 acres of agricultural land, whereas the allotments made under the special acts relating to particular reservations they frequently receive considerably more. See the act of May 30, 1890 (26 Stat. 358), relating to the Black Horse reservation and the act of March 1, 1907 (34 Stat. 1098) as amended June 30, 1919 (41 Stat. 12), relating to the Blackfoot reservation, both of which are also in the State of Montana. Both of these acts authorize allotments under the general allotment laws of the United States and each reservation the allotments received in excess of 80 acres. Provisions for such allotments however were passed in accordance with the general allotment act of February 8, 1887, as amended, (Op. Sol. I. D. M. 12468, June 6, 1924)."

an allotment, the Secretary of the Interior was held to have authority to protect the Indian in his allotment even though erroneously made and to deny the application for homestead entry, since to have allowed the entry would have been to visit a considerable injustice upon the allottee.²⁵

Section 380²⁶ of title 25 of the United States Code provides that where any Indian entitled to an allotment should settle upon lands of the United States not otherwise appropriated he should be entitled to have the same allotted to him in the manner provided for allotments to Indians residing upon reservations, and such allotments were not to exceed 40 acres of irrigable land or 80 acres of nonirrigable agricultural land, or 300 acres of nonirrigable grazing land.

Under section 387 of title 25 of the United States Code,²⁷ the Secretary of the Interior is permitted in his discretion to make allotments within the national forests to Indians who were living on lands included in a national forest or who had made improvements thereon and were not entitled to an allotment on any existing reservation or whose tribal reservation was not sufficient to give each member an allotment.

As pointed out in Chapter 8, the allotment of lands in severalty did not in any way affect the guardian-ward relationship existing between the national government and the Indian.²⁸ nor did it affect the authority of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs to remove collectors from the reservation.²⁹ It has also been held that an allotment system does not deprive the tribe of the right to regulate the domestic affairs of its members.³⁰

A. ELIGIBILITY

Insofar as eligibility to receive an allotment depends upon tribal membership the cases and statutes on the subject have been elsewhere discussed.³¹

In litigation dealing with the eligibility of Indians entitled to allotments, it has been held that the fact that a member of a tribe is born after the passage of the General Allotment Act does not disqualify him.³² It has also been held that an Indian woman, though married to a white man, is head of her family and that her children who maintained their tribal relations were entitled to allotments as members of the tribe.³³ In the case of *La Otan v. United States*³⁴ the court held that adopted members of the Yakima tribe, who were formerly Puyallup Indians and whose parents had received allotments on the Puyallup Reservation as heads of families, were nevertheless entitled to allotments in the Yakima Reservation.³⁵ On the other hand, it

²⁵*Baldwin v. Korth*, 18 Okla. 624 73 Pac. 1124 (1904). For a discussion of the Secretary's power over Indian lands, see Chapter 5, sec. 11.

²⁶This section was derived from sec. 4 of the Act of February 28, 1901, 26 Stat. 794, 795, as amended by sec 17 of the Act of June 26, 1910, 36 Stat. 855, 856.

²⁷Act of June 26, 1910, sec. 81, 36 Stat. 855, 865.

²⁸See sec. 20, and *Hollister v. United States*, 145 Fed. 778 (C. C. A. 8, 1906).

²⁹*Rainbow v. Young*, 101 Fed. 885 (C. C. A. 8, 1906).

³⁰*Yakima Joe v. To-Hin-pi*, 101 Fed. 510 (C. C. Oza. 1910). And see Chapter 7, sec. 6.

³¹See Chapter 1, sec. 2; Chapter II, sec. 13; Chapter 7, sec. 4.

³²See Chapter 1, sec. 2; Chapter II, sec. 13; Chapter 7, sec. 4.

³³*United States v. Parbanks*, 171 Fed. 387, 389 (C. C. A. 8, 1909).

³⁴*La Otan v. United States*, 223 U. S. 215, 224 (1912).

³⁵*Bowling v. Smith*, 190 Fed. 840 (C. C. A. 8, 1909). And of *Lodan v. Roden*, 2 How. 891 (1844), holding that widow living with grandchildren was head of family entitled to allotment under Creek Treaty of March 24, 1932, 7 Stat. 806, and obtained title thereto by application, although President attempted to award title to another.

³⁶184 Fed. 128 (C. C. W. D. Wash. 1910).

³⁷In *McKibbin v. United States*, 22 F. 2d 771 (C. C. A. 8, 1927), it was held that under a regulation requiring that adoptees be approved by the Secretary of the Interior and the Indian Commissioner, an adoption without such approval did not entitle the Indian to an allotment.

cellation of an allotment of unsuitable land and the exchange thereof of other land. This act has been incorporated in section 844 of title 25 of the United States Code.¹⁰ Its provisions are:

If any Indian of a tribe whose surplus lands have been ceded or opened to disposal has received an allotment embracing lands unsuitable for allotment purposes, such allotment may be canceled and other unsurveyed, unoccupied, and unsurveyed land of equal area, within the ceded portions of the reservation upon which such Indian belongs, allotted to him upon the same terms and with the same restrictions as the original allotment, and lands described in any such canceled allotment shall be disposed of as other reserved lands of such reservation. This provision shall not apply to the lands formerly comprising Indian Territory. The Secretary of the Interior is authorized to prescribe rules and regulations to carry this law into effect.

In 1927 Congress also provided for the cancellation of fee patents issued without the consent of the Indian.¹¹

in the land conveyed thereby, properly informed thereon, and to cancel such unsurveyed patent. *Provided*, That the Indian so surrendering the same shall make a selection, in lieu thereof, of other land and receive therefor thereon, under the provisions of the act of February eighth, eighteen hundred and eighty-seven

¹⁰ On the question of the necessity to notice and an opportunity to be heard, see *Faukenberg v. United States*, 228 U. S. 215 (1912).

¹¹ Act of February 26, 1927, c. 213, 44 Stat. 1247, 25 U. S. C. 832b. Partial cancellation was also provided for. Act of February 26, 1927, c. 213, sec. 4, 44 Stat. 1247, as amended February 21, 1931, c. 471, 46 Stat. 1203, 25 U. S. C. 832b. For an analysis of the power of the Secretary to cancel a fee patent issued without request from the Indian contained see Op. Sol. I. D. M. 28297, August 1, 1930. See Chapter 2, sec. 23, Chapter 18, sec. 33.

SECTION 3. POSSESSORY RIGHTS IN ALLOTTED LANDS

An allottee ordinarily acquires by virtue of his allotment full possessory right with respect to the improvements and the timber upon his allotment as well as the minerals beneath it. Occasionally, by the terms of special allotment acts, the minerals are reserved to the tribe in which event the allottee acquires at best a right to share in the income flowing therefrom.¹² His right of ownership in timber is limited only by the statutory restriction on alienation.¹³ These restrictions upon alienation are elsewhere discussed.¹⁴ When the allottee acquires his patent in fee, however, his right of use and enjoyment becomes an absolute right of ownership.¹⁵

The allottee's right to water is recognized by the General Allotment Act,¹⁶ section 7 of which provides:

That in cases where the use of water for irrigation is necessary to render the lands within any Indian reservation available for agricultural purposes, the Secretary of the Interior be, and he is hereby, authorized to prescribe such rules and regulations as he may deem necessary to secure a just and equal distribution thereof among the Indians residing upon any such reservations; and no other appropriation or grant of water by any riparian proprietor shall be authorized or permitted to the damage of any other riparian proprietor.

The Supreme Court in *United States v. Powers*¹⁷ declared that under the doctrine of the *Winters* case¹⁸ waters are reserved for the equal benefit of tribal members and that the Secretary of the

the Secretary of the Interior is hereby authorized, in his discretion, to cancel any patent in fee simple issued to an Indian allottee or to his heirs before the end of the period of trust described in the original or trust patent issued to such allottee, or before the expiration of any extension of such period of trust by the President, where such patent in fee simple was issued without the consent or an application therefor by the allottee or by his heirs. *Provided*, That the patentee has not mortgaged or sold any part of the land described in such patent. *Provided also*, That upon cancellation of such patent in fee simple the land shall have the same status as though such fee patent had never been issued.

E SURRENDER

Section 408, title 25, of the United States Code¹⁹ provides:

In any case where an Indian has an allotment of land, or any right, title, or interest in such an allotment, the Secretary of the Interior, in his discretion, may permit such Indian to surrender such allotment, or any right, title, or interest therein, by such formal relinquishment as may be prescribed by the Secretary of the Interior, for the benefit of any of his or her children, to whom no allotment of land shall have been made, and thereupon the Secretary of the Interior shall cause the estate so relinquished to be allotted to such child or children subject to all conditions which attached to it before such relinquishment.

¹⁹ Act of June 25, 1910, sec. 3, 36 Stat. 855, 856. For regulations governing allotment of lands to unallotted Indian children, see 25 U. S. C. 321-622.

Interior is without power affirmatively to authorize unjust and unequal distribution of water. It further declared that when allotments of land were duly made for exclusive use and therefore conveyed in fee, the right to use some portion of tribal waters essential to cultivation passed to the owner of the allotted land, including both the allottees and those who took from them by conveyance or by purchase of land of deceased allottees at Government sales.

The Powers case compels the view that the right to use water is a right appurtenant to the land within the reservation, and that unless excluded it passes to each grantee in subsequent conveyances of allotted land.²⁰

In accordance with the doctrine that the United States has exclusive jurisdiction over reservation lands unless it has specified that state statutes shall be controlling, it has been held²¹ that an allottee cannot under the state laws relating to the appropriation of water acquire any right whatsoever in waters reserved to the tribe.

²⁰ In *Anderson v. Spear-Moines Livestock Co.*, 70 F. 2d 407 (1938), the court had occasion to restate the doctrine of the Powers case. It said:

... The purpose of this statute is to provide for the distribution of the right to use the water to the individual Indians. *United States v. Powers*. The right to use the water prior to a distribution of it by the Secretary of the Interior may be said to be inchoate in the sense that the precise amount or extent of the right assigned to a particular allottee cannot be determined, but the right is vested in so far as the exercise of the right to use the water in the allottee is concerned. This right is appurtenant to the land upon which it is to be used by the allottee. When the allottee becomes seised of the simple title, after the removal of the restrictions of the trust patent, then a conveyance of the land, in the absence of a contrary intention, would operate to convey the right to use the water as an appurtenance. *United States v. Powers*, supra. (1938)

²¹ *United States v. McIntosh*, 101 F. 2d 850 (C. C. A. 9, 1939), rev'd 22 F. Supp. 316 (D. C. D. Mont. 1937).

¹² See Chapter 15, sec. 14, fn. 28b.

¹³ See sec. 4 of this chapter.

¹⁴ *Ibid*.

¹⁵ Act of February 8, 1897, 34 Stat. 388, 25 U. S. C. 851. Also see Chapter 12, sec. 7.

¹⁶ 305 U. S. 527, 582-583 (1939).

¹⁷ *Winters v. United States*, 307 U. S. 564 (1938). For a further discussion of this case in connection with tribal water rights, see Chapter 15, sec. 10.

Likewise, where statutory attempts have been made to relegate water rights of Indians on certain reservations to the jurisdiction of particular states by requiring that state statutes be complied with in securing water rights for the irrigation of Indian land,¹¹ it has been held¹² that since the statute contained no specific grant of the reserved waters to the state it could not be construed as the intent of Congress to take from the Indians a vested right and provide in lieu thereof only a means for acquiring an inferior and secondary right.

The water right guaranteed an allottee of Indian land has sometimes been defined in treaty or agreement.¹³ In *United States*

v. Hieber,¹⁴ involving such an agreement, it was held that a purchaser from the allottee acquires a water right for the actual average under irrigation at the time title passes from the Indians, and for such additional acreage as can be placed under irrigation within a reasonable time.

On the other hand, a purchaser from an allottee is without right to appropriate to his private use water from a creek, most of which comes primarily from a Government irrigation system constructed after he acquired title to the land, which uses the creek bed for a distance as a canal to reach customers below.¹⁵

¹¹ 27 F. 2d 909 (D. C. E. D. Idaho 1928).

¹² *United States v. Perkins*, 15 F. 2d 612 (D. C. Wyo. 1928). For a holding that one who purchases land in what was formerly an Indian reservation from the United States may not appropriate water for the irrigation of his land from an irrigation ditch which the United States had constructed for the benefit of Indian allottees, see *United States v. Morrison*, 203 Fed. 264 (C. Colo. 1901).

¹³ Act of June 21, 1909, § 4 Stat. 825, 373 (Rhode Piney in Utah), Act of March 3, 1907, § 3 Stat. 1016 (Rhode Piney in Wyoming).

¹⁴ *United States v. Perkins*, 15 F. 2d 612 (D. C. Wyo. 1928).

¹⁵ Act of June 6, 1906, with the Port Hall Indians, 31 Stat. 472. For a statute guaranteeing a similar right, see Act of May 15, 1916, 39 Stat. 124, 130.

SECTION 4. ALIENATION OF ALLOTTED LANDS

Since tribal lands are generally nonalienable without the consent of the Federal Government it is natural that Congress should continue federal control of land alienation when tribal land passed into the hands of individual Indians. The same considerations that lay behind the former restrictions—the desire to protect the Indian against sharp practices, leading to Indian landlessness, the desire to safeguard the certainty of titles, and the urge to continue an important basis of governmental activity—operated in the case of allotted lands. The last of these motives is usually stressed in the opinions. Typical of the cases is the discussion by the Court of Appeals in *Berk v. Floungoy Live-Stock & Real-Estate Co.*¹⁶

* * * These limitations upon the power of the Indians to sell or make contracts respecting land that might be set apart to them for their individual use and benefit were imposed to protect them from the greed and superior intelligence of the white man. Congress well knew that if these wards of the nation were placed in possession of real estate, and were given capacity to sell or lease the same, or to make contracts with white men with reference thereto, they would soon be deprived of their several holdings, and that, instead of adopting the customs and habits of civilized life and becoming self-sufficient, they would speedily revert to their subsistence and very likely become paupers. The motive that actuated the lawmakers in depriving the Indians of the power of alienation is so obvious, and the language of the statute in that behalf is so plain, as to leave no room to doubt that Congress intended to put it beyond the power of white men to secure any interest whatsoever in lands situated within Indian reservations that might be allotted to Indians. This conclusion is fortified by an amendment to the act of February 8, 1887, which was adopted on February 28, 1891 (20 Stat. 714, c. 885), whereby power was conferred upon the secretary of the interior to prescribe regulations and conditions for the leasing of lands allotted to Indians, under the previous act of February 8, 1887, whenever, by reason of "age or other disability," the allottee was not able to occupy or improve the land assigned to him with benefit to himself. It is manifest that the amendment in question, authorizing allotted land to be leased in certain cases, under the direction of the secretary of the interior, was unnecessary if power to execute leases of allotted lands had already been conferred by previous enactments or treaty stipulations. The last-mentioned act, therefore, is a legislative declaration that Congress did not intend by any previous statute to authorize the leasing of any lands that might be conveyed to Indians to be held by them in severalty. (P. 34-35.)

The opinion in *Lukins v. McGrath*¹⁷ throws added light upon this basic policy.

* * * What was the purpose of imposing a restriction upon the Indian's power of conveyance? Title passed to him by the patent, and but for the restriction he would have had the full power of alienation the same as any holder of a fee simple title. The restriction was placed upon his alienation in order that he should not be wronged in any sale he might desire to make, that the consideration should be ample, that he should in fact receive it, and that the conveyance should be subject to no unreasonable conditions or qualifications. It was not to prevent a sale and conveyance, but only to guard against imposition thereon. When the Secretary approved the conveyance it was a determination that the purposes for which the restriction was imposed had been fully satisfied, that the consideration was ample, that the Indian grantor had received it, and that there were no unreasonable stipulations attending the transaction. All this being accomplished, justice requires that the conveyance should be upheld, and to that end the doctrine of relation attaches the approval to the conveyance and makes it operative as of the date of the latter.

The broad power of Congress to effectuate this policy and the extent to which the enforcement and relaxation of restraints upon alienation have been entrusted to the Secretary of the Interior have been discussed in Chapter 5.¹⁸

A. LAND¹⁹

The policy of restricting alienation finds expression in provisions of allotment acts forbidding alienation of lands during a fixed period of years without the consent of some administrative officer, generally the Secretary of the Interior. The provision contained in Section 5 of the General Allotment Act²⁰ declares:

* * * And if any conveyance shall be made of the lands set apart and allotted as herein provided, or any contract made touching the same, before the expiration of the time above mentioned, such conveyance or contract shall be absolutely null and void. * * *

¹⁶ 184 U. S. 180, 171-172 (1902).

¹⁷ See secs. 62 and 11.

¹⁸ For regulations relating to sale of allotted lands, exclusive of Five Civilized Tribes lands, see 20 C. F. R. 241 0-241 58.

¹⁹ 54 Stat. 348, 350, 20 U. S. C. 348, amended in other particulars by Act of March 3, 1901, § 1 Stat. 1088, 1085. Subsequent statutes authorizing alienation of lands with departmental approval are noted in Chapter 5, sec. 11B.

²⁰ 65 Fed. 80 (C. C. A. 8, 1894), app. diam. 188 U. S. 639.

We have elsewhere noted the various forms in which restrictions on alienation are embodied, notably the "trust patent" and the "restricted fee."¹¹

Prohibitions against alienation have been broadly interpreted in the light of the policy of Congress to prevent whites from taking advantage of the Indians.¹² This is shown by the interpretation of the term "conveyance" by the Supreme Court of Oklahoma in the case of *Potter v. Vernon*.¹³

Under the general rule that all instruments affecting real estate are included under the word "conveyance" are included the following: A mortgage of an equitable interest (*Ballinger v. San Francisco Bank*, 164 App. Div. 202, 130 N. Y. S. 97); a leasehold (Leubbeck, etc., *Hagle Hitting Co v. Kelly*, 63 N. Y. Eq. 401, 406, 51 A. 704); a personal property (*Patterson v. Jones*, 30 Ala. 388, 390, 5 S. 80 77); an agreement to execute a mortgage (*In re White's Mortg. Trust*, 1. R. 16 Eq. 41, 40); an assignment for the benefit of creditors (*Prouty v. Clark*, 73 Iowa, 65, 86, 34 N. W. 614); an assignment of a chose in action (*Wilson v. Beadle*, 2 Head [Tenn.] 510); the satisfaction of a mortgage (*Foss v. Duffan*, 111 Minn. 220, 120 N. W. 820); an instrument in the nature of a trust deed, even without a seal, acknowledgment, or witness (*White v. Fitzgerald*, 10 Wis. 480); a release, as an instrument by which the title to real estate might be affected in law or equity (*Palmer v. Bates*, 25 Minn. 692); a release of a mortgage (*Baker v. Thomas*, 61 Iowa, 27, 15 N. Y. S. 380); or part of land covered by a mortgage (*Albright v. Woodard*, 27 Minn. 350, 7 N. W. 828).

It is true that under our statute a mortgage of real estate is to be regarded as a lien only, but the lands in question are Indian lands, with reference to which the federal government has dealt in a peculiar manner, due to peculiar conditions. Under our Oklahoma law our citizens have the right to transfer without let or hindrance, all or part of their real property, but, with respect to its awards, the Indians, the government has always dealt exclusively with the transfer of their lands, not only placing restrictions upon the lands themselves, but upon those who owned them. In this case the legality of the transfer is to be determined by interpretation of the act of Congress, and the meaning of this act is ascertained by discovering, not what was in the minds of the lawmakers of Oklahoma in passing the several statutes with reference to conveyances and transfers, but what was in the mind of Congress when it passed the Act of May 27, 1898, and its use of the word "conveyances" in said act. We must assume that in an act of such sweeping proportions it was intended by Congress to deal finally and comprehensively with the subject in hand. Section 5 of the act uses very general terms:

"That any attempted alienation or incumbrance by deed, mortgage, contract to sell, power of attorney, or other instrument or method of encumbering real estate, made before or after the approval of this act, which affects the title of the land allotted to allottees of the Five Civilized Tribes . . . shall be absolutely null and void." 35 Stat. 818

¹¹ See Chapter 5, sec. 113. The inability of incompetent Indians to alienate land has been discussed in Chapter 8, sec. 89(1).

¹² The effect of bankruptcy of an allottee is discussed in Chapter 8, sec. 70.

¹³ A deed is not executed until delivered, hence, until the Secretary has removed the restrictions upon alienation of allotted lands effective upon the executing of a deed by an allottee, a deed signed by the allottee and given to an Indian superintendent for transmission to a purchaser does not pass title and is subject to cancellation by the Secretary since the execution of a deed had not been completed by delivery. *United States v. Lane*, 258 Fed. 630 (App. D. C. 1919).

An order of the Secretary of the Interior approving an Indian agent's recommendation that restrictions on alienation be removed from an allotment to be effective thirty days from date would become effective on the thirtieth day after its date and the allottee is enabled to make a valid conveyance on that date. *Lanham v. McCook*, 244 U. S. 582 (1917).

Also see *Wagon v. Brown*, 147 U. S. 840 (1898); *Nixon v. Woodcock*, 64 Okla. 100, 108 Pac. 188 (1917).

¹⁴ 129 Okla. 261, 204 Pac. 611 (1925).

Section 9 seems to be just as comprehensive in the following words:

"That the death of any allottee of the Five Civilized Tribes shall operate to remove all restrictions upon the alienation of said allottee's land. Provided, That no conveyance of any interest of any full-blood Indian heir in such land shall be valid unless approved by the court having jurisdiction of the settlement of any interest in said deceased allottee." 35 Stat. 815

It appears to us that the words "provided that no conveyance of any interest of any full-blood Indian heir in such land" could hardly be more comprehensive. We think that the words "conveyance of any interest" is just as comprehensive and perhaps more so than the word "alienation," and yet a valid mortgage is often the first step in a final alienation of land and even a foreclosure has reference back to the date of the mortgage and must follow the terms thereof.

To give too limited or restricted a meaning to the word "conveyance" and yet a comprehensive meaning to the word "alienation" in the act, the result would be illogical, for it would require, for the making of a deed by the full-blood Indian heir, an approval of the county court, but for the execution of a mortgage upon his land, which might easily be effective to transfer his title, no such approval was necessary. This could not have been the mind of Congress. It is not to be supposed that Congress inadvertently or through oversight failed to take into consideration that the Indian mind might wish to mortgage his land, for the mortgage of real estate is almost as old as our awareness of title, so that, in our judgment, they either entirely overlooked this contingency, or they meant the words "conveyance of any interest" should include every written instrument which might affect the title. It has been, and properly so we think, the design of the government to act as rapidly as they could with safety to permit the Indians to deal with and have charge of their property, not only for the benefit of the community, but for the distinct benefit of the Indians, by casting responsibility upon them, and we interpret and understand this act of Congress as evidencing that disposition of the government. (P. 614)

The courts have also considered the remedial nature of this legislation in construing the extent of its coverage. In holding that homesteads were within the purview of the General Allotment Act, Chief Justice Taft said:¹⁴

We find that the Indian Homestead Act of July 4, 1894, and the General Allotment Act of February 8, 1887, with its various amendments, constitute part of a single system evidencing a continuous purpose on the part of the Congress. The statutes are in part *malum in se*, and must be so construed. It cannot be supposed that Congress, in any part of this legislation, all of which is directed toward the benefit and protection of the Indians, as such, intended to exclude from the beneficent policy which each Act evidences, an Indian claiming under the homestead act, even though the statute uses the term "allottee." If there were any doubt on the question, the silence of Congress in the face of the long-continued practice of the Department of the Interior in construing statutes which refer only to Indian "allottees" or "Indians" "allotments," as applicable also to Indians claiming under the homestead law, must be considered as "equivalent to consent to continue the practice until the power was revoked by some subsequent action by Congress." *United States v. Lindsey Oil Co.*, 238 U. S. 459, 481. (7p. 106-107)

B. TIMBER

Section 406 of title 25 of the United States Code provides:¹⁵

The timber on any Indian allotment held under a trust or other patent containing restrictions on alienation may be sold by the allottee, with the consent of the Secretary of the Interior, and the proceeds thereof shall be paid to

¹⁴ *United States v. Jackson*, 280 U. S. 183 (1930), also see *Wagon v. Brown*, 147 U. S. 840 (1898).

¹⁵ Derived from Act of June 25, 1910, sec. 8, 36 Stat. 855, 857. For regulations regarding timber, see 25 C. F. R. 61.1-61.29.

the allottee or disposed of for his benefit under regulations to be prescribed by the Secretary of the Interior.

The rights of an allottee to sell timber on his allotment without administrative approval had been determined by the Supreme Court a few years before the enactment of this provision. The Court in the last case held that the restrictions on alienation did not preclude a sale by the allottee of timber of land which was capable of cultivation after the cutting of the timber. The Court said:¹

"... it hardly needs to be said that the allotments were intended to be of some use and benefit to the Indians. And, it will be conceded, that on that use there is no substantial whatever. A restraint, however, is deduced from the provision against alienation, the expression to which, it is asserted, the Indians are subject and the character of their title. It is contended that the right of the Indians is that of occupancy only, and that the measure of power over the timber on their allotments is expressed in *United States v. Cook*, 19 Wall. 792. We do not recollect that case as controlling. The ultimate conclusion of the court was determined by the limited right which the Indians had in the lands from which the timber there in controversy was cut.

Certain parties of the Oneida Indians ceded to the United States all the lands set apart to them, except a tract containing 64,000 acres, which they reserved to themselves, to be held as other Indian lands are held. Some of the lands were held in severalty by individuals of the tribe with the consent of the tribe, but the timber most for was cut by small tranches of the tribe from some of the reservation not occupied in severalty. It was held, citing *Johnson v. McIntosh*, 8 Wheat. 574 that the right of the Indians in the land from which the logs were taken was that of occupancy only. Necessarily the timber when cut "became the property of the United States absolutely, discharged of any rights of the Indians, thereon." It was hence concluded "the cutting was waste, and, in accordance with well-settled principles, the owner of the fee may remove the timber cut, at least if by replant, or proceed in trees for its conversion." If such were the title in the case at hand, such would be the conclusion. But such is not the title. We need not, however, exactly define it. It is certainly more than a right of mere occupation. The restraint upon alienation must not be exaggerated. It does not itself debase the right below a fee simple. *Stahly v. Clark*, 118 U. S. 250. The title is held by the United States, it is true, but it is held "in trust for individuals and then belts to whom the same were allotted." The considerations, therefore, which determined the decision in *United States v. Cook* do not exist. The land is not the land of the United States, and the timber when cut did not become the property of the United States. And we cannot extend the restraint upon the alienation of the land to a restraint upon the sale of the timber consistently with a proper and beneficial use of the land by the Indians, a use which can in no way affect any interest of the United States. It was recognized in *United States v. Clark* that "in theory, at least," that land might be "better and more valuable with the timber off than with it on." Indeed, it may be said that a table land is of no use until the timber is off, and it was of arable land that the treaty contemplated the allotments would be made. We encounter difficulties and hindrance inquiries when we concede a cutting for clearing the land for cultivation, and deny it for other purpose. At what time shall we date the preparation for cultivation and make the right to sell the timber depend? Must the axe immediately precede the plow and do no more than keep out of its way? And if that close relation be not always maintained, may the purpose of an allottee be questioned and referred to some advantage other than the cultivation of the land, and his title or that of his vendee to the timber be denied? Nor does the argument which makes the occupation of the land a test of the title to the timber seem to us more adequate to justify the qualification of the Indians' rights

It is based upon the necessity of superintending the weakness of the Indians and protecting them from imposition. The argument prevails for many. If the provision against alienation of the land be extended to timber cut for purposes other than the cultivation of the land it would extend to timber cut for the purpose of cultivation. What is there in the latter purpose to protect from imposition that there is not in the other? Shall we say such evil was contemplated and considered as counterbalanced by benefit? And what was the benefit? The allotments, as we have said, were to be of arable lands unless, may be, certainly improved by being cleared of their timber, and, yet, it is insisted, that this improvement may not be made, though it have the additional advantage of providing means for the support of the Indians and their families. We are unable to assent to this view. (Pp. 472-474.)

The Supreme Court held in *Stahly v. Campbell*² that where the allotment is all timber and not arable land the restriction upon alienation extended to timber. The Court said:

The restriction upon alienation, however, it is contended, does not extend to the timber, and *United States v. Paine Lumber Co.*, 208 U. S. 437, is adduced as authority of this. We do not think so. There, as said by the Solicitor General, the land granted was arable, and could be of no use until the timber was cut, hence the land granted is all timber land. And that the distinction is important to observe is illustrated by the allegations of the complaint. It is alleged that the timber on the land in question is no more than \$1,000, fifteen thousand dollars' worth of timber has been cut from the land. The restraint upon alienation would be reduced to small consequence if it be confined to one-sixteenth of the value of the land and fifteen-eighths left to the unrestricted or unqualified disposition of the Indian. Such is not the legal effect of the patent. (P. 541.)

C. EXCHANGE OF ALLOTTED LANDS

The Act of October 19, 1888,³ authorized the Secretary of the Interior in his discretion and when deemed for the best interest of the Indians to permit any Indian to whom a patent was issued for land on a reservation to surrender such patent and authorize the Secretary to cancel such patent provided that the Indian shall make a bona fide selection of other land and receive a patent for it under the General Allotment Act. This provision was interpreted by the Circuit Court of Appeals in *United States v. Gitselman*, as follows:⁴

The plain language of the statute indicates that it is intended to effect a change in allotments, that is, to acquire other and different land when that is deemed for the best interest of the Indians. And that conclusion finds support in the history of the act. It originated in the

¹ 208 U. S. 527 (1908).
However, an Indian allottee under the General Allotment Act may remove and sell dead timber standing on his land. See his allotment. The Attorney General said in 10 Op. U. S. 550 (1890):

"The effect of the allotment and declaration of trust was to place the allottee in possession of the land allotted and give him a qualified ownership therein, and the extent to which the allottee is thus restricted as a proprietor remains now to be concluded, insofar as necessary, by the questions submitted."

(1) And as to as to timber. In an opinion of Attorney General Garland dated January 30, 1889, it was held to be wise for an allottee to cut timber standing on his allotment for the direct purpose of selling it, in which I understand him to mean timber that is live and growing. The question before us, however, arises, whether the allottee has the right to sell and remove from his allotment dead timber, standing or fallen, or essentially different from that passed upon by my predecessor, and as I have reached the conclusion that appropriating and selling dead timber of any kind is not waste at common law on the part of a vendee, within the limits of the State the timber in question is situated, it is not necessary to re-examine the question whether an allottee is impenable for waste. (P. 563.)

In this opinion the Attorney General also held that an Indian cannot contract for the cession of rights in his allotment for the manufacture of timber in other purposes.

On construction of the word "land" in statutes respecting alienation, see *Holmes v. United States*, 33 F. 2d 860 (C. A. 10, 1931).

² *United States v. Paine Lumber Co.*, 208 U. S. 437 (1907).

³ See 2, 26 Stat. 611, 25 U. S. C. 380.

⁴ 89 F. 2d 551 (C. A. 10, 1937), cert. den. 802 U. S. 708.

Department of the Interior. The Secretary wrote the President pro tempore of the Senate on June 7, 1883, transmitting a proposed draft of a resolution. The letter recited that from members of the Sisseton and Wapington Indians on the Lake Traverse Reservation, in South Dakota, who had obtained allotments under the General Allotment Act, desired to make changes because it had been discovered that in three of the cases the lands allotted were not the lands on which the allottees lived and had made improvements, and in the fourth case the land allotted was not desirable farm land, that steps had been taken to correct mismanagement and new allotments, and that on further investigation it was found that no statutory authority existed for action of that kind. It was further stated that similar cases would likely arise on other reservations, and that for such reason the proposed resolution had been prepared and was transmitted with recommendation that it be passed. The proposed resolution was amended in form from a resolution to an act, and enacted into law. It thus clearly appears that the contemplated object, purpose, and function of the act is to enable an Indian allottee to whom a patent has been issued to make relinquishment and secure other and different land in lieu thereof. It was never intended as a means through which an agreement of the kind contained in the bill before us could be made. The relinquishment of the patent was not for the purpose of enabling John to acquire other and different land more suited and better adapted to his uses and purposes. It was not intended to enable Mary to relinquish the remaining 80 acres of her original allotment and acquire a new allotment for other and different land in lieu of it. The purpose was to enable John to convey 80 acres of his remaining total, to acquire a new patent for the other 80 acres which he already owned, and to receive the \$245 from Chapman to be used in making improvements on his remaining 80-acre tract, and further to enable Mary to put with the last 80 acres of her original allotment by conveying it to Chapman and at the same time to acquire 80 acres of the land originally allotted to John. A function of that kind falls well outside the intended scope, purpose, and function of the act permitting relinquishment and new allotments. In the absence of express authority granted by statute, the Secretary has no power to cancel a patent which has been regularly issued and delivered. See *Baltimore v. United States ex rel. Ford*, 216 U. S. 240, 31 S. Ct. 838, 64 L. Ed. 411, *United States v. Dondero* (C. C. A.) 240 F. 277. Motivated by the doctrine announced in these cases, it is manifest that the Secretary was without power to cancel the patent for the purpose of accomplishing the unauthorized end. (P. 635.)

The restriction on alienation of allotted lands was held not to prohibit an allottee Indian from selling his improvements to the United States and selecting other lands so that the United States could use the lands for irrigation purposes. The Supreme Court in *Winkler v. United States*¹ explained:

The Circuit Court of Appeals in its decision laid emphasis upon the case of *Williams v. First National Bank*, 216 U. S. 582, in which this court recognized the right of one Indian to surrender and relinquish to another Indian a preference right to an allotment of a tract of land. In that case it was held that one Indian might sell his improvements and holdings to another Indian for allotment, and by his own or other land which he might find vacant, or which he might, in turn, purchase from another Indian, and the Circuit Court of Appeals held that this being so, as a matter of course, and for strategic reasons, an Indian might relinquish his rights to the United States, and that restrictions had been placed upon the power of the Indians to alienate their lands or convey their rights of possession only for their protection, and not for the purpose of restricting their right to deal with the United States or to relinquish their rights to the Government, citing *Yukins v. McGraw*, 184 U. S. 100, and *Jones v. Meritt*, 176 U. S. 1. Without questioning the correctness of this reasoning, we think the purpose of the United States to acquire any property necessary for

the reclamation project embraced such transactions as the Secretary had in these cases with the Indians, and the action which he took under the authority conferred by that act wholly precluded all that was done in the premises.

The effect of the Wheeler-Howard Act on the exchange of allotted lands has been the subject of many administrative rulings.

On March 22, 1935² the Solicitor of the Department of the Interior discovered as follows these features of the act:

Section 1 of the act of June 18, 1934 (48 Stat. 684), declares that no land of any Indian reservation created or set apart by treaty or agreement with the Indians, act of Congress, Executive Order, purchase of otherwise, shall be allotted in severalty to any Indian. It may be argued with some force that an exchange of a tract of tribal land for an individual allotment of equal value does not come within the class of transactions which this section of the act was designed to prevent. In such case, the tribal land is not depleted. There is no new allotment as such—merely a change of an existing allotment. However this may be, the authority to make an exchange of this sort appears to be conferred by section 4 of the act which, so far as material, reads:

"Provided as herein provided, no exchange of restricted Indian lands or of shares in the assets of any Indian tribe or corporation organized hereunder, shall be made or approved. . . . Provided, That the Secretary of the Interior may authorize voluntary exchanges of lands of equal value and the voluntary exchange of shares of equal value whenever such exchange, in his judgment, is expedient and beneficial for or compatible with the proper consolidation of Indian lands and for the benefit of co-operative organizations."

The exchanges authorized to be made under the foregoing section do not appear to be confined to lands in individual ownership. The main clause refers to "restricted Indian lands" and the provision refers to "voluntary exchanges of lands of equal value." The terms so used are broad and when given their natural meaning they embrace both tribal and individually owned lands. As I view the section, therefore, it operates to prevent the exchange of a tract of unallotted land for a tract in individual ownership unless the lands are of equal value, the exchange is voluntary and is not inconsistent with the proper consolidation of Indian lands. . . .

In a subsequent memorandum, dated February 3, 1937,³ the Solicitor further stated:

Section 4, as I read it, authorizes exchanges of lands of equal value. The parties to the exchange may be two individual Indians, an Indian and a white man, an Indian and an Indian tribe, and a white man and an Indian tribe. The requirement of equality of value is substantially complied with if the difference is so small that both parties are ready to disregard it. It is arguable that an exchange transaction involving a small cash payment to one party within the scope of section 4 would suggest that 5 percent of the value of the land might be regarded as a safe margin within which the maxim, *de minimis non curat lex*, may operate. Where tracts of land are substantially unequal in value, an exchange transaction under section 4 is not authorized. However, where two parties wish to exchange tracts of land and are willing to put improvements on the less valuable tract to make it equal in value to the other tract, no objection can be raised to an exchange. The validity of this proposition is not affected by the question of which party makes the improvements, or whether the improved land goes to an Indian or a white man. In this situation no Indian loses any land, in point of value. The transaction is therefore consistent with the whole purpose of the Reorganization Act. In these cases the report from the field should show that the lands are of equal value and that the exchange is at least compatible with the proper consolidation of Indian lands.

¹ Memo. Sol. I. D., March 22, 1935.

² Memo. Sol. I. D., February 3, 1937.

³ 237 U. S. 43, 61 (1915).

Section 5 of the act, in my opinion, so far as it authorizes land exchanges, has an entirely different purpose from section 4. Under section 5 the two tracts of land may be either equal or unequal in value, but if they are unequal in value it must be the Indians rather than the whites involved in the transaction who emerge from the transaction with an increased land value. Thus, an Indian may give 3,000 worth of land to a white man where the white man transfers to the Secretary for the Indian's use a tract of land worth only \$500 and a cash payment to boot of \$1700. On the other hand, an Indian may transfer a tract to a white man and make an additional payment of \$1700 in exchange for a transfer of the more valuable tract to the Secretary for the benefit of the Indian. The difference between the two cases is not technical or abstract. In the one case the Indian is selling land, in the other case land is being bought for the Indian's benefit. The former is forbidden and the latter is authorized by the terms of the act. This distinction, based on the major purpose of the act, should eliminate some of the confusion that appears in certain memoranda on this subject in the attached file.

Where exchange under section 5 affects only Indians it seems to me that the same principles should be applied. Ordinary commercial transactions in land between Indians are not within the purpose of section 5. It seems to me that a transaction under which an Indian surrenders land does not come within the true purpose of section 5 unless some special circumstances such as are mentioned in the land circular referred to above* are shown. I would suggest, therefore, that any recommendation for approval of a sale or surrender of Indian land under section 5 should be based upon a finding supported by facts that the result of the transaction will be to bring more land into effective Indian use.

* Indian Office Land Circular No. 3162, June 30, 1938

Familiar cases in which such exchanges may advantageously be made are cases involving the exchange of inherited interests, and cases involving the transfer of a more valuable tract of land by a nonresident Indian in exchange for a less valuable tract and the money payment by a resident Indian able to use the money acquired land.

Without attempting to analyze every possible transaction, I believe that such cases as the attached will be dealt with more expeditiously in the future if it is borne in mind that section 5 contemplates a land acquisition program looking to general improvement in the land status of the Indians and that section 4 contemplates private transactions which do not interfere with that program.

D MORTGAGES

Mortgages of restricted lands are also prohibited. The court in *United States v. First Nat. Bank of Yakima, Wash.* said:

The crops growing upon an Indian allotment are a part of the land and are held in trust by the government for the same as the allotment itself, at least until the crops are severed from the land. The use and occupancy of these lands by the Indians, together with the crops grown thereon, are a part of the means by which the government has employed to carry out its policy of protection, and I am satisfied that a mortgage of any of these means, by the Indian, without the consent of the government, is necessarily null and void. If the lien is valid, it raises with it all the incidents of a valid lien, including the right to appoint a receiver to take charge of and garner the crops, if necessary, and the right to send an officer upon the allotment armed with process to seize and sell the crops without the consent and even over the protest of the government and its agents. That this cannot be done does not, in my opinion, admit of question. (P. 332.)

E JUDGMENTS

The Supreme Court in *Mullen v. Simmons*,² in holding that restricted lands could not be encumbered by judgments entered against an allottee, whether based on tort or contract, said:

The section referred to is as follows: "Lands allotted to members and freedmen shall not be affected or encumbered by any deed, debt or obligation of any character contracted prior to the time at which said land may be alienated under this Act, nor shall said lands be sold except as herein provided." 33 Stat. 643, 642.

The Supreme Court of Oklahoma, in deciding that this provision did not apply distinguished between the obligations resulting from an Indian's wrongful conduct and the obligations resulting from his contracts, saying, p. 167, "A judgment in damages for tort is not a 'debt contracted' within the contemplation of § 16. In other words, the court was of the view that the tort retained its identity, though merged in the judgment. However, we need not enter into the controversy of the cases and the books as to whether a judgment is a contract. Passing such considerations, and regarding the policy of § 16 and its language, we are unable to count with the Supreme Court of Oklahoma."

This court said, in *Stout v. Long Jim*, 227 U. S. 618, 625, that the title to lands allotted to Indians was "obtained by the United States for reasons of public policy, and in order to protect the Indians against their own improvidence." It was held, applying the principle, that a voluntarily deed made by Long Jim at a time when he did not have the power of alienation "was in the very teeth of the policy of the law, and could not operate as a conveyance, either by its primary force or by way of estoppel" after he had received a patent for said lands.

The principle was applied again in *Brannan v. Lynch*, 248 U. S. 209, and its strict character enforced against the deed of a white woman who acquired title in an Indian right. It is true, in these cases the act of the Indian was voluntary or contractual, and, if it is contended, a different effect can be ascribed to the wrong done by an Indian and that in reparation or contribution of the state law may subject his inalienable land—inalienable by the National Law—to alienation. The consequence of the contention rejects its acceptance. To its effect of valuable decree. In the present case that contented on reached, perhaps, the degree of a crime, but a tort may be a breach of a mere legal duty, a consequence of negligent conduct. The policy of the law is, as we have said, to protect the Indians against their improvidence, and improvidence may affect all of their acts, those of common sense and common, contracts and torts. And we think § 16 of the act of July 1, 1908, was purposely made broadly protective, broadly prohibitive of alienation by any conduct of the Indian, and not only its policy but its language distinguishes it from the statute passed on in *Brannan v. Lynch*, 248 U. S. 209, 215. Its language is that "lands allotted . . . shall not be affected or encumbered by any deed, debt or obligation of any character contracted prior to the time at which" the lands may be alienated, "nor shall said lands be sold except" as in the act provided. The prohibition thus is not that the lands shall not be "affected . . . by any obligation of any character," and, as we have seen, an obligation may arise from a tort as well as from a contract, from a breach of duty or the violation of a rule. *Exchange Bank v. Folsom*, 7 Colorado, 314 319. If this were not so, a preannounced tort and a judgment confessed would become an easy means of encumbering the policy of the law.

F CONDEMNATION

Section 887 of title 26 of the United States Code, derived from the Act of March 3, 1901,³ provides:

Lands allotted in severalty to Indians may be condemned for any public purpose under the laws of the State or

¹ 21 Stat. 1058, 1064. The preceding provision of this section relating to grants of right-of-way for telephone and telegraph lines through Indian reservations are set forth under sec. 819 of title 26. Permission to state on local authorities for the opening of public highways through Indian reservations or lands allotted to Indians in severalty was authorized by sec. 4 of this act, 23 U. S. 831.

² The United States is an indispensable party defendant in a condemnation proceeding brought by a state to acquire a right-of-way over lands which the United States owns and holds in trust for Indian allottees. *Minnesota v. United States*, 305 U. S. 398, 403. For cases dealing with regarding condemnation of allotted lands, see 25 C. F. R. 250.71-250.74.

³ 22 Stat. 880 (C. F. R. 250.71-250.74, 1922). But see *Mullen v. Simmons*, 240 U. S. 308, 311 (1915).
⁴ 234 U. S. 192, 197-199 (1914).

Territory where located in the same manner as land owned in fee may be condemned, and the money awarded as damages shall be paid to the allottee.

Subsequent legislation concerning right-of-way through Indian reservations is found in the Act of February 28, 1892¹¹ and of May 27, 1898.¹² The last-mentioned act authorized any railroad company to condemn a right-of-way through Indian lands, the second provided that no restriction upon alienation should be construed to prevent the exercise of the right of eminent domain in condemning rights-of-way for public purposes over allotted lands.

G. REMOVAL OF RESTRICTIONS¹³

Restrictions on alienation of lands imposed by the allotment acts run with the land and are not personal to the allottee. Hence the removal of such restrictions is in an allotment by the Secretary in accordance with a statute does not operate to remove restrictions as to other tracts in which the Indian may be interested. In reaching this holding the Circuit Court of Appeals in *Johnson v. United States* said¹⁴:

Appellants rely also on that part of the act of February 8, 1897, as the sixth section thereof is amended by the act of May 8, 1906 (34 Stat. 1381 (Comp. St. § 4261)), reading:

"Provided, that the Secretary of the Interior may, in his discretion, and he is hereby authorized, whenever he shall be satisfied that any Indian allottee is competent and capable of managing his or her affairs at any time to cause to be issued to such allottee a patent in fee simple, and thereafter all restrictions as to sale, inheritance, or taxation of said land shall be removed."

and also on subsequent acts 135 Stat. 444, 90 Stat. 855, 87 Stat. 373 which extend the power of the Secretary to determine the heirs of deceased allottees, and provide that, if he is satisfied of their ability to manage their own affairs, he may cause patents in fee simple to be issued to them for their inherited interest. The contention, as we understand it, is that, if the Secretary, acting under these statutes, removes the restriction as to any allotment or an inherited interest therein, such action on his part operates to remove restrictions on other tracts in which the Indian may be interested. But the effect of this contention is to make the restriction against alienation personal to the Indian, whereas the numerous rulings in that it attaches to and runs with the land. In *U. S. v. Noble*, 287 U. S. 84, it is said, at page 80, 35 Sup. Ct. 332, 40 L. Ed. 544, that the restriction binds the land for the

time stated. See, also, *Boulton v. U. S.*, 233 U. S. 628, 34 Sup. Ct. 622, 58 L. Ed. 1090, 11, 191 Fed. 11, 111 C. C. A. 341 (*Goodman v. Boulton*, 312 Fed. 937, 89 C. C. A. 335). Furthermore, the facts as we obtain them from the record do not show a removal of restrictions, as claimed, in behalf of any Indian other than those that have been heretofore named and whose conveyances we held to be valid under the act of June 21, 1904, as above stated. (Pp. 366-367.)

II. RIGHTS OF CONVEEYES OF ALLOTTED LANDS

Contracts involving allotted lands which are not yet freed from restrictions have been held void.¹⁵ Justice Holmes in the case of *Sage v. Hampe*¹⁶ explained:

"The purpose of the law still is to protect the Indian interest and a contract that tends to bring to bear improper influence upon the Secretary of the Interior and to induce attempts to mislead him as to what the welfare of the Indian requires are as contrary to the policy of the law as others that have been condemned by the courts. *Ally v. Hampe*, 2 Fed. Terr. 543. See *Larson v. First National Bank*, 62 Nebraska, 308, 708.

Courts and administrators have consistently refused to order the restoration of consideration received by an Indian for a conveyance which violates such laws, despite the good faith of the party dealing with the Indian¹⁷ and the bad faith of the Indian who intended to deceive the purchaser.¹⁸

In the case of *Bullitt v. Oklahoma Oil Co.*¹⁹ the District Court stated:

"The disabilities under which these warrants of the government are placed, as to the alienation of restricted lands, is very similar to those attaching to minors with reference to their contracts, and in the latter case it is established that the acts and declarations of a minor during infancy cannot escape him from asserting the invalidity of his deeds after he has attained his majority. *Stacy v. Berthold*, 112 U. S. 800, 32 Ed. 87. (P. 801.)

The Supreme Court in the case of *Peckham v. United States*,²⁰ per Hughes, J., said:

"It is said that the allottees have received the consideration and should be made parties in order that equitable

¹¹ Allotted lands are declared not liable for debts contracted prior to the issuance of the patent in fee therein. 35 U. S. C. § 414, derived from Act of June 21, 1904, 34 Stat. 825, 327. And see Act of February 8, 1897, c. 6, 24 Stat. 388, 850, as amended, 25 U. S. C. 348.

¹² 23 U. S. 80, 105 (1914).

¹³ *United States v. Walker*, 17 F. 2d 316 (D. C. Minn. 1928), holding that a purchaser of land from an Indian allottee during the trust period is not entitled to return of the purchase money as a condition to the cancellation of the deed at suit of the United States. In *United States v. Brown*, 8 F. 2d 594 (C. C. A. 8, 1923), cert. den. 270 U. S. 644 (1926), the court said that "Whether the disposition of this land was made in good faith or upon commendable considerations cannot be made to affect this decision, which involves a public policy of far-reaching consequences" (P. 594). Also see *Huge v. Hampe*, 285 U. S. 89, 105 (1914), and *Smith v. McCallough*, 270 U. S. 400 (1926), 1ev's 285 Fed. 608 (C. C. A. 8, 1922), subdividing lands negotiated for a railroad term.

¹⁴ *Johnson v. United States*, 285 U. S. 179, 181 (1932).

¹⁵ The bona fides of the transaction was held to be beside the point in *United States v. Brown*, 8 F. 2d 594 (C. C. A. 8, 1923), in which it is said: "The bona fides of these conveyances is unimportant. Whether the disposition of this land was made in good faith or upon commendable considerations cannot be made to affect this decision, which involves a public policy of far-reaching consequences. It seems this must be the correct rule else the effectiveness of such restrictions would be readily nullified away." (P. 627).

¹⁶ *United States v. Walker*, 17 F. 2d 316 (D. C. Minn. 1928).

¹⁷ 218 Fed. 880 (D. C. E. D. Okla. 1914), aff'd sub nom. *Okla. Oil Co. v. Bartlett*, 228 Fed. 458 (C. C. A. 8, 1918).

¹⁸ 224 U. S. 413 (1912), mod'g and aff'g in part *United States v. Allen*, 179 Fed. 18 (C. C. A. 8, 1910).

¹¹ 32 Stat. 48.

¹² 35 Stat. 312 (Five Civilized Tribes).

¹³ The Supreme Court in the case of *United States v. Bartlett*, 285 U. S. 72, 80 (1914), discussed a meaning of the word "removed."

The real controversy is over the meaning of the word "removed." It is not questioned that it embraces the action of Congress and of the Secretary of the Interior in abrogating or cancelling restrictions in advance of the time fixed for their expiration, but it is insisted that it does not embrace their termination by the lapse of time. In short, the contention is that the word is used in a sense which comprehends only an affirmative act such as a rescinding or reversion while the statutory period was still running. Although having supported in some definitions of the word the contention is, in our opinion, untenable for other parts of the same act, as also other acts dealing with the same subject, show that the word is employed in this limitation to a broad sense plainly including a termination of the restrictions through the expiration of the prescribed period. This is illustrated in §§ 4 and 5 of the act of 1904 and § 19 of the act of 1906, 2, 1906, c. 1974, § 4 Stat. 137, 144, and is recognized in *Choate v. Trapp*, 224 U. S. 600, 673, where, in dealing with some of these allotments it was said that "restrictions on alienation were removed by lapse of time."

¹⁴ On the power of the Secretary of the Interior to remove and reimpose restrictions, see Chapter 6, sec. 11. For regulations regarding issuance of patents in fee, see 20 C. F. R. 241-241.3.

¹⁵ 288 Fed. 924 (C. C. A. 8, 1922). Accord: *United States v. Nestlin*, 62 F. 2d 620 (C. C. A. 10, 1932).

restriction may be enforced. Where, however, conveyance has been made in violation of the restrictions, it is plain that the result of the consideration cannot be regarded as an essential prerequisite to a decree of cancellation. Otherwise, if the Indian grantor had squandered the money, he would lose the land which Congress intended he should hold, and the very inequity and hardship, which were the occasion of the enactment for his protection would render them of no avail. The

effectiveness of the acts of Congress, is not thus to be destroyed. The restrictions were set forth in public laws, and were matters of general knowledge. Those who dealt with the Indians, familiar to these provisions are not entitled to insist that they should keep the land if the purchase price is not repaid and thus frustrate the policy of the statute. *United States v. Trinidad Coal Co.*, 137 U. S. 100, 170, 171 (19 P. 448, 447).

SECTION 5. LEASING OF ALLOTTED LANDS

We have elsewhere noted that by virtue of a general statutory prohibition against leasing of tribal lands, dating from the Act of May 10, 1790,¹ valid leases of tribal lands can be made only pursuant to specific statutes expressly authorizing such leases. Such is not the case with allotted lands. There is no general statutory prohibition against leasing of allotted lands. Limitations, if they exist, are to be found in the treaty or statute prescribing the tenure under which the allotment is to be held.

No attempt will be made in these pages to analyze the various leasing provisions of statutes applicable to particular Indians.² The prohibition against leases contained in the General Allotment Act is found in section 5³ of that act, which is embodied in the United States Code as section 348 of title 25, providing:

* * * And if any conveyance shall be made of the land set apart and allotted as herein provided, or any contract made touching the same, before the expiration of the time above mentioned, such conveyance or contract shall be absolutely null and void.

This general provision has been modified by a series of statutes, authorizing leases, subject to Interior Department control, in a variety of cases. Note has already been taken of the historical process, which began in 1801, of amending this provision contained in the General Allotment Act so as to permit leasing in a growing class of cases. These amendments authorizing the

leasing of allotted lands vary in four major respects: (1) The purpose of the lease, (2) the term of the lease, (3) who is to make the lease, and (4) who is to approve the lease.

A brief comment on each of these points is in order.

(1) LEASING OF ALLOTTED INDIAN ALLOTMENTS, without regard to the purpose of the lease, is authorized by section 4 of the Act of June 25, 1910,⁴ which authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to consent to the alienation of allotments "by deed, will, lease, or any other form of conveyance" in cases, where, by the terms of special allotment laws or treaties, land is unalienable without the consent of the President.

Other statutes in the field limit the leases which they authorize to those made for specific purposes such as "farming and grazing purposes,"⁵ "irrigation purposes,"⁶ "mining purposes only,"⁷ and "mining purposes."⁸

(2) The statutes permitting the Secretary to lease certain homestead lands,⁹ to approve leases on land, the alienation of which originally required Presidential consent,¹⁰ and authorizing mining leases on allotted lands¹¹ contain no limitations as to the term of years for which the lease may be made. Other statutes limit the term to 5¹² or 10 years.¹³

¹ See Stat. 855, 856, 25 U. S. C. 408.

Sec. 5 of this act (28 Stat. 855, 857) makes it unlawful and punishable by fine and imprisonment "for any person to induce any Indian to execute any contract, deed, mortgage, or other instrument purporting to convey any land or any interest therein held by the United States in trust for such Indian, or to offer any such contract, deed, mortgage, or other instrument for record in the office of any recorder of deeds."

On administrative power of the Secretary over leasing, see Chapter 8, sec. 113. When approval is required, the lease is effective as of the date of execution. *Hallam v. Commerce Mining and Royalty Co.*, 40 F. 2d 103 (C. C. A. 10, 1911), aff'd 22 F. 2d 871 (D. C. N. D. Okla. 1920), cert. den. 284 U. S. 643 (1931). Also see *Hampson v. Swert*, 22 F. 2d 81 (C. C. A. 8, 1927), cert. den. 276 U. S. 625 (1928).

² Act of March 4, 1921, sec. 1, 41 Stat. 1225, 1226, 25 U. S. C. 868. On general grazing regulations, see 26 C. F. R. 71-71-26. On regulations for leasing of certain restricted allotted Indian lands for mining, see 25 C. F. R. 169-1-169-38.

³ Act of May 18, 1916, sec. 1, 39 Stat. 128, 129, 25 U. S. C. 94.

⁴ Act of May 31, 1900, sec. 1, 31 Stat. 221, 229, 25 U. S. C. 896.

⁵ Act of March 8, 1906, 35 Stat. 781, 798, 25 U. S. C. 806, amended by Act of May 11, 1908, 35 Stat. 347, 25 U. S. C. 896A-896F.

⁶ Lease of Indian mineral lands (property concern only certain specified minerals. For example, when only oil is named in the lease, it is a wrongful conversion to sell the gas seamed from the well, except that such an oil lease may use gas necessary to facilitate production upon the leased land, such as to run compressors and to repressure his well. *United Production Corp. v. Carter Oil Co.*, 2 F. Supp. 51 (D. C. N. D. Okla. 1934).

⁷ Act of July 8, 1940 (Pub. No. 732, 76th Cong.).

⁸ Act of September 21, 1922, sec. 6, 42 Stat. 994, 995, 25 U. S. C. 892.

⁹ Act of March 8, 1906, 35 Stat. 781, 789, 25 U. S. C. 896.

¹⁰ Act of June 25, 1910, sec. 4, 36 Stat. 938, 939, 25 U. S. C. 408.

¹¹ Act of March 18, 1910, sec. 1, 36 Stat. 128, 129, 25 U. S. C. 804.

¹² The policy behind this limitation of term has been considered in interpreting other statutes relating to leases of Indian lands. Thus the Circuit Court in *United States v. Zedeno*, 21 F. 2d 165 (C. C. A. 8, 1927), said:

Whenever Congress has authorized Indian allotments to lease their lands without the approval of the Secretary of the Interior

¹ See Stat. 12, 1 Stat. 469, 472. See Chapter 15, sec. 19.

² Acts applying to particular tribes include the following:

Allotted lands on the Fort Belknap Reservation, susceptible of irrigation, may be leased for not to exceed ten years for sugar beets "and other crops in rotation" (Act of March 1, 1907, 34 Stat. 1016, 1018).

Allotted lands in the Rheben Reservation may be leased for maximum terms of twenty years (Act of April 30, 1908, 35 Stat. 70, 97).

Yakima Reservation allottees may lease unimproved allotted lands for agricultural purposes for a period of not more than ten years (Act of March 1, 1899, 30 Stat. 924, 941, and Act of May 31, 1900, 31 Stat. 221, 240).

The Secretary of the Interior may lease, for a maximum of ten years, the unimproved allotments of any Indian allottee of the former Utah and Thompson's Reservation in Utah when the allottee is unable to cultivate the same or any portion (Act of April 30, 1908, 35 Stat. 70, 95).

Competent Crow allottees may lease their own and their minor children's allotments for five years. Adult incompetent Crows may lease their own and their children's allotments with the approval of the agency superintendent for terms up to five years. Lands of Crow minor allottees may be leased by their superintendant for the same term (Act of May 28, 1926, 44 Stat. 958).

Most of the foregoing also place the leasing of Indian allotted lands under the superintendence of the reservations. Competent adult Crow Indians may execute farming or grazing leases without restraint of the Indian Service (Act of May 20, 1929, 44 Stat. 658).

Allottees under the Quapaw Agency may lease lands for not to exceed three years for farming or grazing purposes for ten years for mining or business purposes (Act of June 7, 1897, 30 Stat. 62, 72).

On Five Tribes leasing statutes, see Chapter 15, sec. 10. On Ojibwa leasing statutes see *ibid.*, sec. 12D.

³ Act of February 8, 1887, 24 Stat. 888, 889, amended Act of March 8, 1901, sec. 9, 31 Stat. 1038, 1064.

It has been held that an assignment by an Indian of royalties from a mining lease of restricted lands is void as constituting an assignment of part of his inalienable reversion. *United States v. Moore*, 264 Fed. 86 (C. C. A. 8, 1922).

(3) Most of the statutes provide specifically that the lease shall be made by the allottee or by the heirs to whom the allotment has descended.¹²⁷ Other statutes leave this to inference.¹²⁸ A statute authorizing leasing of lands in heirship status allows the local superintendent to execute leases under specified conditions.¹²⁹

It has been administratively ruled that the statutory requirement of execution by the allottee cannot be waived so as to authorize the execution of leases by the superintendent of the reservation.¹³⁰

It has limited the period for which the leases can be made, and in order to protect the Indian allottees it has been held that Congress intended thereby to leave the allottees in sole control of the reservation and not in future of reversion, and such is the design of the Noble Case. But it is in cases where the approval of the Secretary of the Interior is necessary to give validity therein the reason for the rule fails. The allottee is protected by the requirement of departmental approval. The lease here was made and approved as provided by law. * * * 11* 107 1

Also see *Bunch v. Co.*, 203 U. S. 8 250 (1922), and *United States v. Nohb*, 217 U. S. 8 71 (1915) and 217 Fed 292 12 (C. A. 8, 1912).

The local outlines of administrative policy concerning the leasing of allotted lands are shown by many of the regulations. But perhaps, see 171 U. S. 23 C. P. R. provides * * * leases should be made for the shortest term for which advantageous contracts can be secured with reasonable parties.¹³¹

¹²⁷ Act of March 3, 1921, see 1, 41 Stat. 1223 122 25 U. S. C. 393 (leasing and grazing leases), Act of March 1, 1909, 35 Stat. 781, 781, 25 U. S. C. 390 (mining leases).

¹²⁸ Act of May 18, 1910, see 1, 39 Stat. 123 125 25 U. S. C. 391 (leases of hirable lands). Act of May 11, 1908, see 1, 35 Stat. 221, 229, 25 U. S. C. 395 (leasing of hirable lands).

¹²⁹ The Act of July 9, 1940, Public No. 712, 76th Cong., 4d sess., provides:

"That restricted allotments of deceased Indians may be leased, except for oil and gas mining purposes, by the superintendent of the reservation to which the lands are located (1) when the heirs in possession of such devices have not been determined and (2) when the heirs have been determined but have not determined and such lands are not in use by any of the heirs and the heirs have been determined but have not determined to agree upon a lease in reason of the number of the heirs, then, absolute from the reservation in any other case under such title, and regulations as the Secretary of the Interior may prescribe. The proceeds derived from such leases shall be credited to the estate or other account of the Indians entitled thereto in accordance with their respective interests."

¹³⁰ "This office has had occasion frequently to point out that the general rule for the leasing of Indian allotments is that the signature of the Indian owner or owners must be obtained before approval can be given to a lease. In a memorandum dated October 28, 1937, the Solicitor, in dealing with a similar factual situation, held that section 7 of the Leasing Regulations as revised by departmental circular of December 18, 1936, while authorizing a substantial majority of the heirs of allotted land in heirship status to execute a lease therefor, does not authorize an heir or heirs representing only a half interest in the land to do likewise. It was pointed out that the Department was without legal power to approve a lease, where the owner, or the owners of a majority interest, were unable to agree to the lease, except in such special cases as infancy, mental disability, or pending heirship determination. These exceptions are not to be broadened into unlimited administrative discretion. The special circumstances where the Department may act without the consent of the Indian owner, or a majority interest, are those cases where there is no owner, or owners, locally capable of executing a valid lease of the land. They are not every case where Department officials may feel that some of the Indians are acting unwisely or capriciously, or to the detriment of the other Indians interested in the land."

In the present case, one, Mrs. Jennie Kille Ford, has signed the lease. The other two, Benjamin Kille Ford, refuse, however, to sign it. There is no legal authority, therefore, to take the action proposed in the letter. Neither heir holds such a substantial majority interest in the land as to enable him or her to bind the other. The Indian owners are known and are capable of executing a valid lease. Their refusal to sign, or not signing, are not relevant at this point." (Memo. Sol. I, D. June 15, 1938)

See 7 of the leasing regulations above referred to, embodied in 25 C. P. R. 171 R. declines:

"When the heirs owning a substantial majority in interest are desirous of leasing their inherited tract or restricted lands, the Superintendent is authorized to approve such a lease provided the heirs holding a minority interest in the estate have been notified of the proposed lease and have not objected to such a

(4) Several of the statutes specifically require the "approval" or "consent or approval" of the Secretary to a lease of allotted land.¹³²

Other statutes require approval "of the superintendent or other officer in charge of the reservation where the land is located."¹³³ Still other statutes leave it to the regulations of the Secretary to determine whether approval shall be by the Secretary, by the Commission, or by a local reservation official.¹³⁴

A lease made without the approval required by the statute or by regulations is not pursuant to such statute is generally considered to be void.¹³⁵ There are, however, a number of unsettled

cases. In case the heirs holding such majority interest have objected to the approval of a lease on such allotted lands, the Superintendent, if an involuntary owner of the land, is not interested in it, is not interested in the lease and in such case, the share of the rentals, if it would accrue therefrom to the heirs of the minority interest, shall be held in escrow by the Superintendent to be paid to such heirs when they appear or when and if they own the lease. Such minority owners may, however, be permitted through partition or other arrangement with their co-heirs to make use of such part of the land as may be equivalent to their undivided interest in the whole, in which event the rentals otherwise due them shall be paid in escrow shall be refunded to the lessor. Approved leases, executed by the heirs holding a majority interest shall be treated as overriding the entire surface and in the lease and no objection to the payment of rentals paid thereunder shall be made to the lessor, even when by partition or other arrangement, heirs not parties to the lease have been permitted to use a portion of the land included in the lease. * * * 11* 268

But a discussion of the lack of power of the Secretary, or the superintendent on his behalf, to change the terms of a lease, see *Holmes v. United States*, 217 U. S. 23 648 (C. C. 8, 1912) and *United States v. Sandstrom*, 22 P. Supp. 190 (D. C. N. D. Okla. 1919).

¹³² Act of September 21, 1922, see 6, 42 Stat. 804, 805, 25 U. S. C. 392. And see see *IC supra*. Also see Chapter 5, sec. 178. But a discussion of early statutes giving the Secretary power to approve leases, see *Mulder v. United States*, 210 U. S. 308 (1910).

¹³³ Act of March 8, 1921, see 1, 41 Stat. 1223, 1242, 25 U. S. C. 393 (leasing of hirable lands). Act of May 11, 1908, see 1, 35 Stat. 221, 229, 25 U. S. C. 395 (leasing of hirable lands). Act of March 1, 1909, 35 Stat. 781, 783, 25 U. S. C. 390 (mining leases). Act of June 25, 1910, see 4, 36 Stat. 873, 881, 25 U. S. C. 408 (leasing of trust allotments generally).

By the Act of May 11, 1908, 35 Stat. 317, 25 U. S. C. 390, the Secretary of the Interior may delegate his power of approval of mining leases to superintendents of other Indian Service officials. Previously it was held that the superintendent had no power of approval of leases. See *United National Bank of Tulsa, Oklahoma, v. United States*, 288 Fed 308 (C. C. A. 8, 1922). By statute, however, the superintendent in the Five Civilized Tribes could previously act in the Secretary in approving leases. See Act of May 27, 1908, see 2, 35 Stat. 812, 1908, in *Holmes v. United States*, 83 P. 2d 648 (C. C. 8, 1920). The superintendent for the Ojibwa Tribe also possessed such power pursuant to the Act of June 25, 1910, see 7, 36 Stat. 880, 881, interpreted in *United States v. Sandstrom*, 22 P. Supp. 190 (D. C. N. D. Okla. 1938). The regulation which is specifically concerned with business leases provides:

"Whenever it is deemed advisable to lease allotted Indian land for business purposes, the Bureau requires the lessee to report the facts, object, terms, and conditions of the proposed lease to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, who, if he deems it proper, may grant authority to the Superintendent of the reservation where the land is located without such prior approval." (25 C. P. R. 171 10)

¹³⁴ * * * It thus appears that the lease under which the defendants claim the right to the possession of the lands alleged to be occupied are wholly void, having been taken in direct violation of the provisions of the acts of Congress under which the allotments in severalty were made, that the occupancy of the lands and the cultivation thereof by the defendants is wholly inconsistent with the purposes for which the lands were originally set apart as a reservation to the Indians, and with the object of the government in providing for allotments in severalty; that such occupancy is held contrary to the rules and regulations of the department of the interior, and is held, not for the benefit, protection, and advancement of the Indians, but for the benefit of the original lessees and their sublessees; that such occupancy of said lands by the defendants results in antagonizing the authority and control of the government over the Indians, and is clearly detrimental to their best interests, and materially interferes with the rules and regulations of the department of the interior, and is contrary to the treaty stipulations under which the land forming the reservation was set apart for the benefit and occupancy of the Indians. Having

questions as to the legal position of the parties under such an illegal lease.¹²⁴

Apart from the four matters above considered, as in which different leasing statutes exist, it remains to be said that all the statutes subject the leasing of allotments to regulations prescribed by the Secretary of the Interior. Such regulations require the payment of filing fees¹²⁵ and the execution of a bond by the lessee.¹²⁶ Rent is, and, in the case of mineral leases,

assumed the duty of securing the use and occupancy of these lands to the Indians, and being charged with the duty of enforcing the provisions of the acts of Congress forbidding all alienation of the lands until the expiration of the period of 25 years after the allotment thereof, the government of the United States through the executive branch thereof, has the right to invoke the aid of the courts, by mandamus injunction and other proper process, to compel parties wrongfully in possession of the lands held in trust by the United States for the Indians, to yield the possession thereof, and to restrain such parties from endeavoring to obtain or retain the possession of these lands in violation of law.
(United States v. Mowbray Lee-Stock & Real Estate Co., 39 Fed. 896, 504 (C. C. Neb. 1891).)

¹²⁴ See with respect to the parallel situation under unauthorized leases of tribal land, Chapter 15, sec. 19.

¹²⁵ See 25 C. F. R. 128-7, also see 160 ff. (mining leases). For statutory authority for such fees see Act of February 11, 1906, 41 Stat. 109, 417, as amended by Act of March 1, 1911, 47 Stat. 1117, 25 U. S. C. 413.

¹²⁶ See, e. g., 25 C. F. R. 128-11.

Many statutory requirements also designed to insure the proper payment of rents and royalties.

The Act of May 11, 1908, 32 Stat. 137, 148, 25 U. S. C. 1906, requires lessees of restricted lands for mineral purposes, including oil and gas, to furnish surety bonds for the faithful performance of the terms of the lease.

Lease forms are often prepared by the Department of the Interior. See *Montana Eastern Inc. v. United States*, 95 F. 2d 897 (C. A. 9,

Idaho), are ordinarily payable to the superintendent on behalf of the allottee.¹²⁸

Employees of the Office of Indian Affairs may not purchase any lease or have any interest therein, or have any interest in any corporation holding leases on Indian land.¹²⁹

In matters not covered by the statutes or by the regulations authorized thereunder the courts have applied familiar rules of law governing leases. Thus it has been held that a tenant is estopped from denying his landlord's title¹³⁰ and that this estoppel continues until the tenant yields title.¹³¹ But the landlord's title means the title which the Indian purported to have at the creation of the tenancy, and termination of such title after wards may be shown.¹³²

¹²⁸ 1949. For a discussion of the power of the United States with respect to violations of leases on restricted lands, see Chapter 19, sec. 2A(1).

¹²⁹ 25 C. F. R. 128-12 189-14. Circumstances under which allottees are permitted to make their own leases are defined in current regulations in these terms:

An adult allottee deemed by the Superintendent to have the requisite knowledge, experience, and business capacity may be permitted to negotiate their own leases and collect the rentals thereon. All such leases, however, must be approved by the Superintendent. This privilege should be granted in willing, and with some liberality, to those allottees who, at any time the allottee proves himself unworthy of it by wasteful expenditure of the money. Indians of this class may also be permitted to negotiate leases on the land of their minor children, but not to collect the rentals, which shall be paid to the Superintendent for deposit to the annual credit of individual Indian money. Such leases must be approved by the Superintendent. (25 C. F. R. 174-4.)

¹³⁰ Act of June 10, 1911, 1 Stat. 753, 754, 25 U. S. C. 98. See Chapter 2, sec. 2B, in 335.

¹³¹ *Rugle-Piche v. United States v. Fullerton*, 25 F. 2d 472 (C. A. 8, 1928).

¹³² *Smith v. Wright*, 122 Fed. 444 (C. C. 8, 1903).

¹³³ *Rugle-Piche v. United States v. Fullerton*, *supra*.

SECTION 6. DESCENT AND DISTRIBUTION OF ALLOTTED LANDS¹³⁴

No feature of the allotment system has provoked more criticism than the "heirship problem" and it is against the background of this problem that existing law must be reviewed.

It is doubtful if the serious nature of this problem was appreciated at the time the allotment acts were passed. Because of this feature of the allotment system the land of the Indians is rapidly passing into the hands of the whites, and a generation of landless, almost penniless, undigested Indians is coming on. What happens is this. The Indian to whom the land was allotted dies leaving several heirs. Actual division of the land among them is impracticable. The estate is either leased or sold to whites and the proceeds are divided among the heirs and are used for living expenses. So long as one member of the family of heirs has land the family is not landless or homeless, but as time goes on the last of the original allottees will die and the public will have the landless, undigested Indians on its hands.¹³⁵

The problem of the landless younger generations on these reservations which were earliest allotted was the chief problem leading to the termination of the allotment system.¹³⁶ In place of alienable titles, the tendency today is to grant, out of tribal lands, "assignments" of land which are to be used by the "assignee" and which revert to the tribe for reassignment when no longer so used. This development has occurred on reservations which still retain sufficient areas of unallotted land. As for the other areas, any development along these lines depends upon (a) federal acquisition of land for the tribe, under section 5

of the Wheeler-Howard Act¹³⁷ or restoration of ceded lands, under section 8,¹³⁸ or (b) the acquisition of land by a tribe, through exchange of allotments for assignments, or through land purchase or through other legal means.¹³⁹

Meanwhile, on the allotted reservations, the complexities of the "heirship" problem increase in geometric progression.

The problem of land is still the greatest unsolved problem of Indian administration. The condition of allotted lands in heirship status grows more complicated each year. Commissioners Collier and the House Appropriations Committee a year ago with examples supplied probate and administrative expenditures upon heirship lands totaling each seventy times the value of the land, and under existing law these costs are destined to increase indefinitely. Responsibility lies with Congress and the administration to work out a practical solution to this problem, either in terms of corporate ownership of lands, or through some modification of the existing inheritance system. (P. 34.)

The chief reasons for this complexity appear to be: (1) The Indian allottee does not ordinarily have ready cash or credit facilities for the settlement of estates where physical partition is not practicable.¹⁴⁰

(2) The Indian allottee frequently does not consider land in a commercial aspect, and in many cases he could not get as much cash income from the land as a non-Indian, and therefore cannot outbid non-Indian purchasers of heirship lands.¹⁴¹

¹³⁴ Questions of administrative power in this field are dealt with in Chapter 5, sec. 11C. Questions of jurisdiction are considered in Chapter 19, sec. 5.

¹³⁵ Meriam, *The Problem of Indian Administration* (1928), p. 40.

¹³⁶ See sec. 1D, *supra*.

¹³⁷ See Chapter 15, sec. 8.

¹³⁸ See Chapter 15, sec. 7.

¹³⁹ See Chapter 15, sec. 8.

¹⁴⁰ *Smith et al. v. The New Day for the Indians* (1928).

¹⁴¹ See quotation from Meriam, *supra*.

¹⁴² See sec. 1C, *supra*.

(3) It may be that Indian family relations are more complicated than the family relations of non-Indians in rural areas, although there do not appear to be any authoritative figures on this point.

(4) The Indian population, on most allotted reservations, is without channels by which numbers of families too large for the family homestead and too poor to increase it move off to other rural or urban areas. The application to the allotted Indians of state inheritance laws, adapted to a more fluid population and economy has therefore had striking and largely unforeseen results.

(5) Under existing law the cost of administration is borne by the Federal Government rather than by the individual Indians concerned in the estate. There is thus no economic incentive on the part of the Indians concerned to simplify the status of heirship lands.

A INTESTACY

In the absence of statute, heirs to an allotment are determined in accordance with tribal custom.¹²²

The General Allotment Act, like several special allotment acts, modifies this rule and substitutes state law as a standard for the determination of heirs. The most important consequence of this shift has been the multiplication of the number of heirs and the subdivision of interests in "dead allotments."

This result is achieved by section 5 of the General Allotment Act,¹²³ which provides that the patent issued to each allottee under the General Allotment Act shall

" . . . declare that the United States does and will hold the land thus allotted, for the period of twenty-five years, in trust for the sole use and benefit of the Indians to whom such allotment shall have been made, or, in case of his decease, of his heirs according to the laws of the State or Territory where such land is located. . . . "

Where an Indian to whom an allotment of land has been made dies before the expiration of the trust period and before the issuance of a free sample patent without having made a will disposing of said allotment the Secretary of the Interior may, under rules prescribed by him and upon notice and hearing, determine the heirs; his decision is final and conclusive.¹²⁴ The statute¹²⁵ granting him this right further provides

(1) If the Secretary finds the heirs competent to manage their own affairs he may issue a patent in fee to them for the allotment.

(2) If he finds partition to be to the advantage of the heirs, he may, on petition of the competent heirs, issue patents in fee to them for their shares.

(3) If he finds one or more of them incompetent, he may cause the land to be sold, under certain rules of sale.

(4) The shares of the proceeds of the sale due the competent Indians are to be paid to them.

(5) The shares due the incompetent ones are to be held in trust for their use during the trust period.

(6) The purchaser of the land receives a patent in fee

The foregoing provision, though phrased to apply to trust allotments, has been held by the Supreme Court to be applicable to restricted allotments in fee as well.¹²⁶

The power of Congress to enact this statute and the power of the Secretary thereunder have been elsewhere treated.¹²⁷

The Act of June 18, 1934, has not affected the mode of intestate descent of allotted lands.

Certain of the regulations pertaining to the determination of heirs define the manner in which the Secretary determines heirs.¹²⁸ Eight examiners of inheritance are appointed, one for each judicial district in the Indian country.¹²⁹ It is made the duty of the superintendent in charge of any allotted reservation, as soon as he is informed of the death of an allottee or an Indian possessed of trust property within the jurisdiction, to cause to be prepared an inventory showing in detail the estate of the decedent and also a certificate of appointment thereof and statement as to reimbursable claims.¹³⁰

Notice of hearing is provided for by the requirement that the examiner of inheritance shall post, for 20 days in five or more conspicuous places on the reservation or in the vicinity of the place of hearing, notices of the time and place at which he will take testimony to determine the legal heirs of the deceased Indian, calling upon all persons interested to attend the hearings.¹³¹ Copies of the notice are usually served personally on all persons who the superintendent believes are probable heirs or creditors of the deceased.¹³² A further requirement is made of the examiner that he inspect carefully the allotment, census, and annuity rolls, and any other records on file at the agency, and obtain all other information which may enable him to make a prima facie list of the heirs of such deceased Indian.¹³³

Minors in interest must be represented at the hearings by a natural guardian or by a guardian ad litem appointed by the examiner.¹³⁴

Parties interested in any probate case before an examiner of inheritance may appear by attorney.¹³⁵ Attorneys appearing before the examiner of inheritance, the Indian Office, or the Department of the Interior, must have a power of attorney from their respective clients and must be licensed attorneys, admitted to practice.¹³⁶ Written arguments or briefs may be presented.¹³⁷

All claimants are required to be summoned to appear and testify at the hearings. There must be present at least two disinterested witnesses, who are acquainted with and have direct knowledge of the family history of the decedent.¹³⁸ In case the decedent is a minor, unmarried and without issue, and the heirs are members of the immediate families of the decedent, the ex-

¹²² *United States v. Dowling*, 266 U. S. 484 (1921).

¹²³ See Chapter 5, sec. 56, 11 C.

¹²⁴ The procedure in Indian probate cases is discussed in Monograph No. 20, Attorney General's Committee on Administrative Procedure (1940).

¹²⁵ 25 C. F. R. 81.1, 81.2, 81.3.

¹²⁶ 25 C. F. R. 81.6. The superintendent also notifies the examiner for the district and the Probate Division of the Office of Indian Affairs of the demise of an Indian with restricted property. When an Indian of any allotted reservation dies leaving only personal property or cash of a value less than \$250, the superintendent of the reservation where the property is found is authorized to assemble the apparent heirs and hold an informal hearing with a view to the proper distribution thereof. In the disposition of such funds, the superintendent is authorized to pay funeral charges and expenses of last illness and any just claims for necessaries furnished decedent. 25 C. F. R. 81.23 (1940).

¹²⁷ 25 C. F. R. 81.6. Also see 81.10-81.11.

¹²⁸ The rules also permit service by mail. 25 C. F. R. 81.8.

¹²⁹ 25 C. F. R. 81.7.

¹³⁰ 25 C. F. R. 81.12.

¹³¹ 25 C. F. R. 81.15. Attorneys appear very rarely.

¹³² 25 C. F. R. 81.17.

¹³³ 25 C. F. R. 81.18.

¹³⁴ 25 C. F. R. 81.19-81.21.

¹²² See Chapter 7, sec. 9, Chapter 10, sec. 10.

¹²³ Act of February 8, 1887, 24 Stat. 385, 389, amended Act March 3, 1901, sec. 9, 31 Stat. 1003, 1005, 25 U. S. C. 348.

¹²⁴ In *Chase v. United States*, 272 F.2d 884 (9 C. A. 8, 1921), the court held that the determination by the Secretary of the Interior that a certain person was the heir of a deceased Omaha allottee who as such had a life estate in the allotment under the Nebraska laws was conclusive. The minor principle was followed in *Linn v. United States ex rel. Meko-diet*, 241 U. S. 201 (1916), wherein it was further held that even after determining the heirs the Secretary may reopen his decision at any time during the trust period.

¹²⁵ Act of June 25, 1910, sec. 1, 36 Stat. 855; Act of March 3, 1928, 45 Stat. 161; Act of April 30, 1904, 48 Stat. 647; 25 U. S. C. 872.

sumner may, in his discretion, dispense with the presence of disinterested witnesses, provided the testimony of the interested witnesses is corroborated by the records of the Department.¹⁸¹

When, subsequent to the determination of heirs in the Department, property is found which is not included in the examiner's report, this fact must be brought to the attention of the Commissioner, together with an appraisal thereof. The superintendent will then be instructed to include this property in the original findings with instructions as to any additional fee to be charged. However, where newly discovered property takes a different line of descent from that shown by the original findings, a redetermination relative thereto must be ordered and had.¹⁸²

The Solicitor for the Department of the Interior, discussing the authority of the Secretary of the Interior relative to claims against estates of deceased Indians, declared:¹⁸³

The Secretary of the Interior is authorized to probate Indian estates under the Acts of June 25, 1910 (36 Stat. 855), and February 14, 1913 (37 Stat. 175). No specific authority is indicated in these acts relative to the allowance or disallowance of claims against the estate. As an incident to the power granted, however, ever since the passage of the acts mentioned, the Secretary of the Interior has passed on claims based on indebtedness incurred by the decedent during his lifetime, and on expense of his illness and funeral charges. While the allotted lands of the Indian are not subject to the liens of indebtedness incurred while the title is held in trust in the Indian (Section 854, Title 25, U. S. Code), the right of the Secretary administratively to allow and settle indebtedness against the Indian decedent has never been seriously questioned.

The priority accreted claims of the United States by virtue of 25 U. S. C. 373, does not apply to the estates of deceased Indians. No administration or execution is appointed in these Indian estates, and claims against them are not such liens as may be enforced through the sale of the restricted lands involved. Allowed claims are paid from the accounts to the land or from such cash as may be available at the time of death of the decedent.

Priority is however given to claims of the United States against estates of deceased Indians, administratively. There are some qualifications which are covered by Departmental Regulations:

Except when the expenditures above mentioned [medical and funeral] affect the order of priority this Department allows claims administratively as follows:

1. The probate fee (25 U. S. C. 377, 25 C. F. R. 81.40)
2. Funeral bills and expense of last illness in reasonable amount (25 C. F. R. 221.9 and 81.46)
3. Claims of the United States
4. General creditors (25 C. F. R. 81.44, 81.46)

Any aggrieved person claiming an interest in the trust or restricted property of an Indian, who has received notice of the

¹⁸¹ 25 C. F. R. 81.20. According to the Court of Appeals of the District of Columbia in *Worcester v. Johnston*, 24 F. 2d 515 (App. D. C. 1928).

¹⁸² The duty of the examiner is clearly defined under the regulations which require a complete investigation of the mental capacity of the testator at the time of the making of the will, and of the influence to which she may have been subjected at the time, as well as the ascertainment of the legal heirs to her estate. It was required likewise, to give a full and complete hearing to all parties interested. (C. 616.)

The report of the examiner of inheritance, which contains a proposed order for the determination of heirs, is reviewed by the Probate Division of the Office of Indian Affairs and the Office of the Solicitor, and is then submitted to the Secretary of the Interior for approval. While the Probate Division is nominally a branch of the Office of Indian Affairs, it is also subject to the supervision of the Solicitor by virtue of a departmental order which placed all attorneys under the administrative jurisdiction of the Solicitor. Personnel Order No. 8890 of June 30, 1901, supplementing Order No. 989, issued June 9, 1898.

¹⁸³ 25 C. F. R. 81.22.

¹⁸⁴ Letter Sol. I. D. to Sol. of Dept. of Agr. June 20, 1940.

hearing to determine heirs in consideration of a will, or who was present at the hearing, may file a motion for rehearing within 60 days from the date of notice on him of the determination of heirs or action on a will, or within such shorter period of time as the Secretary of the Interior may determine to be appropriate in any particular case. A motion so filed operates as a supersedeas until otherwise directed by the Secretary of the Interior.

Any such motion must state concisely and specifically the grounds upon which the motion for rehearing is based and be accompanied by brief and argument in support thereof.

If proper grounds are not shown, the rehearing will be denied. If upon examination grounds sufficient for rehearing are shown, a rehearing will be granted and the moving party will be notified that he will be allowed 15 days from the receipt of notice within which to serve a copy of this motion, together with all argument in support thereof, on the opposite party or parties, who will be allowed 30 days thereafter in which to file and serve answer, brief, and argument. Thereafter, the case will be again considered and appropriate action taken, which may consist either in adhering to the former decision or modifying or vacating same, or the making of any further or other order deemed warranted.¹⁸⁵

No case will be reopened at the petition of any person who received notice of the hearing or who was present at such hearing, and received notice of the final decision, except as provided in § 81.44. Any other aggrieved person, claiming an interest in the estate, may apply for reopening of the case by petition, in writing, addressed to the Secretary of the Interior, to be submitted through the Commissioner of Indian Affairs. All such petitions must set forth fully the alleged grounds for reopening, and when such petitions are based on alleged errors of fact are to be accompanied by affidavits or other supporting evidence. On receipt of such petition, the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, if he deems it essential, will give the previously determined heirs an opportunity to present such showing in the matter as they may care to offer. Thereafter, the petition together with the record in the case will be submitted to the Secretary of the Interior with such recommendation in the premises as the Commissioner of Indian Affairs may deem appropriate. Aside from filing the papers specifically referred to, no further proceedings by the respective parties are required prior to a determination by the Secretary of the question whether a reopening will be granted or not.

Petitions for reopening will not be considered when 10 years or longer have elapsed since the heirs were previously determined not in those cases in which the estate of the decedent or any considerable part thereof has been disposed of under the previous finding of heirs. Claims for expenses, attorneys' fees, etc., in connection with petitions for reopening will not be considered or recognized prior to a determination of the question whether or not a reopening is to be had, and neither the estate of the decedent nor the determined heirs thereto will be subject to any expense incurred prior to allowance by the Secretary of a reopening of the case.¹⁸⁶

B TESTAMENTARY DISPOSITION

Statutory provision has been made for the disposal by will of allotments held under trust.¹⁸⁷ This provision, as it appears in

¹⁸⁵ 25 C. F. R. 81.54.

¹⁸⁶ 25 C. F. R. 81.65.

¹⁸⁷ Acts of June 25, 1910, 36 Stat. 855, 859, and February 14, 1918, 37 Stat. 678, 25 U. S. C. 878.

the United States Code,⁵⁰ permits the disposal by will of interests in allotments (as well as other property) held under trust by anyone having such an interest who is at least 21 years old. The will is to be executed in accordance with regulations prescribed by the Secretary of the Interior and each will must be approved by him. If after an Indian's decease the will is disapproved, the allotment devolves according to the law of the state wherein it is located.⁵¹

Approval of a will and death of the testator do not automatically terminate the trust. The Secretary may cause the lands to be sold and the proceeds to be held for the legatees or devisees and used for their benefit.

In the case of *Blust v. Cardin*,⁵² the Supreme Court was of the opinion that this provision was exclusive and that state statutes regarding devises of property have no effect upon allotments held in trust. Thus it held that the death of an allottee who had made a will did not terminate the restrictions⁵³ and subject the land to the Oklahoma law of wills, under which a wife could not devise more than two-thirds of her property away from her husband.

The power of the Secretary in connection with the approval or disapproval of wills is broad enough to enable him to determine whether he has mistakenly approved a will and whether the hearing before the examiner has been conducted in accordance with statute and regulations even after more than a year has elapsed since the death of the allottee.⁵⁴

The authority of the Secretary of the Interior is limited to approval or disapproval of an Indian will, and he is without authority to change the provisions of the will by making a different provision than that provided by the testator.⁵⁵

⁵⁰ "Any person of the age of twenty-one years having any right, title or interest in any allotment held under trust or other patent containing restrictions on alienation or individual Indian monies or other property held in trust by the United States shall have the right prior to the expiration of the trust or restrictive period, and before the expiration of a five sample period or the removal of restrictions to dispose of such property by will in accordance with regulations to be prescribed by the Secretary of the Interior. *Provided, however*, That no will so executed shall be valid or have any force or effect unless and until it shall have been approved by the Secretary of the Interior. *Provided further*, That the Secretary of the Interior may approve or disapprove the will either before or after the death of the testator, and in case where a will has been approved and it is subsequently discovered that there has been fraud in connection with the execution or procurement of the will the Secretary of the Interior is authorized within one year after the death of the testator to cancel the approval of the will, and the property of the testator shall thereupon devolve or be distributed in accordance with the laws of the State wherein the property is located. *Provided further*, That the approval of the will and the death of the testator shall not operate to terminate the trust or restrictive period, but the Secretary of the Interior may, in his discretion, cause the lands to be sold and the monies derived therefrom, or so much thereof as may be necessary, used for the benefit of the heir or heirs entitled thereto, remove the restrictions, or cause patent in fee to be issued to the devisee or devisees, and pay the monies to the legatee or legatees either in whole or in part from time to time as he may deem advisable, or use it for their benefit. *Provided also*, That this and the preceding section shall not apply to the Five Civilized Tribes or the Osage Indians." 25 U S C § 373.

⁵¹ See subsection A, *supra*. Also see Chapter 7, see 6.

⁵² 230 U S 339, 10-11-1912.

⁵³ While, on the other hand, an Indian died testate prior to the enactment of June 25 1910, 36 Stat. 635, his will made under an authorizing statute which was silent as to its effect upon the removal by will of restrictions made upon approval by the President serves to remove such restrictions. Cf. Sol. I. D. M 27700, August 3, 1934. See *La Motte v. United States*, 254 U S 370 (1921).

⁵⁴ *Nimrod v. Jandson*, 24 F. 2d 815 (App. D. C. 1928).

⁵⁵ In the case of *Isa Ben Shah-shah-Mo-tan-the-Battle*, 111 Okla. 177, 260 U S 377 (1923), the Supreme Court of Oklahoma, speaking with reference to the probating of a will of an Osage Indian which had been approved by the Secretary of the Interior as provided by law, and

If the will is void for any reason the husband would take under the provisions of section 11301, C. S. 1921, but so long

But after the will has been approved, the parties interested in the estate may have upon a different disposition of property, subject, of course, to the approval of the Secretary of the Interior.

Certain of the federal regulations pertaining to the approval of wills illuminate the meaning of the statutory provisions above quoted. It is provided⁵⁶ that the will of any Indian who may make such an instrument shall be filed with the superintendent and that the officials of the Indian Office shall aid and assist the Indian as far as possible in the drawing of the instrument so that it will clearly and unequivocally express his wishes and intentions. Statements, preferably under oath by the person drawing the will and the witnesses thereto that the testator was mentally competent and that there was no evidence of fraud, duress, or undue influence in connection therewith should be attached to the instrument. Where such evidence exists, a detailed statement should accompany the will setting forth the nature and extent thereof.

Other important regulations as they appear in title 25 of the Code of Federal Regulations are noted in the following summary.

Section 81.7 requires the examiner, Superintendent, or other officer to make a specific recommendation as to whether the will of a deceased Indian should be approved by the Secretary, based upon a full inquiry into his mental competency, "the circumstances attending the execution of the will, the influences which induced its execution." In the event that the distribution is contrary to the laws of the State in which the testator resides, the examiner is required to seek the best available evidence as to the reasons for such action, including the affidavit of the testator, if living. He must also investigate the competency of all devisees, and legatees to manage their affairs and note if any beneficiary is a person not of Indian blood.

Section 81.54 provides that "No will executed in conformity with the Act of February 14, 1913 (37 Stat. 678; 25 U S C § 373), shall be valid or have any force or effect so far as it relates to property under the control of the United States, unless and until it shall have been approved by the Secretary of the Interior, who may approve or disapprove the will after a due and proper hearing to determine the heirs to the estate of the testator or testatrix shall have been held, required notice of such hearing shall have been given to all persons interested, including the presumed legal heirs so far as they may be ascertained, and at which hearing the circumstances attending upon the execution of said will shall have been fully shown by proper and credible testimony, and after the legal heirs or heirs have had ample opportunity to object to the will and its approval."

Section 81.51 provides that no action on wills will be taken until after the death of the testator, except that during the life of the testator the Office of Indian Affairs shall pass on the form of the will.

Section 81.50 provides that in the absence of a contest, the examiner may secure affidavits of attesting witnesses to the will, in lieu of their personal appearance at the hearing.

Under section 4 of the Act of June 18, 1934,⁵⁷ an Indian's real property and shares in a tribal corporation may be devised only to his heirs, to members of the tribe having jurisdiction over the property, or to the tribe itself. In a recent opinion, the Solicitor of the Department of the Interior was called upon to construe this section. His opinion throws considerable light upon the limitation placed by that act upon a testator.⁵⁸

My opinion has been requested upon the proper construction of section 4 of the Wheeler-Howard Act (48

as the will stands the disposition of the property made by its terms must also stand, as the result cannot make a new will nor direct a different outcome of the property. This is made by the context with the approval of the Secretary of the Interior.

⁵⁶ 25 C. F. R. 81.50.

⁵⁷ 48 Stat. 684, 685, 25 U S C 404. See 25 C. F. R. 81.68.

⁵⁸ Op. Sol. I. D., M 27770, August 17, 1934, 54 I. D. 584.

Upon the death of an allottee there were four possible methods of disposing of the estate:

(1) The Secretary of the Interior could issue letters patent to the heirs as a group or otherwise remove the restrictions.

(2) The estate could be physically partitioned among

the Indian tribes, authority of section 7 of the act of May 27, 1902 (32 Stat. 275-276) and the act of March 1, 1907 (34 Stat. 1015-1016). The patent processes of these acts read:

Sec. 7, Act of 1902

"That the adult heirs of any deceased Indian to whom a land or other patent, land patent, restriction, lease, allotment, has been or shall be issued by his lands allotted to him may sell and convey the same, subject to such patent, land patent, restriction, lease, allotment, but in case of minor heirs their interests shall be sold only by a partition duly obtained by the proper court upon the order of such court made upon petition filed by the guardian but all such dispositions shall be subject to the approval of the Secretary of the Interior, and *where no approval shall entitle a full title to the purchaser the same as if a land patent without restriction upon the allotment had been issued to the allottee.*" [Italics supplied]

Act of 1907

"That any nonconsenting Indian to whom a patent containing restrictions, and/or allotment has been issued for an allotment of land in severalty, under any law or treaty or any other act, or any interest in any allotment by inheritance may sell or convey all or any part of such allotment or such restricted interest, and the conditions and restrictions of such sales and regulations as the Secretary of the Interior may prescribe, and any persons desiring to purchase shall be subject to the approval of the Secretary of the Interior, and *where no approval shall entitle a full title to the purchaser the same as if a land patent without restriction upon the allotment had been issued to the allottee.*" [Italics supplied]

In considering the foregoing statutory provisions, it is well to point out that the courts were without jurisdiction to determine the heirs of deceased Indian allottees. (*U. S. v. Redfox*, 104 U. S. 438.) That fact, other than the Secretary of the Interior, there existed no individual with jurisdiction to make such determination. The only controlling factor that could be used in such cases was the fact that the heirs of the deceased Indian were not determined, and the acts of 1902 and 1907, taken duly considered, applied to confer upon the Secretary of the Interior, by necessary implication, the authority to determine the heirs of deceased Indian allottees. Section 11 makes provision for land sales and hearings for the determination of heirs but regulations were approved and promulgated by the Secretary of the Interior providing that when a deed or other instrument conveying interest in land was submitted to him for approval, it should be accompanied by the following data concerning the heirs of the deceased allottee:

"By a certificate signed by two members of a business committee, if there be such, or by at least two recommended clerks, or by two or more reliable members of the tribe, setting forth that the allottee to whom the land was originally allotted is dead, stating as nearly as possible the date of death. Such certificate shall also show the names and ages of the heirs, adults and minors, of such deceased allottee, but the Department reserves the right to require, if in its judgment it shall be considered necessary, such further and additional evidence as may be necessary to make a proper group. If the persons who certify to the death of the allottee are from their own knowledge, unable to certify to who are the heirs, their names and ages of each of the deceased allottee, an additional certificate made by persons of one of the three classes herein specified, showing who are the heirs and giving their names and ages (adults and minors), must be furnished."

It has been the uniform practice and policy of this Department to regard the approval by the Secretary of the Interior of a deed based upon proof of heirship furnished in accordance with the above regulations as having the effect of legally determining the heirs and conveying the full title, particularly in view of the legislative determination in the acts of 1902 and 1907 that such an approval shall entitle full title to the purchaser the same as if a full fee simple patent had been issued to the allottee or purchaser. While the authorities are not in entire harmony, the better view supports the departmental position.

The remainder of the letter above quoted analyzes the cases supporting (*U. S. v. Boston Store, et al.*, 23 Kans 672 (1895), *U. S. v. McPherson*, 123 N. W. 912 (1914), *U. S. v. Morgan*, 232 Fed. 483 (2d C. C. D. Wash. 1922), *Davidson v. Robinson*, 122 Okla. 101, 218 Pac. 378 (1923)) and opposing the foregoing conclusion. (From cases which deny binding force to successful determination of heirs under the circumstances considered indicate that "verbal approval conveys a prima facie title good until someone else better title. See *Hodgcock v. Goss*, 171 N. W. 12 (1920); *Thupp v. Seale*, 101 N. W. 337 (1917), *Horn v. Ne-Gon-Ah-De-Quonoe*, 102 N. W. 863 (1923).)

the heirs and either trust or fee patents issued to them individually."

(3) The estate could be retained by the superintendent and leased for the benefit of the heirs.

(4) The estate could be sold under Government supervision and the proceeds distributed among the heirs.

Partition of estates is a common practice when the number of heirs is small, but small families are not the rule among Indians, and the very lively process of probate in the Office of Indian Affairs causes long periods of time, often running into years, to elapse before the heirs are determined. In the meantime, new heirs may have been born, and the heirs of the original allottee may have died.

The leasing of heirship allotments is a more frequent procedure, with consequences to be noted later. But it is more important to note here that under the act of 1902 a single "consent" lease could demand the sale of the whole allotment. Even though an administration may have been upon the sale of the heirship lands, it is actually powerless to prevent it. It perpetually faces the dilemma of either permitting the land to be sold, or exercising its influence to retain the land to the ownership of the heirs and to lease it. So long as the allotment is held intact, it is subject to progressive subdivision by the death of heirs and the resulting fragmentation of the equities.

If the estate is put up for sale, Indians rarely have the ability to buy and the allotment almost invariably passes to white ownership. A strong pressure to sell comes from the Indian heirs themselves because of their lack of experience with the white man's property system. Contrary to the hopeful intention of the proponents of the allotment system, the Indians have not acquired the white man's respect for "land in severalty." Unrestricted, individual ownership, as contrasted with their own communal ownership, tempts Indians to look on land as an asset to be disposed of for cash to meet everyday wants rather than to work it for no income.*

Dr. John R. Swanton of the Bureau of American Ethnology recently wrote: "Our own attempts to substitute land for a living fails to bring it about because there is no backbone that land shall be used in furthering a living with the addition of labor instead of being sold outright."

The result of this legislation was exactly what would be expected in rapid disposition of capital assets. From 1908, when the first sales were made, to 1934, sales of heirship land totaled 1,420,001 acres, most of which was spent as income. Desperately in need of the steady income which the application of labor to these lands would have provided, Indians were nevertheless permitted to divest themselves of the one asset which they needed most to insure their own survival. (Pp. 37-47.)

With the advantage of further allotment virtually assured under the Wheeler-Howard Act,²¹ all the land now in the possession of original allottees will pass into the heirship stage in the next generation. Sales of land to other than Indian tribes or corporations were also prohibited.²² It is, therefore, a definite certainty that the area of heirship lands will steadily increase in the immediate future, and inasmuch as the Wheeler-Howard Act left unchanged the present system of heirship, except to restrict inheritance to members of a tribe or their descendants (thus preventing acquisition by whites), the problem of what to do with these lands becomes of paramount importance. At present the heirship lands are 12

*The Act of May 18, 1910, 36 Stat. 123, 23 U. S. C. 878 provides.

* * * if the Secretary of the Interior should find that any inherited trust allotment or allotments are capable of partition to the advantage of the heirs, he may cause such lands to be partitioned among them regardless of their competency, patents in fee to be issued to the competent heirs for their shares and trust funds to be placed to the account of such heirs, for the lands respectively or jointly set apart to them, the trust period to continue in accordance with the competency of the heirs, or order of extinction of the trust period set out in said patent.

For regulations regarding applications for partitions of inherited allotments, see 25 C. F. 241b; regarding sale of heirship lands, see 25 C. F. 241b-241j.

percent of all Indian lands, and 37 percent of the allotted lands.

Sec. 1 prohibits further allotment, but by sec. 18 the whole act may be rejected by a negative vote of a majority of eligible voters at a band or title.

Sec. 4

These township tracts are potentially one of the most important of the Indian resources. (P. 15)

The present Federal policy and objectives relating to Indian land have recently been stated in a Handbook of Indian Land Policy and Manual of Procedures prepared by the Office of Indian Affairs.¹²⁸

By exchange of allotments for assignments the problem of the sale and partition of inherited lands is finding a solution and the federal Indian land policy is being carried forward. Section 5 of the Act of June 18, 1894¹²⁹ has provided for the acquisition of land by the Secretary of the Interior for an Indian tribe, through purchase, gift, exchange or assignment, or through relinquishment of land by individual Indians. It has been held that the purpose of "providing land for Indians" is served by an exchange transaction whereby an individual Indian transfers allotted land to the tribe in exchange for an assignment of occupancy rights in the same or in another tract, since the tribe

¹²⁸The primary object of Indian land policy is to save and to provide for the Indian people adequate land, in such a form and in such a place with such proper usage that they may subsist on it permanently by their own labor.

Indian land policy shall have for its purpose the organization and consolidation of Indian lands into proper units, considering the use to be made of the land, the type of labor and capital investment to be applied thereon, and the technical capacities and habits of cooperation of the Indians concerned.

Indian land policy should look toward the substitution of Indian use for non-Indian use of Indian lands.

Implicit in all of the above is the responsibility of allotting the Indians the necessary credit and technical training to make possible the best economic use of their lands.

Indian land tenure policy shall be carefully adapted to various solutions not only as to whole tribes, but also as to national communities within any particular tribe, and where the facts so indicate, to individual cases.

Indian land policy should take into account and should seek to contribute to the solution of the land policy problems of the Government as a whole.

In the protection and enlargement of an adequate land base, due consideration must be given to the preservation of those Indian cultural, social, and economic values and institutions which have in the past sustained, and are now sustaining, their economic and spiritual integrity and which may hold important possibilities for the future.

Indian land policy shall seek the most rapid possible reduction of uneconomic and nonproductive administrative expenditures, particularly in connection with the management of township lands.

In view of the limited amount of funds available for the enlargement of the Indian land base, preference in the application of these funds shall be given to those reservations showing a readiness to cooperate in order to secure the advantages, and to those showing a critical shortage of resources, and within these limitations, preference shall be given to those communities definitely Indian in character.

In the process of simplifying the ownership pattern on Indian reservations, tribal funds, IRA land-acquisition appropriations, or other applicable funds may be used (in default of other and preferable methods) for the consolidation of Indian-owned lands whenever such use supplies an essential element in improving the economy of the tribe, and reducing costs of administration.

The acquisition of land for Indians shall be for Indian use and upon adequate evidence that it will be used by Indians. In all cases where it is practicable, the acquisition should be carried out in response to the request of the Indians and upon evidence furnished by them of their determination to use the land.

Funds accruing to tribes from the past or present disposal of capital assets shall be used to the largest feasible extent for the creation of new productive resources. (Handbook, *supra*, Pt. III (1948), pp. 1-8.)

¹²⁹ 48 Stat. 984, 35 U. S. C. 465.

through this transaction acquires a definite interest in the land over and above the transfers he retained as occupancy right.¹³⁰ By means of this exchange provision the tribe may acquire Indian allotments or township lands, and may designate various parcels of tribal land which are not needed for any tribal enterprise as available for exchange. Where a tribe has funds in its tribal treasury or in the United States Treasury, it may decide to use a portion of such funds to buy up lands from Indians who have holdings in the area under consideration. Where the land is in township status, if the tribe and all the heirs are unable to agree among themselves on the terms of purchase, the Secretary of the Interior may prescribe the method of sale and valuation.

There is no reason why a tribe may not purchase allotted lands in township status where such lands are offered for sale by the Secretary of the Interior. The mechanics of such a transaction are set forth in a memorandum of the Solicitor of the Department of the Interior¹³¹ in the following words:

It will be noted that section 872 of United States Code, title 25, requires that upon completion of the payment of the purchase price a patent in fee shall issue for the purchase. Does this requirement make impossible sales to individual Indians, to Indian tribes, or to the Secretary of the Interior in trust for such tribes or individuals?

No. For as direct sales to Indian tribes are concerned, there is nothing to prevent the issuance of a patent in fee to an Indian tribe. The issuance of patents to an Indian tribe is provided for by the following statutes: Act of January 12, 1893 (26 Stat. 702), providing for patents to Mescalero Bands, treaty with Cherokees, December 29, 1895 (7 Stat. 478) granting land to Cherokee Nation.

After issuance of such patent, however, an organized tribe might, under section 5 of the act of June 18, 1894, surrender legal title to the land, if it so chose, to the United States, retaining equitable ownership of the land. A tribe not within the provisions of that act could not surrender such legal title.

The necessity for issuance of a fee patent which arises when township land is sold by the Secretary of the Interior, does not arise where the conveyance of land is made by all the interested heirs. Such conveyances, made on a restricted deed form, convey only the same interest as is held by the heirs.

The question of issuing fee patents to Indian purchasers of land does not arise on reservations subject to the act of June 18, 1894, since on such reservations direct sales to individual Indians are prohibited. A related question, however, arises with respect to sales of land to the United States in trust for a tribe or individual Indian under the provisions of section 5 of the said act, which authorizes the Secretary of the Interior,

"to acquire through purchase, relinquishment, gift, exchange, or assignment, any interest in lands, water rights, or surface rights to lands, within or without existing reservations, including trust or otherwise restricted allotments, whether the allottee be living or deceased, for the purpose of providing land for Indians."

The statute in question specifically provides, with respect to the tenure of lands so acquired:

"Title to any lands or rights acquired pursuant to this act shall be taken in the name of the United States in trust for the Indian tribe or individual Indian for which the land is acquired, and such lands or rights shall be exempt from State and local taxation."

¹³⁰ Memo Sol. I D, April 4, 1935.

¹³¹ Memo Sol. I D, August 14, 1937.

In the light of these provisions it may be asked whether the requirement of section 372 that a fee patent issued to the purchaser of homestead lands remains in force, on reservations subject to the act of June 18, 1834. If it is in force then either the Secretary of the Interior must issue a fee patent to the United States, or, if this is impossible, he must refrain from acquiring homestead land under the provisions of section 372. If the latter view is taken one of the principal objects of section 5 of the act of June 18, 1834, would be defeated. If the former view is taken a legal absurdity is presented. In the face of this dilemma it appears to be a reasonable view that the requirement of section 372 that a patent in fee be issued to the purchaser, is inapplicable where the United States is itself the purchaser, and that in this case Section 5 of the act of June 18, 1834, supersedes and amends the relevant provisions of section 372. This view is in accord with the familiar rule that a limiting statute does not run against the sovereign.

It is my opinion, therefore, that the Secretary of the Interior, on reservations subject to the act of June 18, 1834, may acquire homestead land on behalf of individual Indians or Indian tribes, on the same terms as a private individual might acquire such lands under section 372, and that title to such lands is to be held by the United States in trust for the Indian or Indian tribe for which the land is purchased.

In accordance with the foregoing analysis you are advised that existing departmental regulations and orders affecting the sale of homestead lands may be amended to provide for the following transactions, under existing law:

1. On all reservations homestead lands may be sold by the Secretary of the Interior to an Indian tribe. Such sale may be made with or without the consent of the

interested heirs. It is necessary that reasonable compensation be paid by the tribe for the land thus sold. Such reasonable compensation may be based upon the actual income-producing prospects and record of the land, due consideration being given to the expenses of leasing created by the homestead status insofar as these expenses would be deducted from the sums paid to the lessors. Except for the requirement that 10 percent of the purchase price be paid in advance, the terms of payment are within the discretion of the Secretary of the Interior.

2. On reservations within the act of June 18, 1834, sales of homestead land may be made to the United States in trust for the tribe or for individual Indians. With respect to the terms and manner of sale and the basis of valuation the comments noted in the preceding paragraph appear equally applicable.

3. On reservations not within the act of June 18, 1834, homestead lands may be sold directly to individual Indians or to an Indian cooperative or tribe. It is within the discretion of the Secretary of the Interior to make such sales with or without the consent of the heirs, without calling for bids or after bids have been called for. Patents in fee must issue to the purchaser upon final completion of payments for the land, unless all the heirs join in making a conveyance of the trust title. If bids are called for it would be proper to limit the bidders either to Indians or to Indians of a particular tribe or to Indians interested in the particular estate or to any other reasonably defined class of Indians, provided that in any case a fair price, in the light of all circumstances, is obtained for the land that is sold. With respect to the terms and manner of sale, and the basis of valuation the comments noted in the first paragraph of this summary appear equally applicable.

CHAPTER 12

FEDERAL SERVICES FOR INDIANS

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SECTION 1. INTRODUCTION

Federal services which the United States provides for Indians are frequently viewed as a matter of charity. The erroneous notion is widely prevalent that in their relationship with the Federal Government the Indians have been the regular recipients of unearned bounties. In reality, federal services were, in earlier years, largely a matter of self-protection for the white man or partial compensation to the Indian for land cessions or other benefits received by the United States. In recent years such services have been continued, partly as a result of the failure of the states to render certain essential public services to the Indians, because of their special relation to the Federal Government.

In the treaty period¹ of our Indian relations, in order to induce the Indian to cease active resistance to further encroachment upon his domain, it was thought wise to educate him in the white man's culture. The Indian's white neighbors would instruct him to seek paths of peace rather than the ways of war, to replace the tomahawk with a religion of love for his fellow man. To obviate responsibility for his support, or the alternative of slow starvation, they would instruct him in the ways of the farm, in the arts of the trade, and in means of earning a livelihood on his greatly reduced land.² This offered a practical alternative to a policy of warfare which, it has been estimated, cost the Federal Government in the neighborhood of one million dollars for each dead Indian.

Reservations were located in the vicinities of army posts. In the panic of an epidemic of smallpox, as a matter of protection to prevent the spread of this disease through the entire population, a statute³ was enacted which provided for vac-

nation of Indians by army surgeons.⁴ This statute is illustrative of the way in which the Indian health service and other federal services originated.

In making treaties with the Indian tribes, the United States generally offered a more or less substantial *quid pro quo* for land ceded by the Indian tribes in such treaties and for other promises contained in such treaties that were advantageous to the United States.⁵ This *quid pro quo* might be, and generally was, defined in terms of money, although in some cases the United States undertook to furnish specified supplies or services for a designated period of years. The Indians had little use for money. The practice therefore arose of placing the money in trust in the United States Treasury and expending either the principal or the interest of such funds, in accordance with the wishes of the Indians, for food, clothing, livestock, farm implements, and the pay of blacksmiths, teachers, physicians, and other skilled employees. To this day tribal funds are expended for these purposes.⁶

When treaty and tribal funds of a given tribe came to an end, the Federal Government might have discharged the teachers, physicians, blacksmiths, and other employees maintained by it pursuant to treaty obligation, but many factors, some of them humanitarian, combined to prevent the abandonment of these services. Instead, an increasing amount of what were called "gratuity appropriations," as distinct from treaty appropriations and tribal fund appropriations, was devoted to the maintenance of these various federal services in the Indian country. According to contemporary critics, and according to subsequent official investigations, these funds were in many

¹ See Chapter 3.

² 8 Am. State Papers (Indian Affairs, class II, vol. 2) 1515-27, pp. 150-151.

³ Act of May 5, 1832, 4 Stat. 514.

⁴ Appropriations for this service have since been regularly enacted. See Chapter 4, sec. 17.

⁵ See Chapter 3, sec. 3C(3).

⁶ See Chapter 15, sec. 28.

cases extravagantly and wastefully disband. Irrigation projects, for example, frequently were launched without the benefit of expert technical advice and were consequently improperly constructed and ill-advised.¹

With the increase of gratuity appropriations, the picture of the Indian as a charity ward came to loom large in the public eye. In 1875 Congress provided that Indians receiving supplies from the Federal Government might be required to perform useful labor as a condition precedent,² quite ignoring the fact that many Indians were no more "charity wards" than were holders of federal bonds or other legal obligations of the Federal Government.

In an effort to remove federal services to Indians from a gratuity basis, Congress has frequently provided that various expenditures made for the benefit, or supposed benefit, of Indians should be "reimbursable," that is to say, repaid to the United States Treasury out of the future income of the tribes concerned. Even where Congress has not so provided, the rule has been developed in many judicial decisions and court cases that appropriations which were supposed to be gratuities when made are to be reimbursed out of judgments rendered in favor of an Indian tribe.³

More recently the effort to remove federal Indian services from a charitable basis has taken the form of legislation authorizing the Secretary of the Interior to assess fees for various acts and services benefiting Indians.⁴

¹ See Hearings, Sen. Subcom. of Comm. on Ind. Aff. 71st Cong. 2d sess., *Survey of Conditions of the Indians in the United States*, pt. 8, Eagle Report, January 21, 1930, p. 2285.

² Act of March 3, 1875, 18 Stat. 440, 25 U. S. C. 137.

³ *Ojawa Tribe of Indians v. United States*, 66 C. Cl. 64 (1928), *app. dism.* 270 U. S. 811, 68 C. Cl. 768, *Choctaw Nation v. United States*, 31 C. Cl. 1 (1908), *cert. den.* 206 U. S. 649, *Act of June 7, 1924*, 43 Stat. 837 (Chester and Chickasaw); *Fort Belknap Indians v. United States*, 71 C. Cl. 308 (1908), *Act of February 11, 1920*, 41 Stat. 101.

⁴ Section 1 of the Act of May 0, 1908, 32 Stat. 291, 312, 313 as amended by the Act of May 10, 1919 53 Stat. 708, 25 U. S. C. 561, provides:

In the discretion of the Secretary of the Interior, and under such rules and regulations as may be prescribed by him, fees may be collected from individual Indians for services performed for them, and any fees so collected shall be covered into the Treasury of the United States.

⁵ *Act of January 24, 1923* 42 Stat. 1174, 1185, 25 U. S. C. 477 relating to probate fees, and *Act of February 14, 1920*, 41 Stat. 108, 415 amended March 1, 1928 47 Stat. 1417, 25 U. S. C. 418, relating to various management fees for Indian forestry work.

In recent years, and particularly since 1924, when citizenship was granted to all Indians not already citizens,⁵ the states have assumed a larger role in supplying the Indians with essential public services. In 1920⁶ the Secretary of the Interior was authorized to permit state agents to make inspections of health and educational conditions on the reservations and to enforce sanitation and quarantine regulations, to enforce compulsory school attendance of Indian pupils, as provided by the law of the state, and since 1931⁷ the Secretary has been authorized to enter into contracts with state or other bodies for education, medical attention, agricultural assistance, and social welfare, including relief of distress, of Indians, and to authorize the state to utilize existing federal school buildings, hospitals, and other facilities.

Many states have taken kindly to their added responsibility, others have continued to discriminate against the Indian, as, for instance, those states which deny the Indian services available under the Social Security Act.⁸

The year 1934 marked a momentous change in Indian policy. The then prevalent economic conditions brought on by the depression emphasized the desperate plight of the Indian. The Wheeler-Howard Act⁹ was passed. A program was launched, with the assistance of federal and tribal funds, to organize and incorporate Indian tribes, to launch tribal enterprises, to enable tribes and tribal members to become self-sufficient by their own efforts in lines of endeavor congenial to native tastes and talents, and to make possible the transfer to the organized tribes of responsibility for services hitherto performed by the Federal Government.

This program is still too close to its inception to warrant estimation of its success. It may be said, however, that the prevailing tendency today is to turn over to the organized tribes, or to the states, where such tribes and states are willing to accept such burdens, an increasing measure of responsibility for the performance of services which have historically been rendered to the Indians by the Federal Government.¹⁰

⁶ See Chapter 8, sec. 2.

⁷ Act of February 15, 1929, 45 Stat. 1185, 25 U. S. C. 281. See Chapter 8, sec. 2.

⁸ Act of April 10, 1934, 48 Stat. 596, amended June 4, 1936, 40 Stat. 1486, 25 U. S. C. 452, 454.

⁹ Act of August 14, 1935, 40 Stat. 620. See sec. 5, *infra*, and see Chapter 8, sec. 5.

¹⁰ Act of June 18, 1934, 48 Stat. 694, 25 U. S. C. 461 or *seq.* See Chapter 4, sec. 16.

¹¹ See Chapter 2, sec. 3C.

SECTION 2. EDUCATION

A. DEVELOPMENT OF FEDERAL POLICY

"Father," requested Cornplanter, speaking for the Senecas in 1792, "you give us leave to speak our minds concerning the tilting of the ground. We ask you to teach us to plough and to grind corn; * * * that you will send smiths among us, and, above all, that you will teach our children to read and write, and our women to spin and to weave."¹¹ With equal

¹¹ *American State Papers* (Indian Affairs, class II, vol. 1) (1789-1816) p. 144.

That such was not always the attitude of all Indians is seen in an excerpt from Benjamin Franklin's "Remarks Concerning the Savages of North America." In 1744, after the Treaty of Lancaster in Pennsylvania between the government of Virginia and the Six Nations, the Virginia Commissioners offered to the chiefs to educate six of their sons at a college in Williamsburg, Va. They received this reply:

Several of our young people were formerly brought up at the college of the Northern Province, they were instructed in all your sciences; but when they came back to us, they were but runners; ignorant of every means of living in the woods; unable

warmth George Washington replied, through the Secretary of War, that the Senecas might be sure of his willingness and desire to impart to them "the blessings of husbandry, and the arts" and that a number of their children would be received to be educated either at the time of the treaty, or at such a time and place as they might agree upon.¹²

In such a fashion did the President of the United States and a chief of an Indian tribe first discuss the possibility of governmental assistance in bringing to the red man the advan-

to bear either cold or hunger; knew neither how to build a cabin, take a deer, or kill an enemy, spoke no language properly; were therefore neither fit for hunters, warriors, or counsellors; they were totally good for nothing. We are however not the less desirous of their bettering, though we decline accepting it. And to show our great sense of it, if the Gentlemen of Virginia will send us a dozen of their sons, we will take great care of their education, instruct them in all we know, and make more of them (Benjamin Franklin, *Two Tracts* etc. (2d ed., 1794), pp. 28-29).

¹² *Ibid.*, p. 198.

ages of a European civilization.³⁸ Although this paternalistic arrangement was destined not to materialize, the interest it aroused prompted, and on December 2, 1794, educational provisions were included in a treaty negotiated with the Oneida, Tuscarora, and Stockbridge Indians.³⁹ This was followed in 1803 by a treaty with the Kaskaskia Indians which provided an annual contribution for 7 years for a Roman Catholic priest who, among other things, was to instruct in literature.⁴⁰ This began the practice, which persisted up to the end of treaty-making in 1871, of including educational provisions in treaties.⁴¹ The provisions covered technical education in agriculture and the mechanical arts,⁴² support of reservation schools,⁴³ boarding

¹⁹ For additional examples see Bureau of Education, Special Report on Indian Education and Civilization (1888), Sen Ex Doc No 95, 48th Cong., 2d sess pp 161-197. The annual reports of the Commissioners of Indian Affairs throw considerable light on the development of the federal educational policy regarding the Indians. See Chapter 2, *supra*.

7 Stat. 17, 48. These provisions allowed for the employment of one or two persons for 3 years to instruct in the arts of the mill; and

²² Treaty of Annual 18, 1863, 7 Stat 78, 79

Treaty of August 18, 1804, with Delaware Tribe, 7 Stat. 81, Treaty of August 20, 1821, with Ottawa, Chippewa, and Potawatamie, 7 Stat. 200, Treaty of February 13, 1825, with Creek Nation, 7 Stat. 207, Treaty of February 13, 1825, with Creek Nation, 7 Stat. 207, Treaty of September 21, 1818, with the Ojibwa and Menominee, 7 Stat. 421, Treaty of March 28, 1836, with the Ottawa and Chippewa, 7 Stat. 401, Treaty of March 28, 1836, with the Ottawa and Chippewa, 7 Stat. 401, Treaty of October 11, 1826, with the Ojibwa, etc., 7 Stat. 234, Treaty of October 11, 1826, with the Ojibwa, etc., 7 Stat. 234, Treaty of January 4, 1846, with the Creeks and Seminoles, 9 Stat. 821, 822, Treaty of October 13, 1846, with the Winnebago Indians, 9 Stat. 878, 879, Treaty of January 4, 1846, with the Winnebago Indians, 9 Stat. 878, 879, Treaty of 1848, with the Menominee Tribe, 9 Stat. 802, Treaty of July 28, 1801, with the Seneca, 10 Stat. 940, Treaty of August 5, 1867, with the Sioux Indians, 10 Stat. 954, Treaty of May 12, 1864, with the Menominee, 10 Stat. 954, Treaty of May 12, 1864, with the Menominee, 10 Stat. 954, Treaty of March 27, 1865, with the Menominee, 10 Stat. 7312, Treaty of July 17, 1865, with the Blackfoot Indians, 11 Stat. 807, Treaty of September 24, 1857, with the Pawnee Indians, 11 Stat. 720, Treaty of January 22, 1859, with the Delaware, etc., 12 Stat. 938, Treaty of January 31, 1876, with the Mafah Tribe, 12 Stat. 938, Treaty of July 1, 1855, with the Quinault, etc., Indiana, 12 Stat. 971, Treaty of July 16, 1856, with the Flathead, etc., Indiana, 12 Stat. 975, Treaty of July 16, 1856, with the Flathead, etc., Indiana, 12 Stat. 975, Treaty of October 18, 1864, with the Chippewa Indians, 14 Stat. 607, Treaty of June 18, 1868, with the Creek Nation, 14 Stat. 780, Treaty of February 12, 1868, with the Seneca, etc., 15 Stat. 55, Treaty of February 12, 1868, with the Seneca, etc., 15 Stat. 55, Treaty of February 12, 1868, with the Seneca, etc., 15 Stat. 55, Treaty of February 12, 1868, with the Seneca, etc., 15 Stat. 55.

¹Monthly of May 6, 1828, with the Cherokee Nation, 7 Stat 811;
²Treaty of New Echota December 20, 1828, with the Cherokee, 7 Stat 812;
³474 (provides for common schools and "... a literary institution for the
 of a higher order. ... Treaty of June 8 and 17, 1846, with the
 of the Cherokee Nation, 9 Stat 933; Treaty of September 1846, with
 the Chickasaw Indians, 10 Stat 1109; Treaty of November 18, 1846, with
 the Choctaw, etc., Indians, 10 Stat 1122; Treaty of April 10, 1848, with
 the Tanecaw Indians, 11 Stat 748; Treaty of June 9, 1850, with the Walla-
 Walla, etc., Tribes, 12 Stat 648; Treaty of June 11, 1855, with the
 Choctaw, etc., Indians, 13 Stat 636; Treaty of July 1, 1855, with the
 Choctaw, etc., Indians, 13 Stat 637; Treaty of February 14, 1868, with
 the Lower Brach Indians, 14 Stat 807; Treaty of February 24, 1867, with
 the Seneca, etc., 15 Stat 518; Treaty of October 21, 1867, with the
 Kiowa and Comanche Indians, 15 Stat 581; Treaty of October 21, 1867,
 with the Kiowa, Comanche, and Arapaho Indians, 15 Stat 582;
 Cheyenne and Arapaho Indians, 15 Stat 580; Treaty of March 2, 1868,
 with the Cheyenne and Arapaho Indians, 15 Stat 580; Treaty of March 2,
 1868, with the Ute Indians, 15 Stat 610; Treaty of April 29, et seq., 1868,
 with the Sioux Nation, 15 Stat 686; Treaty of May 7, 1869, with the
 Crow Indians, 15 Stat 649; Treaty of May 10, 1869, with the Northern
 Cheyenne and Northern Arapaho Indians, 15 Stat 646; Treaty of June 1,
 1869, with the Cheyenne and Arapaho Indians, 15 Stat 647; Treaty of
 the Western Band, Shoshone, and Bannock Tribes of Indians, 15 Stat 675.

schools,²¹ or schools and teachers generally,²² and contributions for educational purposes.²³

On March 30, 1892, Congress made provision for the expenditure of a sum of money not to exceed \$15,000 per annum to promote civilization among the aborigines.⁴ For another decade this action stood as the sole indication that Congress had recognized responsibility for Indian education, then, in his first message to Congress, President Monroe called for additional efforts to preserve, improve, and civilize the original inhabitants.⁵ This recommendation was acted upon 2 years later when Congress enacted a provision which still stands as the organic legal basis for most of the educational work of the Indian Service. As embodied in the United States Code, the law declares:

* * * The President may, in every case where he shall judge improvement in the habits and conditions of such

An unusual educational provision appears in the Treaty of May 6, 1828, with the Cherokee Nation, *supra*. Art 5 reads in part

* * * It is further agreed by the United States, to pay two thousand dollars annually, to the Chinese, for ten years to be expended under the direction of the President of the United States in the education of their children, in their own country, in letters, and the mechanics arts, also one thousand dollars towards the purchase of a Printing Press and Types to aid the Chinese in the progress of education and to benefit and enlighten them as the people, in their own, and our language (P. 211.)

²² Treaty of November 15, 1827, with the Creek Nation, 7 Stat 307, Treaty of September 15, 1832, with the Winnebago Nation, 7 Stat 370, Treaty of May 24, 1834, with the Chickasaw Indians, 7 Stat 450, Treaty of June 9 1808 with the Nez Perce Tribe, 14 Stat 647, Treaty of March 10, 1807, with the Chinnequa of Mississippi, 16 Stat 719.

Treaty of October 15, 1820, with the Choctaw Nation, 7 Stat 210,
Treaty of June 4, 1825, with the Kaskaskia Nation, 7 Stat 244, Treaty of
August 6, 1825, with the Chickasaw Tribes, 7 Stat 290, Treaty of October
18, 1825, with the Chickasaw Nation, 7 Stat 291, Treaty of February
17, 1842, with the Wyandott Nation, 11 Stat 581, Treaty of May 7,
1846, with the Comanche, etc., Indians, 9 Stat 544, Treaty of June 8,
1846, with the Miami Indians, 10 Stat 1001, Treaty of November 15,
1854, with the Reece River, 10 Stat 1110, Treaty of November 30, 1854,
with the Chickasaw Nation, 10 Stat 1111, Treaty of February 12, 1855,
with the Ottowas and Chickapaw, 11 Stat 621, Treaty of February 5,
1856, with the Stockbridge and Munsee Tribes, 11 Stat 657, Treaty of
June 9, 1856, with the Yakama Indians, 12 Stat 803, Treaty of June
10, 1856, with the Flathead Indians, 12 Stat 804, Treaty of June 10,
with the Sioux Bands, 12 Stat 1081, Treaty of July 10, 1856, with the
Chickasaw Bands, 12 Stat 1105, Treaty of February 18, 1861, with the
Alapachos and Cherokee Indians, 12 Stat 1503, Treaty of March 6,
1861, with the Cheas, Pote, and Iowa, 12 Stat 1471, Treaty of June
10, 1861, with the Chickasaw Nation, 12 Stat 1472, Treaty of June
10, 1861, with the Chickasaw, 12 Stat 1473, Treaty of August 12, 1865, with the
Seneca Indians, 14 Stat 683, Treaty of March 21, 1868, with the Seminole
Indians, 14 Stat 712, Treaty of April 28, 1868, with the Choctaw and
Chickasaw Nations, 14 Stat 759, Treaty of August 12, 1868, with the Nez
Perce, 14 Stat 814, 815.

Treaty of October 10, 1826, with the Potawatamie Tribe, 7 Stat 229, Treaty of September 30, 1828 with the Potawatamie Indians, 7 Stat 517, Treaty of July 15, 1830, with the Sac and Foxe, etc., 7 Stat 125, Treaty of September 27, 1836, with the Choctaw Nation, 7 Stat 343, Treaty of March 10, 1837, with the Chickasaw Nation, 7 Stat 343, Treaty of March 10, 1838, with the Creek Nation, 7 Stat 411, Treaty of January 14, 1840, with the Kansas Indians, 9 Stat 842, Treaty of April 1, 1850, with the Wyandot Tribe, 10 Stat 687, Treaty of March 15, 1854, with the Ottawa and Missouria Indians, 10 Stat 1038, Treaty of May 6, 1854, with the Delaware Tribe, 10 Stat 1048, Treaty of May 10, 1854, with the Shawnee, 10 Stat 1053, Treaty of May 17, 1874, with the Tonawanda Band of Seneca Indians, 18 Stat 483, Treaty of March 10, 1884, with the Chickasaw Indians, 10 Stat 1082, Treaty of January 22, 1855, with the Winnebago Band, 10 Stat 1143, Treaty of February 22, 1855, with the Chipewia Indians of Mississippi, 10 Stat 1150, Treaty of June 22, 1855, with the Choctaw and Chickasaw Indians, 11 Stat 611, Treaty of August 2, 1855, with the Chipewia Indians of Sagaway, 11 Stat 611, Treaty of August 7, 1856 with the Crows and Seminoles, 11 Stat 691, Treaty of June 18, 1856, with the Chickasaw Indians, 11 Stat 691, Treaty of July 28, 1856, with the Chickasaw Indians (Red Lake and Pembina Bands), 11 Stat 691, Treaty of September 20, 1861, with the Osage Indians, 14 Stat 657

* Act of March 80, 1802, 2 Stat 180, 148
* XXXI Annals of Congress, 15th Cong, 1st sess (1817-18), p 12
* Act of March 3, 1819, 8 Stat 516, R 8 § 2071, 25 U S C 271.

Indians practiced and that the means of instruction can be introduced with the few constant employable persons of good moral character to instruct them in the mode of agriculture suited to their situation, and for it while their children in reading, writing, and arithmetic and performing such other duties as may be required according to such instructions and rules as the President may give and prescribe for the regulation of their conduct, in the discharge of their duties. A report of the proceedings adopted in the execution of this provision shall be annually laid before Congress.

This statute carried with it a permanent annual appropriation of \$10,000 "for the purpose of providing against the further decline and final extinction of the Indian tribes, adapting the frontier settlements of the United States, and for introducing among them the habits and arts of civilization."

The expenditure of this fund occasioned no little difficulty. The President, anxious to apply it in the most effective manner possible, addressed a circular letter to those societies and individuals—usually missionary organizations—that had been prominent in the effort to civilize the Indians, offering the cooperation of the Government in their various enterprises. Soon the \$10,000 was apportioned among them, and later, as treaty funds became available for this purpose, these, too, generally were disbursed to such establishments.¹

A significant development in the history of Indian education was the establishment by a number of Indian tribes of their own schools. As early as 1805, the Choctaw chiefs maintained a school with money lands.² In 1841 and 1842, before a number of states had provided for public schools, the Cherokee and Choctaw nations had put into operation a common-school system.³

In 1853, the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, George W. Manypenny, noted that total expenditures for education among the Indian tribes during the 10-year period ending January 1, 1855, exceeded \$2,130,000. Apparently only a small portion of this sum was contributed directly by the Government, for the Commissioner's report shows that while \$102,107.14 had been furnished by the United States, \$824,100.01 had been added from Indian treaty funds, over \$100,000 had been paid by Indian nations themselves, and \$830,000 had come from private benevolence.⁴

After the Civil War a more liberal policy for participation of the Government in the education of the Indians was pursued. In 1870, \$100,000 was set aside for this purpose,⁵ and in succeeding years the sums allocated were sufficiently liberal to permit a definite expansion of activities.

By 1876, several non-reservation boarding schools had been opened. Indian youths from all parts of the country attended the United States Indian Training and Industrial School at Carlisle, Pennsylvania. Other schools were located at Chienawa, Oregon; Lawrence, Kansas; Haskell Institute, Geary, Nebraska; and Chilocco, Indian Territory.⁶

¹ Act of March 3, 1810, 2 Stat. 316. The repeal of this permanent appropriation was contemplated several times and finally accomplished in the Act of February 14, 1875, c. 178, 17 Stat. 381-387, 463. This appropriation became known as the "civilization fund." Blauch, *Educational Service for Indians, Staff Study No. 18*, prepared for the Advisory Committee on Education (1934), p. 32.

² *Am. State Papers (Indian Affairs, class II, vol. 2)* 1816-27, pp. 200, 201.

³ Blauch, *op. cit.*, p. 88.

⁴ Treaty of October 18, 1820, with the Choctaw Nation, Arts. 7 and 8, 7 Stat. 210.

⁵ Blauch, *op. cit.*, p. 83.

⁶ Report of the Secretary of the Interior, Sen. Ex. Doc. No. 1, pt. 1, 44th Cong., 1st sess. (1895), p. 951.

⁷ Act of July 16, 1870, 16 Stat. 386, 389.

⁸ Blauch, *op. cit.*, p. 84.

By the Act of July 31, 1852,⁷ it was provided that abandoned military posts might be turned over to the Interior Department for the purpose of conducting therewith Indian schools.

Government participation increased when, in 1890, the Indian Service

• • • began to use public schools for the instruction of Indian children. Individual Indians had attended public schools before, but under the policy adopted in 1890 the Office of Indian Affairs assembled public schools for the actual increase in cost incurred by instructing the Indian children. The practice was in accordance with the ultimate plan of the Office of limiting over the Indian day schools to the States as soon as white settlers and taxpayers were present in sufficient numbers to justify the establishment of local systems of schools. However, the use of public schools for educating Indian children did not become a common practice until after 1900, when it developed rapidly.⁸

The recent course of Federal activity with respect to Indian education is clarified in the following excerpt from a recent study prepared under the auspices of the President's Advisory Committee on Education:

The period since 1900 is marked by a number of changes. In 1906 the schools—several hundred day schools and a number of boarding schools—of the Five Civilized Tribes in Oklahoma, previously operated by the tribal governments, were placed in charge of the Office of Indian Affairs. At first they were operated under contract but later in the Office of Indian Affairs. • • • A uniform course of study for the Indian schools—now hardly to be regarded as a progressive step—was provided in 1910. In order to increase the efficiency of the teachers, provision was made in 1912 for educational leave not to exceed 15 days a year to attend teachers' institutes or training schools, and in 1922 this leave was increased to 30 days. A provision in 1928 permitted 60 days of educational leave in any 2-year period.

Some of the changes which occurred are reflected in the data on enrollment of Indians in schools. • • • From 1900 to 1920 the enrollment increased from 26,451 to 69,802 or 164 percent. • • •

Since then, a number of other changes have taken place, largely in response to criticism voiced by the Report of the Institute for Government Research, in 1928,⁹ and the Report of the National Advisory Committee on Education in 1931.¹⁰ These changes are summarized in additional passages from the 1930 Advisory Committee study:

• • • A material change has occurred in the point of view of the education of Indians, and a program is being developed which seeks to relate instruction to the needs and interests of children as well as to develop initiative and independence. Much of the deadening curriculum has been eliminated. Increased emphasis has been placed on community day schools; there has been a notable decrease in the enrollments of Government boarding schools, and the programs of the boarding schools have been improved to serve primarily the need for secondary education. Vocational education adapted to the needs of Indian children has received some attention. Provision has been made for the higher and advanced education of Indian youth. Child labor in the schools has been reduced, although there is still too much of it in the elementary boarding schools. Improvement has been made in the educational personnel through higher requirements and increases in salaries. Congress has also made larger

⁷ 22 Stat. 181.

⁸ Blauch, *op. cit.*, pp. 84, 85.

⁹ Hatch, *op. cit.*, pp. 87, 88.

¹⁰ Merriam, *The Problem of Indian Administration* (1928), c. IX.

¹¹ Federal Relations to Education (1931). The National Advisory Committee on Education was organized in 1929 by the Secretary of the Interior acting for the President.

appropriations to provide for larger expenditures per child in the schools. Educational management has been somewhat decentralized, more control being given to the regional and local superintendents."

Another innovation is the Act of April 16, 1834,¹ commonly known as the Johnson-O'Neale Act providing for federal-state cooperation. Under the terms of this legislation, moneys appropriated by Congress for Indian education may be turned over to "any State or Territory, or political subdivision thereof" or to "any State university, college, or school" or "any appropriate State or private corporation, agency, or institution" under a contract by which the recipient of federal fund, undertakes to provide educational facilities in accord with standards established by the Secretary of the Interior to a specified number of Indian students. So far contracts in accordance with this act have been made with Arizona, California, Minnesota, and Washington.

In line with the foregoing tendency towards decentralization of federal educational activities, it should be noted that in a long series of special statutes Congress has appropriated money directly to various counties and school districts for the maintenance of public schools attended by Indians.² Generally such statutes contain some such provision as the following:

* * * That there is hereby authorized to be appropriated, out of any moneys * * * for the purpose of cooperating with school districts * * * in the improvement and extension of public-school buildings. *Provided*, That the school * * * shall be available to both Indian and white children without discrimination, except that tuition may be paid for Indian children attending in the discretion of the Secretary of the Interior. * * *

From these varying treaty stipulations, statutory provisions and governmental policies have emerged a number of problems concerning education of the Indian. Are all Indians eligible to attend federal schools, state schools? Can Indians be compelled to attend schools? What are the limitations upon the use of funds for Indian education? At various times these and other questions have been dealt with judicially and the substance and application of these decisions must be examined.

B. ELIGIBILITY FOR SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

The most important restriction imposed on the Indian's right to attend federal schools is found in the provision that

* * * No appropriation, except appropriations made pursuant to treaties, shall be used to educate children of less than one-fourth Indian blood whose parents are citizens of the United States and of the State wherein they live and where there are adequate free school facilities provided.

This restriction, contained in the Appropriation Act of May 25, 1918³ has been embodied in title 25 of the United States Code as section 297.

¹ Hatch, *op cit*, p. 44.

² Act of April 10, 1894 c. 147, 48 Stat. 576, amended by Act of June 4, 1898, 49 Stat. 1468, 26 U. S. C. 492-496.
³ Act of June 7, 1895, c. 188, 49 Stat. 897, Act of June 7, 1895, c. 189, 49 Stat. 897, Act of June 7, 1898, c. 190, 49 Stat. 828, Act of June 7, 1898, c. 191, 49 Stat. 828, Act of June 7, 1898, c. 192, 49 Stat. 828, Act of June 7, 1905, c. 193, 49 Stat. 829, Act of June 7, 1905, c. 194, 49 Stat. 830, Act of June 7, 1905, c. 197, 49 Stat. 830, Act of June 7, 1905, c. 198, 49 Stat. 831, Act of June 7, 1908, c. 199, 49 Stat. 831, Act of June 7, 1908, c. 200, 49 Stat. 832, Act of June 7, 1908, c. 201, 49 Stat. 833, Act of June 7, 1908, c. 202, 49 Stat. 834, Act of June 7, 1908, c. 203, 49 Stat. 835, Act of June 7, 1908, c. 204, 49 Stat. 836, Act of June 7, 1908, c. 205, 49 Stat. 837, Act of June 7, 1908, c. 206, 49 Stat. 838, Act of June 7, 1908, c. 207, 49 Stat. 839, Act of June 7, 1908, c. 208, 49 Stat. 840, Act of June 7, 1908, c. 209, 49 Stat. 841, Act of June 7, 1908, c. 210, 49 Stat. 842, Act of June 7, 1908, c. 211, 49 Stat. 843, Act of June 7, 1908, c. 212, 49 Stat. 844, Act of 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means, the parents or next of kin of any Indian to consent to the removal of any Indian child beyond the limits of any reservation.

This provision was reenacted a year later,¹⁴ and has been incorporated in title 25 of the United States Code as section 286. Under this statute it has been suggested that a writ of habeas corpus will be issued to compel the release of an Indian child placed in a non-reservation school without parental consent.¹⁵

The Indian Service sought to evade the force of this statute by having a local Indian agent apply in the courts of the State to be appointed the guardian of the persons of the Indian children. His application was granted and he was directed to place the children at the industrial school, which was done. Later this proceeding was declared invalid by the federal court, which declared that if a county court could appoint a guardian of Indian children and could direct the placing of these children in any of the schools of the state, then the tribal condition of the Indians could be speedily broken up, not in pursuance of the acts of the National Government, but through the enforcement of the laws of the state acting upon the persons and property of the Indians.¹⁶

Consent of parents, guardians, or next of kin is not required to place Indian youths in an "Indian Reform School."¹⁷

No Indian pupil under the age of 11 may be transported at Government expense beyond the limits of the state or territory where its parents reside or of the adjoining state or territory.¹⁸

In 1913 an act was passed which authorized retention of annuities due Osage minors from parents who refused to send their children to some established school.¹⁹

After Indians became citizens and responsibility for the Indian devolved to some extent at least upon the states, state agents and employees, under regulations of the Secretary of the Interior, were authorized to enter reservations as tourist officers to enforce laws of states requiring regular school attendance.²⁰

D USE OF FUNDS FOR INDIAN EDUCATION

From time to time Congress has placed certain restrictions on its appropriations for the support of Indian schools.

¹⁴ Act of March 2, 1898, 28 Stat. 870-900. See also Act of June 10, 1896, 29 Stat. 321, 348, 25 U.S.C. 287.

¹⁵ See *In re Littlepage's Child*, 98 Fed. 129 (D.C.N.D. Iowa, 1898).

¹⁶ *Peters v. Meier*, 312 Fed. 211 (C.C.N.D. Iowa, 1901). Cf. *Marre v. Wain*, 145 U.S. 440, 10 S.Ct. 40 (1907) (State law compelling school attendance applied to Indian children and federal Indian school).

¹⁷ In an Alaska case, *In re Canchicouas*, 20 Fed. 887 (D.C. Alaska, 1887), the question of continued attendance at school was at issue. It is interesting to note that the decision was put on a quasi-contract basis, the Alaska district court holding the mother of the child could not reclaim him from the custody of a Presbyterian mission school because she had agreed to allow him to attend for 5 years, and unless a clear breach or abuse of the child or a failure to educate and provide for and properly superintend its moral training was shown, it would be presumed that the best interests of the child would be served by continuance at school. Contrast with this the accepted view that when a white parent agrees to transfer custody of the child to mother, not in loco parentis, he may ordinarily repudiate that agreement and the courts will return custody to him unless a reciprocal affection has grown up between the custodian and child. The primary concern in these situations is still the best interest of the child, but the courts ordinarily hold that when the parents are alive and competent, it is to the best interest of the child to return him to the parents. *Hudson v. Tullahoma*, 81 F.2d 225 (App.D.C. 1936).

¹⁸ Act of June 21, 1900, 34 Stat. 453, 25 U.S.C. 302.

¹⁹ Act of March 8, 1900, 35 Stat. 781, 784, 25 U.S.C. 200.

²⁰ Act of June 30, 1913, 38 Stat. 77, 80, 25 U.S.C. 288. Cf. *ins* 54-55, *supra*.

It is no longer the practice to withhold annuities to compel attendance.

²¹ Act of February 15, 1920, 45 Stat. 1185, 25 U.S.C. 281.

In 1897, Congress declared it to be the policy of the government therefor to make no appropriation whatever for education in any sectarian school.²¹ In 1905,²² contracts were made with mission schools, the money being taken from treaty and trust funds (tribal funds) on request of Indians. This use of tribal funds was challenged as being contrary to the policy stated in the appropriation act for 1897. The Supreme Court held, in 1908,²³ that both treaty and trust funds to which the Indians could lay claim as a matter of right, were not within the scope of the statute and could be used for sectarian schools.

In 1917, a statute was enacted which provided that "no appropriation whatever out of the Treasury of the United States" should be used "for education of Indian children in any sectarian school."²⁴ The effect of the newly added phrase "out of the Treasury of the United States" is not clear. At the present time money is appropriated for the institutional care²⁵ of Indian children in sectarian schools rather than for their instruction.

Controversies in the Court of Claims involve educational provisions of treaties and the use of tribal funds for educational purposes.²⁶

Legislation²⁷ limiting the annual per capita cost in Indian schools has been repealed.²⁸

All expenditures of money appropriated for school purposes among Indians are under the direction of the Commissioner of the Interior,²⁹ subject to the supervision of the Secretary of the Interior.³⁰

Tribal and gratuity funds are made available for advances to worthy Indian youth to enable them to take educational courses, including special courses in nursing, home economics, forestry, and other industrial subjects in colleges, universities, or other institutions, the advances to be reimbursed in not to exceed 8 years.³¹

The shifts of Indian Service educational personnel involves problems of Indian Office structure and policy, which are separately treated.³²

²¹ Act of June 7, 1897, 30 Stat. 62, 73, 25 U.S.C. 276. And see Act of June 10, 1896, 29 Stat. 321, 345.

²² Act of March 4, 1905, 38 Stat. 1049, 1055.

²³ *Quint. Ben v. Leupp*, 210 U.S. 50, 80 (1908).

²⁴ Act of March 2, 1917, 39 Stat. 960, 968, 25 U.S.C. 278.

²⁵ The Act of June 21, 1906, 34 Stat. 453, 25 U.S.C. 302, provided for receipt of Indians by mission schools for children enrolled in such schools who were entitled to allowances under treaty stipulations.

²⁶ See *ins* 22-27, *supra*.

²⁷ The educational provisions of the Treaty of April 20, 1868, with the Sioux Tribe of Indians, 15 Stat. 645, formed the basis of a petition filed May 7, 1923, in the Court of Claims, under authority of the Act of June 10, 1920, 41 Stat. 738 (Sioux). The petitioners alleged that treaty provisions for a teacher and schoolhouse for every 80 children were unfulfilled and asked compensatory damages. The court in dismissing the petition held that the treaty imposed an obligation upon the Indian parents to compel attendance which had not been discharged and that, moreover, there existed no logical basis for computing damages. *Sioux Tribe of Indians v. United States*, 84 C. Cls. 16 (1938) cert. den. 302 U.S. 740.

²⁸ Other Court of Claims cases concern the possibility of a claim against the United States for gratuitous expenditures for education against Indian tribal claims. The language of pertinent jurisdictional acts on this point varies. *Osage Tribe of Indians v. United States*, 66 C. Cls. 64 (1923), app. dismissed 279 U.S. 811, 68 C. Cls. 788.

²⁹ *Fort Berthold Indians v. United States*, 71 C. Cls. 308 (1930); *Blackfeet et al. Nations v. United States*, 81 C. Cls. 107 (1935); *Ojibwaes Nation v. United States*, 87 C. Cls. 81 (1938), cert. den. 307 U.S. 846.

³⁰ Act of April 10, 1908, 35 Stat. 70, 72; Act of June 30, 1917, 41 Stat. 3, 6.

³¹ Act of February 21, 1925, 48 Stat. 1056, 25 U.S.C. 220.

³² Act of March 2, 1920, 45 Stat. 1584.

³³ Act of April 30, 1908, 35 Stat. 72, 25 U.S.C. 286.

³⁴ See sec. 6, *infra*.

³⁵ See Chapter 2.

SECTION 3. HEALTH SERVICES ⁷⁵

When the Federal Government assumed the education of Indians, some degree of responsibility for their health was incidentally involved, and the first expenditures for Indian health were made from funds appropriated for education and civilization.⁷⁶ Early expenditures for health and medical care were made from tribal funds under treaties, and from general appropriations for education or incidentals.⁷⁷ These appropriations were allotted among various religious and philanthropic societies already active in educational and missionary work among the various Indian tribes.⁷⁸

While the superintendency of Indian Affairs was under the War Department,⁷⁹ the Indians were for the most part in the vicinities of military posts. It was a natural and convenient thing that dispensation of medical care and sanitary regulation be assumed by members of the army medical staff located on the military posts.

In 1832, Congress⁸⁰ authorized the Secretary of War to provide vaccination against smallpox for the Indians and made an appropriation for that purpose.

In 1840,⁸¹ when the Department of the Interior was established, medical care of the Indian under the Bureau of Indian Affairs passed from military to civil control. Under this department, agency physicians on the reservation at first gave little attention to the Indians and acted more in the capacity of doctors for the government employees, or in connection with Indian schools.⁸² Treaties⁸³ entered into included provisions for physicians and hospitals. In 1873, measures were taken towards furnishing organized medical facilities and an educational and medical

division which continued until 1877.⁸⁴ By 1871,⁸⁵ about one-half of the Indian agencies were each supplied with a physician. After 1873⁸⁶ physicians on Indian reservations were required to be graduates of medical colleges. Between 1880 and 1890,⁸⁷ several hospitals were established. In 1900,⁸⁸ prevalence of trachoma among the Indians had become so devastating that funds were appropriated for investigation, treatment, and prevention of this disease, and in 1912⁸⁹ money was allotted to the Public Health and Marine Service for a survey of trachoma and tuberculosis.

After 1911,⁹⁰ appropriations under the heading "relief of distress and prevention of contagious diseases" were greatly increased and were spent on correspondingly increased medical care and hospital facilities.⁹¹ Since 1921,⁹² when the Bureau of Indian Affairs was authorized to expend funds for the conservation of health, funds have been appropriated specifically for that purpose. In 1924, a special division of health was established in the Office of Indian Affairs.

Fees may be charged for medical, dental, and hospital services under such rules and regulations as the Secretary of the Interior may prescribe.⁹³ Other regulations⁹⁴ in force relative to health activities of the Indian Service, briefly summarized, state that health personnel is subject to civil service regulations, physicians may not engage in outside practice, they are responsible for health conditions on the reservation, prevention of diseases and are required to treat and medically instruct Indians at established offices, clinics, or in their homes, they are required to make reports of all contagious diseases, inoculations, immunizations, vital statistics, cooperate with state officials and otherwise enforce necessary quarantine regulations and sanitary inspections, immune and inoculate against contagious diseases.⁹⁵ All admissions and discharges to and from hospitals are upon order of physician. Adults leaving the hospital against the advice of physician in charge must give a written release of all liability to the Indian Service. Patients or guardians must give written permission for hospitalization of a minor or incompetent person and consent for surgical operations must be obtained from

⁷⁵ For regulations concerning hospital and medical care of Indians, see 25 C F R 84.1-85.15.

⁷⁶ See sec. 2, *supra*.

⁷⁷ Sen. Ex. Doc. 48th Cong., 2d sess., vol. 2, pt. 2, Special Report of 1888 on Indian Education and Civilization, p. 198.

⁷⁸ American Board of Foreign Missions, Norwegian Baptist Board of Foreign Missions, Society of Friends. The reports of religious and educational societies even in pre-revolutionary days refer to health and medical care for students. *Mass. Hist. Coll.*, 1st series, vol. 1 (1792 ed.) p. 178. Regarding two Indian students at Cambridge, Mass. in 1654:

"The other called Caleb, not long after took his degree. * * * died of a consumption at Charleston, where he was placed. * * * under the care of a physician * * * where he wanted not for the best means the country could afford, both of food and physic. * * * Accounts of the Superintendent of Indian Affairs of 1820-21 include items for medical service and supplies. 8 Am. State Papers (class II, Indian Affairs, vol. 2) 1818-37, p. 209.

⁷⁹ Act of May 26, 1824, 4 Stat. 85.

⁸⁰ Act of May 8, 1832, 4 Stat. 514. "For vaccine matter and vaccination of Indians" was a regular item in appropriation bills.

⁸¹ Act of March 3, 1849, 9 Stat. 397.

⁸² Speech of Dr. James Townsend before Western Branch American Public Health Ass'n., July 24, 1930, "Government and Indian Health."

⁸³ Treaty of January 22, 1865, with the Dismal, etc., Indians, 12 Stat. 927, 929; Treaty of January 26, 1865, with the Skikillam Indians, 12 Stat. 938, 939; Treaty of January 31, 1865, with the Mahala, 12 Stat. 939, 941; Treaty of June 8, 1865, with the Walla-Walla, Cayuse, and Umatilla Bands, 12 Stat. 945, 947; Treaty of June 9, 1865, with the Yakama Nation, 12 Stat. 951, 953; Treaty of June 11, 1865, with the Nez Perce Indians, 12 Stat. 957, 959; Treaty of June 25, 1865, with the Indians in Middle Oregon, 12 Stat. 968, 969; Treaty of July 1, 1865, and January 25, 1865, with the Quanalet and Quilcheta, 12 Stat. 971, 973; Treaty of July 16, 1865, with the Flatheads, etc., 12 Stat. 975, 977; Treaty of October 21, 1867, with the Kiowa and Comanche Tribes, 15 Stat. 681, 584; Treaty of October 28, 1867, with the Cheyenne and Arapahoe Tribes, 15 Stat. 694, 697; Treaty of April 20, 1868, et seq., with the Sioux, 15 Stat. 635, 638; Treaty of May 7, 1868, with the Crow Tribe, 15 Stat. 649, 652; Treaty of May 10, 1868, with the Northern Cheyenne and Arapahoe Tribes, 15 Stat. 655, 658; Treaty of July 4, 1868, with the Eastern Band of Shooshonee and Bannock Tribes, 15 Stat. 678, 679.

⁸⁴ Sen. Ex. Doc., 48th Cong., 2d sess., vol. 2, pt. 2, Special Report of 1888 on Indian Education and Civilization, p. 198. Annual Report of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, 1886, p. LXXVI.

⁸⁵ Speech of Dr. Townsend, *op. cit.*

⁸⁶ *Ibid.*

⁸⁷ Annual Report of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, 1887, pp. 227, 294, 1888, p. XXXV.

⁸⁸ Act of February 20, 1909, 35 Stat. 642.

⁸⁹ Act of August 24, 1912, 37 Stat. 518, 519.

⁹⁰ Act of March 3, 1911, 36 Stat. 1038.

⁹¹ Specific appropriations for health work among Indians 1911, \$40,000, 1912, \$50,000, 1913, \$60,000, 1914, \$300,000, 1915, \$800,000, 1916, \$300,000, 1917, \$350,000, 1918, \$350,000, 1919, \$350,000, 1920, \$375,000, 1921, \$350,000, 1922, \$375,000, 1923, \$375,000, 1924, \$375,000, 1925, \$364,270, 1926, \$700,000, 1927, \$750,000, 1928, \$845,000; 1929, \$1,514,000, 1930, \$2,058,000, 1931, \$3,074,110, 1932, \$4,000,000, 1933, \$3,215,000, 1934, \$4,998,200, 1935, \$2,981,040, 1936, \$5,654,620, 1937, \$4,082,280, 1938, \$1,876,000, 1939, \$5,021,000, 1940, \$5,088,170. See appropriation acts listed in Chapter 4.

⁹² Act of November 2, 1921, 42 Stat. 206, 25 U. S. C. 13.

⁹³ Act of May 9, 1908, 35 Stat. 201, 212, 25 U. S. C. 939.

⁹⁴ 25 C. F. R. 84.1-85.15. Regulations apply to tribes organized pursuant to the Reorganization Act of June 18, 1894, 48 Stat. 984, amended, Act of June 15, 1895, 49 Stat. 478, and the Oklahoma Welfare Act of June 26, 1896, 49 Stat. 1667, 25 U. S. C. 600, 601, except where inconsistent with tribal constitutions or bylaws. In case of conflict, tribal law prevails over superceding regulations.

⁹⁵ Act of August 1, 1914, 38 Stat. 582, 584, 25 U. S. C. 198.

the patient, if an adult, if a minor or incompetent, from parents or guardians.¹²⁸

Under regulations¹²⁹ relating to hospitals, indigent Indians recognized as tribal members are admitted without cost. In tribal hospitals supported by tribal funds, all tribal members are entitled to free hospitalization. Priority of admission is based on necessity for hospitalization and degree of Indian blood. White wives of Indians, Indian children from Government schools, Indian widows of whites or of non-tribe Indians, if residing on reservations, are eligible for admission. Indian wives and children of white men are not admitted unless residents on reservations and participants in tribal affairs.

Indians as citizens of the States in which they reside frequently claim and sometimes obtain the public health protection of the various States. To facilitate cooperation between the State and Federal Government, the Secretary of the Interior in 1920¹³⁰ was authorized to permit agents and employees of any State to enter on tribal land, reservation, or allotment therein for the purpose of making inspections of health and enforcing sanitation and quarantine regulations.

In 1934, the Johnson-Dickley Act¹³¹ became law and provided that the Secretary of the Interior might enter into contracts with States or Territories for medical attention to Indians.

In 1935, under the Social Security Act, increased health benefits were made available to the Indians.¹³²

In 1936¹³³ the President by Executive order, provided that officers and employees of the Indian Service serving in a medical or sanitary capacity could hold State, county, or municipal positions of similar character without additional compensation, with the consent of the Secretary of the Interior.

In the enforcement of public health regulations the Secretary of the Interior has been authorized to impose quarantine and when necessary to confine persons afflicted with infectious diseases.¹³⁴

¹²⁸ 26 C. F. R. 84, 85.

¹²⁹ *Ibid.*

¹³⁰ Act of February 15, 1920, 41 Stat. 1185, 26 U. S. C. 241.

¹³¹ Act of April 10, 1934, 48 Stat. 598, amended June 4, 1936, 40 Stat. 1485, 26 U. S. C. 462-464.

¹³² See sec. 5 of this Chapter.

¹³³ Executive Order 7309, May 19, 1936.

¹³⁴ Act of August 1, 1914, 38 Stat. 652, 654.

Care of insane Indians has for many years been considered within the powers of the Secretary.¹³⁵ Payment for their care is made to various hospitals for the insane including St. Elizabeths Hospital in the District of Columbia, which is a Federal institution.¹³⁶

Commitment of an Indian to a hospital for the insane requires a sanity hearing to insure due process.¹³⁷ The laws of the States where reservations are located are conformed to in the commitment of insane Indians to State mental hospitals or State institutions for the insane. An insane Indian residing on an Indian reservation under the jurisdiction of the United States may be committed to St. Elizabeths Hospital by order of the Secretary of the Interior. A certificate of insanity made by two reputable physicians who have conducted an examination of the Indian is required before issuance of an order of the Secretary. Notice of the time and place of such examination must be personally served upon the alleged insane Indian, the spouse, parent, or other next of kin known to be residing on the reservation. The Indian alleged to be insane has the right to present witnesses and to submit evidence of his sanity.¹³⁸

In any case in which an Indian is alleged to be insane or of unsound mind, and such Indian has displayed homicidal tendencies or has otherwise demonstrated that if permitted to remain at large or to go unrestrained, the rights of persons and of property will be jeopardized or the preservation of the public peace imperiled and the commission of crime rendered probable, the superintendent has authority to take such Indian into custody and to detain him temporarily in some suitable place pending proper legal adjudication of his insanity.

¹³⁵ 25 U. S. C. 13, derived from Act of November 2, 1921, 42 Stat. 208, grants the Bureau of Indian Affairs power to expend money for relief of distress and conservation of health.

¹³⁶ Act of April 23, 1904, 31 Stat. 619, directs that insane Indians in Indian Territory be cared for at the asylum for insane Indians at Canton, S. Dak. The Appropriation Act of May 10, 1906, 63 Stat. 885, 786, provides for the admission to St. Elizabeths Hospital of "insane Indian beneficiaries of the Bureau of Indian Affairs."

¹³⁷ *Cf. Barry v. Hall*, 88 F. 2d 222 (App. D. C. 1938). This case requires all persons admitted to St. Elizabeths Hospital to have been determined insane upon hearing with an opportunity for defense. *Memo Ser. I. D.*, July 27, 1939.

¹³⁸ 26 C. F. R. 84.

SECTION 4. RATIONS, RELIEF, AND REHABILITATION

The common belief that Indians, as such, receive rations from the Federal Government is not in accord with the facts.¹³⁹

As noted in the introduction to this chapter, frequently in sales of Indian land¹⁴⁰ supplies were used instead of cash as the *quid pro quo* offered to compensate the Indian for value received by the United States. Later, as the Indians advanced sufficiently in the knowledge of white man's civilization to purchase their own supplies and clothing, the value of promised supplies was frequently continued and paid in money per capita to the members of various tribes.¹⁴¹

As a matter of hospitality, a law¹⁴² authorizing food for Indians visiting at army posts has remained on the statute book for over a hundred years. Relief, frequently dispensed in the form of food, has been authorized in general appropriations¹⁴³ for indi-

gent Indians. The charitable nature of these limited appropriations, however, has been mistakenly attributed generally to all provisions relating to Indians. The failure to recognize that issuance of rations may be a form of payment of obligations to Indians resulted in the provision in the Act of March 3, 1875,¹⁴⁴ that able-bodied male Indians give service and labor in return for supplies distributed to them.

At the present time, when relief is given in the form of food and supplies, labor is required of recipients of relief rations wherever possible. Such rations may not be sold or exchanged. They can be shared only with dependents of the recipients.¹⁴⁵

Under recent appropriation acts¹⁴⁶ tribal funds have been made available for relief purposes.

¹³⁹ 18 Stat. 420, 449, 26 U. S. C. 137.

¹⁴⁰ 26 C. F. R. 251.3, 251.8.

¹⁴¹ For example, see treaties of February 10, 1867, with the Sisseton and Wapeton, 15 Stat. 808, October 21, 1867, with the Kiowa and Comanche, 15 Stat. 551, May 7, 1868, with the Crow, 15 Stat. 649.

¹⁴² Act of July 1, 1868, 80 Stat. 571, 589, 26 U. S. C. 139.

¹⁴³ Act of May 13, 1880, 21 Stat. 86, R. S. § 2110, 26 U. S. C. 141.

¹⁴⁴ See appropriation acts, Chapter 4.

¹⁴⁵ Tribal funds are appropriated for relief of Indians, "in need of assistance, including cash grants, the purchase of subsistence supplies * * * and household goods, * * * transportation, and all other necessary expenses, \$100,000, payable from funds on deposit to the credit of the particular tribe concerned."

Allotments are made to the superintendents of the various agencies for the relief of indigent Indians under their supervision. These allotments are spent chiefly for supplies, food, and clothing,¹³⁶ a limited amount being spent also for work relief and for subsistence grants when unusual circumstances warrant such procedure. Barely is relief given in the form of cash.

¹³⁶ Relief situations are often of an emergency nature and purchases for relief dispensation are permitted without usual advertisement required by R. S. § 8709. Compliance is apparently required with the provisions of the Act of May 27, 1910, 40 Stat. 301, requiring purchases of shoes or other articles available from prison manufacturing to be made through the Federal Prison Industries, Inc.—Hearings, H. Subcommittee

A chief object of recent rehabilitation work has been to provide landless Indians with land, houses, outbuildings, fencing, water supply, etc., so that with equipment and livestock provided from other sources they may be enabled to work the land in a self-supporting manner.¹³⁷ Aid to individual Indians in this field has generally taken the form of loans rather than grants, and is therefore considered under section 6 of this Chapter.

(Comm. on Appropriations, Interior Dept., 70th Cong., 3d sess., pt. II, p. 302.)

¹³⁷ That The National Resources Board, as the result of a survey of Indian homes in 1935 has reported that some 70 percent of Indian dwellings are probably below a reasonable living standard.

SECTION 5. SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFITS

In 1930¹³⁸ the Solicitor of the Interior Department rendered an opinion which held that the Social Security Act¹³⁹ was applicable to the Indians. The act contemplates three types of direct aid by States in cooperation with the Government to their needy citizens, that is, aid to needy aged individuals, to needy dependent children, and to needy individuals who are blind.

In connection with these three types of direct aid, it was determined that as a state plan must be "in effect in all political subdivisions of the State," and as Indian reservations are included within states, counties, and other political subdivisions, Indians are entitled to aid under state plans.

Other provisions of the Social Security Act provide federal assistance in the care of crippled children, maternal health service and public health service, special attention being given to rural areas and areas suffering from severe economic distress. One of the bases for allotment of federal funds was population of states. Statistics relating to population included Indians. Their inclusion in the compilation would seem to

prohibit any implication that Indians were to be deprived of the benefits of the act. To quote the Solicitor,

In computing these statistics no omission is made of the Indians and official registration and census rolls have been used which, of course, include the Indian population. It would be manifestly contrary to the intention of the act that funds allotted to cover a certain number of people should be used only for a chosen group to the exclusion of others included in the count.

Furthermore it was held that, as citizens, Indians were entitled to social security benefits, all Indians who were not already citizens having become so by the Act of June 2, 1924.¹⁴⁰

In view of these considerations, the Solicitor held that no distinction is justified between the Indian and other state citizens and that the law requires that social security benefits be distributed without discrimination against the Indians.

According to Dr. James Townsend,¹⁴¹ Director of Health, Office of Indian Affairs, most states are actively working in the application of the Social Security Act to Indians, others are assisting to a lesser degree, and still others least expenditure of state and local funds for Indians, even to the point of failure to accept Indian applications.

¹³⁸ Memo Sol. I. D., April 22, 1930.

¹³⁹ Act of August 14, 1935, 48 Stat. 620.

¹⁴⁰ 48 Stat. 255. See Chapter 8, sec. 2.

¹⁴¹ Speech by Dr. Townsend, *op. cit.*

SECTION 6. FEDERAL LOANS

Loans advanced by the Federal Government to the Indians are financed from gratuity appropriations,¹⁴² appropriations from tribal funds,¹⁴³ and revolving credit funds established under the Indian Reorganization Act¹⁴⁴ and the Oklahoma Welfare Act.¹⁴⁵ The Kiamath Indians may borrow from a revolving credit fund specifically set up for that tribe.¹⁴⁶

In addition, loans and grants have been made available to the tribe and their members under emergency relief appropriation acts beginning in 1935 for financing rehabilitation of families in stricken agricultural areas.¹⁴⁷ It is also possible for Indian tribes to borrow from other federal agencies funds appropriated for such purposes in promotion of the general welfare of the nation as low-rent housing development, when the tribes meet the eligibility requirements of the controlling federal legislation.¹⁴⁸

A. LOANS UNDER SPECIAL INDIAN LEGISLATION

Since 1912, Congress has appropriated¹⁴⁹ gratuity funds for reimbursable loans direct from the Government to individual

Indians. Prior to 1933 loans were made in the form of property, but since that year Indians have received cash loans. These loans were designed to establish Indians in self-supporting individual enterprises, including farming, stock raising, and other industries. Loans have been granted also to assist old and indigent Indians who have land they cannot use.

A limited number of qualified Indians are able to obtain loans from gratuity and tribal funds for educational purposes, for payment of tuition, and other expenses in recognized vocational and trade schools.¹⁵⁰

Recipients of loans from gratuity funds are for the most part members of tribes not organized under the Indian Reorganization Act,¹⁵¹ who therefore are not eligible to borrow funds under that act. With the exception of members of the Osage Tribe, loans from gratuity funds are not made to residents of the State of Oklahoma.

Congress has also made available for loans to the members of certain tribes a part of their tribal funds. These are handled as tribal revolving credit funds under which loans are made to

¹⁴² 26 U. S. C. 13, annual appropriation acts.

¹⁴³ 26 U. S. C. 128, annual appropriation acts.

¹⁴⁴ Act of June 18, 1934, sec. 10, 48 Stat. 984, 986, 26 U. S. C. 470.

¹⁴⁵ Act of June 26, 1936, sec. 6, 49 Stat. 1907, 1908, 26 U. S. C. 506.

¹⁴⁶ Act of August 28, 1937, 50 Stat. 873.

¹⁴⁷ See subsection B, *infra*.

¹⁴⁸ See subsection B, *infra*.

¹⁴⁹ 26 U. S. C. 18, 128. And see annual appropriation acts, Chapter 4,

¹⁵⁰ Hearings, H. Subcommittee of Comm. on Appropriations, Interior Dept., 70th Cong. 3d sess., pt. II, p. 175.

¹⁵¹ Act of June 18, 1934, 48 Stat. 984, 986, 26 U. S. C. 470. Under sec. 11 of the Indian Reorganization Act similar provisions are made for loans for educational purposes.

individual Indians whose repayments are returned to the fund and are available for further loans.¹⁴

Under the Act of May 10, 1889,¹⁵ Congress authorized transfer of tribal revolving funds to the revolving credit funds of organized tribes to supplement credit funds and to be administered under the rules and regulations applicable thereto. In the case of organized tribes tribal consent is necessary to authorize use of tribal funds for loans in other purposes.¹⁶

Federal credit to the Indians was greatly extended by the establishment of revolving credit funds under the Acts of June 18, 1911,¹⁷ and June 26, 1946.¹⁸ These statutes authorized the establishment of a revolving fund totaling \$12,000,000, from which the Secretary of the Interior may make loans to incorporated tribes, and in the State of Oklahoma to cooperatives,¹⁹ credit associations,²⁰ and individuals²¹ for economic development. Loans are repaid are credited to the revolving fund and reports are made annually to Congress of transactions under this authorization.

Regulations governing loans from revolving credit funds to a tribal corporation, cooperative, credit association, or an individual provide that the tribal application must be accompanied by an economic program.²² Security or other guarantee of repayment, terms of payment, and plans for managing credit operations must be included in the application. Upon approval of the application a commitment order outlining the terms and conditions for making advances of funds is prepared. Any changes to be made in the application or any additional conditions are incorporated in the commitment order, which is then returned to the applicant for acceptance. Advances are made contingent upon accomplishment of certain features of the program. Failure to carry out these provisions is ground for refusing further advances. The tribe, if the loan contract so provides, may reloan funds to individuals, partnerships, and to cooperatives, and may use funds for the development and operation of corporate (tribal) enterprises. Credit associations may lend only to individuals.²³

Definite plans for the use of funds likewise are required of any individual or association of individuals borrowing from the tribe or credit association. These loans may not extend for a greater period than the duration of the agreement of the tribe or credit association with the government. This period varies, ranging from short-term crop loans and intermediate-term loans for livestock products, to long-term loans for permanent improvements. Loans for permanent improvements are made only in exceptional circumstances, preference being given to income-producing enterprises. As a matter of policy loans are not made for land purchases under the revolving fund except in very unusual cases and then in small amounts.²⁴

Final approval of all loans made by corporations, or credit associations, is vested in representatives of the Indian Service at the present time.

Legislation authorizing revolving credit fund loans to incorporated tribes has been continued in the light of the avowed purpose of increasing tribal control over tribal resources.

In discussing this legislation the Solicitor of the Interior Department²⁵ pointed out:

Money from the revolving credit fund may not be loaned to individual Indians directly. In relation to this fund the Secretary of the Interior can deal only with the tribal corporations representing the interests of all the Indians, who are members of the tribes. In this respect the loans contemplated here are in distinct contrast to those heretofore authorized by Congress. Under reimbursable appropriations loans have been made to the Indians for designated purposes, and they are granted on by the Government with individual Indians. The tribal bodies, where such exist, have no responsibility in the administration of such loans.

Under section 10 of the Wheeler-Howard Act,²⁶ governing the revolving credit fund the Government can deal only with the tribal authorities, and these are charged with the responsibility for making such loans to their members, or for using the funds in such ways as will enable them to create a basis for expanding self-sufficiency. In accordance with the purpose expressed in sections 10 and 17 of the Act, by which a large and increasing responsibility for taking care of their own welfare is placed upon the various tribes, organized for local self-government and economic activity, section 10 contemplates that funds loaned to the tribes will be, in large measure, subject to their disposition, consistent with the terms of said provision.

This section was continued by the Solicitor

Under section 10 the Secretary of the Interior may determine the conditions upon which he will make loans to Indian corporations. He may prescribe such rules and regulations as are reasonably appropriate to this purpose. He may require reasonable guarantees by the borrowing corporation that the money loaned to it will be used for specified purposes and handled in specified ways. If the Secretary is to exercise any control over money already loaned to the corporation it must be a control which is authorized by mutual agreement and is designed to enforce the terms of such agreement. The strictly regulatory power of the Secretary, conferred by section 10, ceases when the loan to the tribe is completed. Thereafter the powers of the Department are limited to enforcement of the terms of the tribal loan agreement. The Indian corporation, upon which responsibility is placed for the repayment of the loan, may properly expect, under the terms of section 10, that money will not be disbursed to individual members of the tribe in the discretion of the Interior Department, on behalf of the corporation, but that the money will actually be loaned to the corporation to be used or disbursed by the duly elected officers of the corporation in accordance with the terms of a loan agreement and in accordance with the mandates given these officers in tribal constitutions, bylaws and charters.²⁷

In view of these purposes, the Solicitor of the Interior Department held, any arrangement placing upon Indian Service officials primary responsibility for the administration of loans from the tribe to the individual would be "a serious invasion of tribal responsibility and initiative" and would "nullify in large measure the promises contained in other sections of the Act." Equally inconsistent with the purposes of the act and with the terms of commitments and charters adopted thereunder, the Solicitor held, would be any arrangement whereby the tribal authorities administering such loans were subjected to the control of Indian Service officials. Any such arrangement would constitute an assumption of "political control of matters internal to the tribe."

¹⁴ Memo Sol I D, December 5, 1935.

¹⁵ Act of June 18, 1911, 48 Stat. 984, 989, 25 U S C 470.

¹⁶ Memo Sol I D, December 5, 1935.

¹⁴ See, for example 25 C F R 281-28 50, governing administration of Kiowa Tribal Loan Fund, created by Act of August 28, 1937, 50 Stat. 872, 25 U S C 890-895.

¹⁵ Public Act No. 687, 50th Cong., 1st sess.

¹⁶ Act of June 18, 1911, see 16 48 Stat. 984, 987, 25 U S C 470, giving such tribe power to veto unauthorized use of tribal assets. See also Memo Sol I D October 18, 1932.

¹⁷ See 40, 48 Stat. 661, 680, 25 U S C 470. For legislation governing loans to Indian charitable corporations, see 25 C F R 21-21 49.

¹⁸ 40 Stat. 1007.

¹⁹ For regulations governing loans to Indian cooperatives in Oklahoma, see 25 C F R 21-21 27.

²⁰ See *ibid.*, 21-21 24. For regulations governing loans by Indian credit associations in Oklahoma, see 25 C F R 25-1-25 23.

²¹ For regulations governing loans by the United States to individual Indians in Oklahoma, see *ibid.* 28-1-28 26.

²² 25 C F R, subchapter B.

²³ *Ibid.*

²⁴ *Ibid.*, part 27.

Safeguards against improper disposition of funds by the borrowing tribe must be set forth in the loan agreements between the tribe and the Secretary of the Interior.¹⁴⁸

The Oklahoma Welfare Act¹⁴⁹ made funds appropriated for loans under the Indian Reorganization Act available for loans to Oklahoma tribes, individual Indians, and cooperatives for land management, credit, administration, consumer protection, production, and marketing purposes. The act also authorized additional appropriations of an additional \$2,000,000 for loans.

The benefit of the revolving credit fund was extended to Alaska by the Act of May 1, 1980.¹⁵⁰

B LOANS UNDER GENERAL LEGISLATION

Under various acts making appropriations for rural rehabilitation, and relief,¹⁵¹ Indians, like other citizens, have received loans and grants. At the same time certain Indian tribes have undertaken to handle their own rehabilitation and relief problems, with Federal and Trust funds for rehabilitation were granted to various tribes under agreements¹⁵² executed by the Commissioner of Indian Affairs for, and on behalf of, the United States. Agreements on behalf of organized tribes are signed by tribal officers. Unorganized tribes are represented by trustees. Submission of programs approved by such officers or trustees is required as a condition precedent to the execution of a trust agreement. The funds may be set up by the tribe as a revolving fund and money may be advanced by the tribe to individual Indians, all contacts with individuals being executed by the tribes.

In some cases the tribe, instead of loaning money, uses rehabilitation funds to improve tribal land, and then assigns the use of the land to members. Improvements on tribal land remain the property of the tribe, individual Indians paying fees for the use of the improvements. These payments are, in most cases, to be collected until the original value, or partial value at least, of the improvement has been collected. Payments are placed in a tribal revolving fund.

Properly improved under rehabilitation loans is ordinarily held under revocable assignments, subject to revocation upon failure to pay. The assignee may ordinarily designate a successor subject to joint approval of the tribal officers or trustees and superintendent.

¹⁴⁸ *Id.* In this memorandum the Solicitor declared

"* * * If the loan agreement is to be regarded as a contract, observance of which by the corporation is a prerequisite to the obtaining and the execution of any money from the revolving fund, then such contract should be equally binding on the Government. The Secretary of the Interior has no authority, under the power to make rules and regulations contained in section 10 of the Act, to require that the Indians shall observe such agreements on pain of drastic penalties, while the Government is free to change its policies in such way, as it deems best, and to issue new terms upon the Indians which were not included in the original agreements. Such an illusory agreement is clearly not binding as a matter of law."

I believe that the rules and regulations should state clearly the minimum terms and conditions which must be inserted in any agreement for a loan from the revolving fund, and further that this agreement should be binding, not only upon the Indians, but also upon the Government. If the Secretary of the Interior and the Indians of a particular tribe agree upon a credit program and upon plans for the economic development of such tribe and of its members, I do not believe that a subsequent Secretary should have the power at a later date to change the terms of that agreement.

¹⁴⁹ Act of June 26, 1908, 49 Stat. 1067, 25 U. S. C. at 997. For regulations governing loans by United States to individual Indians in Oklahoma, see 26 C. F. R. 26-1-26-28.

¹⁵⁰ 49 Stat. 1250, 48 U. S. C. See Chapter 21, sec. 9.

¹⁵¹ Joint Resolution of April 8, 1936, 49 Stat. 116, Joint Resolution of June 29, 1937, 50 Stat. 822, Joint Resolution of June 21, 1938, 52 Stat. 809.

¹⁵² Under these agreements, the United States grants to the tribe all of the allocation of emergency funds required to cover the cost of the approved projects, excepting such part of the cost as represents necessary administrative and supervisory expense. The grant is made subject to the condition that it will be used for approved objects.

Another phase of rehabilitation involves self-help projects. Money is advanced to the tribes for community buildings, in which Indians are engaged in sewing, tanning, weaving, and handicrafts. Machine sheds, stonehouses, shearing sheds, smithies, shops, grist mills, tanneries have been constructed. Water development and irrigation projects have been financed. Frequently materials are supplied at tribal expense and the workers are paid wages, the products being property of the tribe. By these activities, not only have numerous Indian workers received wages, but thousands of Indian families have been more adequately fed and clothed.¹⁵³

The tribal program of rehabilitation were first financed out of appropriations under the Joint Resolution of April 8, 1936,¹⁵⁴ allocated to the Office of Indian Affairs by a Presidential letter of January 11, 1938.¹⁵⁵ This work was continued under the Emergency Relief Acts of 1937¹⁵⁶ and 1938.¹⁵⁷ The Emergency Relief Appropriation Act of 1939¹⁵⁸ made a special appropriation due to the Office of Indian Affairs.

These Indians whose needs are not met by the tribal rehabilitation program are entitled to treatment on a parity with other citizens when they apply to the Farm Security Administration for individual rehabilitation loans.¹⁵⁹

Under the same principle that prompted the holding that individual Indians are eligible to receive assistance under the Social Security Act and from the Farm Security Administration for rehabilitation loans,¹⁶⁰ Indian tribes are eligible to apply for loans under such legislation for the general welfare as that

¹⁵³ Hearings II Subcommittee of Comm on Appropriations, Interior Dept., 76th Cong., 60 sess., pt. II, p. 461.

¹⁵⁴ 49 Stat. 116. This act appropriated for rural rehabilitation and relief of livestock agricultural areas.

¹⁵⁵ Presidential letter No. 1821, January 11, 1938.

¹⁵⁶ Joint Resolution of June 20, 1937, 50 Stat. 852, 453. This act appropriated for expenditure by the Reclamation Administration for rehabilitation of needy persons, as the President may direct.

¹⁵⁷ Joint Resolution of June 22, 1938, 52 Stat. 800. Under this act only Indians are eligible to positions on Indian work relief projects until the needs have been met. Memo Sol I D, December 24, 1938.

¹⁵⁸ Public Res. No. 24, 76th Cong., 1st sess., 222.

¹⁵⁹ See (a) In order to continue to provide relief and rural rehabilitation for needy Indians in the United States, there is hereby appropriated to the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Department of the Interior, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1940, \$1,450,000.

(b) The funds provided in this section shall be available for (1) administration, not to exceed \$375,000; (2) relief; (3) the prosecution of projects approved by the President for the Farm Security Administration for the benefit of the needy Indians; (4) the payment of the cost of the approval of the Solicitor for projects involving rural rehabilitation of needy Indians.

¹⁶⁰ The argument that Indians should be excluded from benefits available to other needy persons under the appropriations to the Farm Security Administration, because of the special appropriation to the Office of Indian Affairs, was considered and rejected by the Solicitor for the Department of Agriculture, in view of the ruling of the Solicitor for the Interior Department that the appropriation to the Office of Indian Affairs:

"* * * should be narrowly construed in such a manner as to limit expenditures by the Indian Service to those purposes for which expenditures were made during the fiscal year 1939 out of the fund transferred to it by the Indian Service. These purposes are the Farm Security Administration. These purposes are, in substance: (1) grants to Indian tribes for the benefit of Indians through a program of tribal or community projects for the construction of buildings and other tribal and community enterprises; and (2) administrative expenses, loans, and relief payments incidental to the foregoing primary purpose or otherwise assisting Indians who are ineligible to receive benefits under section 8 of the act. (Memo Sol I D, December 24, 1939.)"

The Solicitor for the Department of Agriculture thereupon ruled:

"* * * there is no occasion for applying the rule that an appropriation for a specific purpose cannot be augmented by the funds appropriated for more general purposes. The funds appropriated to that [Farm Security] Administration include the current [Emergency] relief funds available for loans and grants to Indians, except those Indians who are receiving aid directly from the Indian Office under Section 8 of the Act. (Letter to Dept. of Agriculture, December 24, 1939.)"

¹⁶¹ See secs 5 and 6, supra.

providing for low-rent housing development, when they use otherwise qualified under the terms of the legislation. The United States Housing Act of 1937¹²¹ authorizes loans to "public housing agencies," which are defined to include a "governmental entity or public body . . . which is authorized to engage in the development or administration of low-rent housing or slum clearance."¹²² In an opinion of the Solicitor,¹²³ the Interior

Department has held that Indian tribes are governmental entities capable of undertaking housing enterprises and that, where a tribe is incorporated under the Act of June 18, 1934,¹²⁴ it may be said to be authorized to engage in the low-rent housing and slum clearance projects contemplated by the United States Housing Act of 1937 and it is, therefore, eligible to apply for a loan under that act.

¹²¹ Act of September 1, 1937, 50 Stat. 888, 42 U. S. C. Chap. 8.

¹²² Sec. 2 (11), Act of September 1, 1937, 50 Stat. 888.

¹²³ Op. Sol. I. D. M. 26087, August 6, 1940.

¹²⁴ 18 Stat. 681.

SECTION 7. RECLAMATION AND IRRIGATION

Evidence of ancient irrigation works abounds in the more arid regions of the western part of the United States, indicating that irrigation was practiced by the Indian in prehistoric times. Without irrigation, much of this land is unproductive and unsuited to human life. When Indian reservations were established in this country, the Federal Government, in order to make it possible for the Indian to become self-supporting, embarked on a program of irrigation development.¹²⁵

At the present time, the Irrigation Division of the Bureau of Indian Affairs is responsible for the administration of over 100 individual irrigation projects embracing approximately 1,250,000 acres, of which some 800,000 acres are under constructed works. The total investment in these projects exceeds \$51,000,000. The area under constructed works is being increased each year. The annual operation and maintenance expenditures average about \$1,500,000, and the construction expenditures vary from \$3,000,000 to \$7,000,000 annually.¹²⁶

The field administration is handled from four offices. The assistant director's office in Los Angeles, the supervising engineer's offices in San Francisco and Billings, and a district office in Oklahoma City. There is also appointed a chief counsel's office in Los Angeles and a district counsel's office in Billings. On each of the projects a local operating force is maintained.¹²⁷

Until 1902¹²⁸ irrigation construction, maintenance, and operation were carried on under the direction of the reservation superintendents, with occasional assistance from local engineers (temporarily employed).

In 1906,¹²⁹ a chief engineer was appointed and gradually since that time a technical staff and organization has been developed to supervise and carry on Indian irrigation.

In 1907,¹³⁰ a plan contemplating close cooperation between the Bureau of Reclamation and the Indian Service was formulated. Some of the Indian projects were transferred to the Bureau of Reclamation. Under this agreement construction was carried on by the Reclamation Service on the Flathead, Fort Peck, and Blackfoot projects in Montana and on the Pima and Yuma reservations in Arizona. In 1924,¹³¹ these projects were returned to the Indian Service. In the past few years the Bureau of Reclamation and the Office of Indian Affairs frequently have cooperated on engineering features of various irrigation projects.

The irrigable land on Indian reservations in the Northwest, in almost every instance, is allotted. In the Southwest a few allotments of irrigable land have been made, but most of the reservations in that area the Indians occupy and use certain small tracts, so long as the individual makes beneficial use of the land and irrigation facilities, the ownership remaining in a tribal status. This condition applies to practically all the projects in the Navajo and Hopi country and also to the Pueblo projects.

In the North and Northwest the allotments range from 20 acres to 80 acres, the average being about 40 acres of irrigable land per individual. The northern projects are subdivided into small tracts, the majority being about 10 acres. In areas where fruit or garden is the prevailing crop, individual tracts are frequently as small as 2 acres.¹³²

In addition to construction, operation, and maintenance of systems of canals and ditches, the Indian irrigation service has supervised the construction and operation and maintenance of numerous drainage systems, pumping plants, storage and flood control dams, and miscellaneous irrigation developments in connection with subsistence gardens or homesteads. Hydroelectric and Diesel engine power generating plants¹³³ have been constructed in some instances with transmission lines supplying power to neighboring communities, factories, farms, and mining operations.

The government's first venture in irrigation construction in 1907¹³⁴ was provided for by an appropriation of \$50,000 for the "expense of collecting and locating the Colorado River Indians in Arizona . . . including the expense of constructing a canal for irrigation and reclamation." The work was finally completed, under supplementary appropriations¹³⁵ only to be abandoned, however, after several unsuccessful attempts at operation and maintenance. In 1884,¹³⁶ a general appropriation of \$50,000 for irrigation was to be spent for irrigation in the discretion of the Secretary of the Interior. A similar appropriation followed in 1902,¹³⁷ and beginning with 1893,¹³⁸ Congress annually made general appropriations¹³⁹ under the description "Irrigation, Indian Reservations" for use on such reservations or for such purposes as were not provided for by specific appropriation. By the Act of April 4, 1910,¹⁴⁰ no new irrigation project on any Indian reservation or land could be undertaken without

¹²⁵ The extent to which water rights have been reserved is considered in Chapter 13.

¹²⁶ Annual statement of "Costs, Conventions, and Miscellaneous Irrigation Data of Indian Irrigation Projects, Fiscal year 1939," Interior Department.

¹²⁷ *Ibid.*

¹²⁸ By the Act of June 17, 1902, 32 Stat. 888, the Secretary was authorized to contract for construction of projects.

¹²⁹ Act of June 21, 1906, 34 Stat. 880.

¹³⁰ Hearings, Sen. Subcomm. of Comm. on Ind. Aff., Survey of Conditions of the Indians in the United States, 71st Cong., 2d sess., pt. 6, Engle report, January 21, 1930, p. 2280.

¹³¹ Act of June 5, 1924, 43 Stat. 890, 402.

¹³² Data to support Request for Public Works Funds, The Indian Service, August 31, 1933.

¹³³ San Carlos Project. See subsec. I, *infra*.

¹³⁴ Act of March 2, 1897, 14 Stat. 492, 511.

¹³⁵ Act of July 27, 1898, 35 Stat. 198, 222; Act of May 29, 1872, 17 Stat. 165, 198.

¹³⁶ Act of July 4, 1884, 23 Stat. 70, 94.

¹³⁷ Act of July 13, 1892, 27 Stat. 120, 137.

¹³⁸ Act of March 3, 1893, 27 Stat. 612, 631.

¹³⁹ Appropriation acts. Act of March 3, 1897, 14 Stat. 492, 514; Act of July 27, 1898, 35 Stat. 198, 222; Act of May 29, 1872, 17 Stat. 165, 198; Act of July 4, 1884, 23 Stat. 70, 94; Act of March 3, 1891, 26 Stat. 989, 1011.

¹⁴⁰ 38 Stat. 269, 270, 272, 26 U. S. C. 835.

express authorization by Congress upon presentation of an estimate of the cost of the work to be constructed.

Basic authorization for expenditures for irrigation purposes was contained by the Act of November 2, 1912.¹⁰⁰ After 1912, emergency funds were allocated for irrigation purposes.

For projects involving a large expenditure from the United States Treasury of Indian tribal funds and benefiting, in many instances, both white and Indian water users, it has been customary for Congress to pass special acts of authorization.¹⁰¹ For the most part reimbursement was provided for by these special acts.

Until 1914,¹⁰² costs of irrigation work on Indian reservations under general appropriations since 1849 were borne by the United States. Appropriations for this purpose were considered gratuities. Also, until that year, projects reimbursable from tribal funds were operated on the theory that irrigation conferred collective tribal benefit. In effect, all members of the tribe were required to pay an equal part of the cost regardless of whether or not their lands were irrigated.

By the Act of August 1, 1914,¹⁰³ Congress changed its legislative policy as to reimbursable appropriations for specific projects, and thereafter required reimbursement of construction charges on the basis of individual benefits received. It provided also for reimbursement, under the direction of the Secretary of the Interior, of general appropriations, hitherto considered as gratuities and gifts. Maintenance and operation charges were to be fixed upon the same basis.

Enforcement of this act proved difficult. One reason given was that computation of construction charges was impossible in the uncompleted state of numerous projects.¹⁰⁴ Furthermore, reimbursement in the discretion of the Secretary of the Interior by the Act of August 1, 1914, was made dependent upon ability of the Indians to pay assessments. In 1920,¹⁰⁵ when Congress made it mandatory that the Secretary of the Interior begin to enforce at least partial reimbursement, the retroactive provision

¹⁰⁰ 42 Stat. 204, 25 U. S. C. 13.

¹⁰¹ See minutes relative to the more important projects in subsection A through F of this section. The major projects in the Indian Service such as the San Carlos, Ariz., the Wapato and Yakima in Washington, the Flathead, Fort Belknap and Crow in Montana, and the Wind River in Wyoming, were considered under specific acts of Congress.

¹⁰² Act of August 1, 1914, 48 Stat. 682, 684, 25 U. S. C. 134. This act provided:

"* * * That all moneys expended hereafter on hereafter under this provision shall be reimbursable when the Indians have adequate funds to repay the Government, such reimbursement to be made under such rules and regulations as the Secretary of the Interior may prescribe. *Provided further*, That the Secretary of the Interior is hereby authorized and directed to apportion the cost of any irrigation project constructed for Indians and made reimbursable out of tribal funds of said Indians in accordance with the lands received by each individual Indian so far as practicable from said irrigation project, and cost to be apportioned according with individual Indian under such rules, regulations, and conditions as the Secretary of the Interior may prescribe."

Prior to the year 1914 there was two classes of funds utilized. (1) Funds expended as reimbursements in the legislative act making appropriation and in most cases reimbursable from tribal funds. (2) Funds consumed which nothing was stipulated as to reimbursement. The Crow, Blackfoot, Flathead, Fort Peck, Fort Belknap, Fort Hall, and Yakima projects were in this class. Hearings, Sen. Subcomm. on Comm. on Ind. Aff., Bureau of Conditions of the Indians in the United States, 71st Cong., 2nd sess., pt. 0, Single report, January 21, 1930, p. 2285.

¹⁰³ 38 Stat. 962, 585.

¹⁰⁴ See law 181, supra.

¹⁰⁵ Act of February 16, 1920, 41 Stat. 408, 409, 25 U. S. C. 380. This act provided:

"The Secretary of the Interior is hereby authorized and directed to require the owners of irrigable land under any irrigation system hereafter to be required to contribute for the benefit of Indians and to which water for irrigation purposes can be delivered to begin partial reimbursement of the construction charges, where reimbursement is required by law, at such times and in such amounts as he may deem best, all payments hereunder to be credited on a pro rata basis in favor of the land in behalf of which such payments shall have been made and to be deducted from the total per acre charge assessable against said land."

of the reimbursement act was strenuously opposed. Some of the projects included certain tribal lands which had been appraised and open to entry, the entryman paying the appraised price which apparently included water rights. Numerous individual allotments had been sold under Indian agency advertisements with the understanding that water rights were included in the conveyance. An opinion by the Attorney General¹⁰⁶ held that reimbursement could not be entered where a vested right had been acquired. Regulations¹⁰⁷ were issued requiring that in all future allotments for the purchase of Indian allotments, the purchaser assume accrued irrigation charges and undertake to pay future charges until the total assessable costs had been paid. Likewise many Indians had received fee patents containing admissions that their lands were free of all encumbrances and these lands later had been sold under warranty deed. The Solicitor of the Department of the Interior¹⁰⁸ held that where no specific law was created by act of Congress for repayment of irrigation charges, the obligation was personal against the individual Indian and the land was not subject to construction charges accrued prior to the issuance of the fee patent.

Unpaid charges were made liens on the land under the Blackfoot, Fort Peck, Flathead, Crow, Wapato, Fort Hall, Fort Belknap, and Gila River (or San Carlos) projects by specific acts,¹⁰⁹ to facilitate collection of reimbursement charges generally by the Act of March 7, 1928.¹¹⁰ All unpaid apportioned construction and maintenance costs were made a lien on land in all irrigation projects.

Practically all assessments that were collected under the 1914¹¹¹ and 1920¹¹² acts were paid by white landowners on Indian projects. In 1932 a statute known as the Leavitt Act¹¹³

Op. Sol. I. D., M 6376, November 15, 1921, held no interest charge could be assessed for overdue charges under the Act of February 16, 1920, 41 Stat. 108, 409.

¹⁰⁶ 82 Op. A. G. 27 (1921).

¹⁰⁷ Office of Indian Affairs, Circular No. 1077, May 12, 1921.

¹⁰⁸ 52 L. D. 706 (1920).

¹⁰⁹ Acts covering loans against lands for repayment of irrigation charges: Act of March 3, 1911, 39 Stat. 1078, 1079, Yuma Reservation; Act of March 3, 1911, 39 Stat. 1078, 1079, Colorado River Reservation; Act of Aug. 24, 1912, 37 Stat. 618, 624, Gila River Reservation; Act of May 24, 1916, 39 Stat. 123, 116, Flathead Reservation; Act of May 18, 1916, 39 Stat. 121, 110, et seq., Blackfoot Reservation; Act of May 18, 1916, 39 Stat. 121, 110, West Chavagan Reservation; Act of May 18, 1916, 39 Stat. 121, 110, Fort Belknap Reservation; Act of March 3, 1921, 41 Stat. 1885, Fort Hall Reservation; Act of May 24, 1922, 42 Stat. 562, 568, Fort Peck Reservation; Act of June 7, 1924, 43 Stat. 476, Gila River Reservation, San Carlos Project.

¹¹⁰ 45 Stat. 200, 210.

¹¹¹ Act of August 1, 1914, 38 Stat. 582, 583.

¹¹² Act of February 16, 1920, 41 Stat. 408.

¹¹³ Act of July 1, 1932, 47 Stat. 504. The House Committee on Indian Affairs is recommending the passage of this law and said:

"* * * The progress of many Indians is retarded by old debts held against them by the Government and incurred under circumstances which make their adjustment as a matter of simple justice. There is at the present time no authority to make any such adjustment. It is an emergency while the Indian Bureau has been liberal in making collections, these accumulated debts, many of them many standing, exist against lands, against restricted rights of individual Indians, and against some tribal funds. This decreases the value of lands and interferes with the credit prospects to make Indians self-sufficient through farming, livestock raising, etc."

"It is not the purpose of this measure to wipe out any part of proper debts. The record of the Indians in making repayment of revolving funds and proper obligations is worthy of recognition by our citizens generally. It is intended to enable the Secretary of the Interior to do justice in connection with ill-founded or unpaid obligations." (House Report No. 561, 72d Cong., 1st sess., 1931.)

For an analysis of the legislative history of this act leading to the conclusion that it applies to Indian lands subsequently acquired, see Op. Sol. I. D., M 80135, April 15, 1931.

Op. Sol. I. D., M 80135, April 15, 1931. The Secretary of the Interior, in Comptroller General, September 28, 1932, with regard to availability after passage of the

was enacted. Under this act the Secretary of the Interior was given authority to adjust and eliminate reimbursable charges due from Indians or tribes of Indian, taking into consideration the equities existing at the time of the expenditure. It was specifically provided with respect to irrigation that all uncollected construction assessments therefor levied were cancelled and that no more assessments of construction charges should be made so long as lands remain in Indian ownership. This act in effect recognized the need for and provided a subsidy in favor of the Indians in the extent of construction costs.

A OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE CHARGES

Although the Leavitt Act¹ relieved the Indian of liability for future construction charges, he remained liable for the current assessments for operation and maintenance charges. However, as the Act of August 1, 1911, made reimbursement of all charges dependent upon ability of the Indian to pay,² when an agency superintendent certifies, as to the indigent circumstances of an Indian, payments of current operation and maintenance charges are also delayed and remain charges against the land. In such cases a reimbursement appropriation is secured to defray the Indian's share of such costs.

Land of non-Indian owners on Indian projects continued liable for irrigation construction charges. Several memorandums³ have been enacted for this relief. In 1936⁴ Congress authorized an investigation and adjustment of irrigation charges on non-Indian lands. A survey is now in process. Under this act, costs which are found improper upon investigation under direction of the Secretary of the Interior may be adjusted subject to report of the proposed adjustments to Congress for approval. Further, the Secretary is authorized to declare land nonliable for a period not exceeding 5 years, which could not be properly charged with existing facilities and no charges may be assessed during that period. It may, also, cancel all charges, construction and operation and maintenance, which remained unpaid at the time Indian title was extinguished when it was not a lien against the land.

Regulations relative to time of payment, delivery, penalties for nonpayment, forfeit as to fine and stoppage of water upon failure to pay, apportionment of water and other distinctions as to various classes of water users, Indians, Indian lessees, and non-Indians, and the effect of contracts with state or local waterworks projects are in force.⁵

The various irrigation projects were instituted and are operated under dissimilar conditions and different statutory authority, and consequently regulations are not uniform.

General statutory provisions dealing with irrigation are noted below:⁶

Leavitt Act of funds appropriated for irrigation projects without consent of Indian owners to pay construction costs.

After an assessment has been made, the Secretary of the Interior is without authority to extend time of payment in the absence of specific enactment of Congress, except as modified by the Leavitt Act. Op Sol I D, 3120804, July 8, 1930, 30 D 223.

¹ Act of July 1, 1912, 47 Stat 104.

² No question of act, in 1930, supra.

³ Act of February 14, 1931, 46 Stat 1115, 1137, Act of June 1, 1912, 37 Stat 104, Act of January 20, 1933, 47 Stat 775, Act of March 8, 1933, 47 Stat 1427, Act of May 6, 1935, 49 Stat 178, 187, Act of June 14, 1916, 49 Stat 337, Act of April 14, 1934, 49 Stat 1308, Act of May 21, 1939, Pub No 87, 76th Cong., 1st sess., Pub Res No 46 of August 5, 1939, 76th Cong., 1st sess. These memorandums have effected only construction charges and not assessment for operation and maintenance. For regulations, see 25 C F R 130-130 and 151 I-1514 and 151.

⁴ Act of June 22, 1936, 49 Stat 1808.

⁵ 25 C F R, subchapter L M N O.

⁶ Act of February 8, 1887, 24 Stat 888, 390 (Secretary of the Interior authorized to provide for equal distribution of water supply

The most important pertinent legislation of the several most important irrigation projects are enumerated subsequently.

B BLACKFEET PROJECT⁷

Under an agreement of June 10, 1896,⁸ upon cession of Indian land, the United States was committed to irrigate the farms of the Blackfoot Tribe of Indians. Then reservation consisting of 1,920,012 acres inhabited by approximately 4,600 Indians is located in the northwestern part of Montana. In connection with the livestock industry, the basis upon which the Blackfoot Indians expect to attain a sustaining economy, irrigation is necessary to raise winter feed for cattle. Operation costs were apportioned to the land irrigated,⁹ and Indian landowners, when self-supporting, were to repay construction charges over and above the amount paid from tribal funds.

C COLORADO RIVER PROJECT¹⁰

The Colorado River project irrigates 6,500 acres on the Colorado River Reservation in Arizona. In 1926, a policy of leasing was

among the Indians on any reservation, Act of March 3, 1901, 26 Stat 1075, 1101 (provides as to public land and reservations was granted the right and which continues under certain rules and regulations), Act of February 28, 1907, 29 Stat 699 (continued under certain rules and regulations), Act of May 13, 1909, 36 Stat 104 (renewed and rights of way for ditches, canals, easements and other purposes subservient to irrigation), Act of December 16, 1901, 31 Stat 790 (required the approval of the Secretary of the Interior for the chief officer of the department in charge of the reservation for right of way for ditches, canals, and reservoirs through reservations. No easements were conferred in grants of the right of way), Act of June 23, 1906, 31 Stat 125, 127 (provided in the sale of any allotted land within a reclamation project with the approval of the Secretary of the Interior, consideration to be paid first to pay construction charges), Act of April 1, 1910, 36 Stat 210, 217 (provided for express authorization of Congress of any irrigation project and then only after estimation of probable cost of undertaking), Act of June 25, 1910, 36 Stat 576, 588 (provided for the revocation of previous orders on Indian irrigation projects), Act of August 1, 1914, 38 Stat 974, 984 (made irrigation expenditures, reimburse land and apportioned cost to benefits received), Act of February 14, 1930, 41 Stat 106 (made mandatory that the Secretary of the Interior begin collection of at least partial reimbursement of construction costs), for regulations issued in pursuance of this act, see 25 U S C 341-343, 347, Act of March 1, 1938, 47 Stat 200, 210 (provided that all unpaid charges reimbursable by law become a first lien against the land), Act of July 1, 1932, 47 Stat 604 (provided that no construction agreements be entered against Indian lands until Indian title thereto had been extinguished), Act of June 22, 1936, 49 Stat 1303 (provided for the investigation and adjustment of irrigation charges subject to the approval of Congress), memorandums acts, see in 1937.

⁷ Principal statutory provisions, other than appropriation acts, or acts generally applicable to all projects, which relate specifically to the Blackfoot project are: Act of March 1, 1907, 34 Stat 1018, 1038 (authorized construction), Act of May 18, 1910, 36 Stat 128, 140 (irrigation charges were made a lien on the lands), Act of June 30, 1910, 41 Stat 8, 10 (replaced provisions of the Act of March 1, 1907, 34 Stat 1018, 1038 relating to the disposal of allotted land and provided for further allotment to tribal members), Act of April 1, 1920, 41 Stat 540 (authorized the Secretary of the Interior to acquire land for reversion purposes), Act of February 28, 1923, 42 Stat 1580 (authorized the Secretary of the Interior to enter into an agreement with Toole County irrigation district to settle water rights of the Blackfoot Indians), Act of February 13, 1931, 46 Stat 1007 (authorized the Secretary of the Interior to adjust payment of charges on Blackfoot Indian irrigation projects), Act of August 28, 1937, 50 Stat 964, 969 (provided that the Secretary of the Interior release to the Blackfoot Tribe the interest in certain lands acquired by the United States under reclamation laws, land to be held in trust for the Indians by the Secretary of the Interior). For discussion of Act of May 1, 1888, 25 Stat 113, as affecting water rights of Blackfoot Indians, see Op Sol I D, 316849, 34 Stat 112, 1245. For regulations, see 25 C F R 01-1-22.

⁸ 29 Stat 921, 954.

⁹ Act of March 1, 1907, 34 Stat 1013, 1035.

¹⁰ Principal statutory provisions, other than those relating to appropriations or those generally applicable to all projects, which relate specifically to the Colorado River project are: Act of March 2, 1897, 34 Stat 493, 514 (appropriated for construction of canal), Act of July 3, 1894,

instituted whereby lessees in consideration of clearing and improving the land received the use of it for from 3 to 7 years, operations and maintenance charges being paid by lessee. Since 1927 the lessee has paid construction charges. Crop returns from this project have in the past been as high as \$500,000 and it is expected that the land of this reservation properly drained will produce profitably. A diversion dam is under construction in the Colorado River near Parker, which will divert water for 100,000 acres of Indian-owned land.

D CROW IRRIGATION PROJECT²⁰

Construction of the present irrigation system on the Crow Indian Reservation²¹ in southeastern Montana was begun in 1885.

Under the agreement with the Crow Tribe²² the United States, agreed to construct an irrigation project, and facilities were extended more or less continuously until 1925. Many private systems are operated from the streams supplying the Indian project. To provide a sufficient water supply for the area now under cultivation a storage dam is being constructed.

All money expended for irrigation, both construction and operation and maintenance, were from tribal funds until 1921. Beginning with 1918,²³ these funds were made reimbursable.

E FLATHEAD IRRIGATION PROJECT²⁴

The Flathead project,²⁵ on the Flathead Reservation in western Montana irrigates approximately 105,000 acres. Less than

27, 1808, 17 Stat. 198, 222 (provided further for irrigation canals); Act of April 21, 1901, 31 Stat. 180, 224 (authorized irrigation under Reclamation Act); Act of April 4, 1910, 36 Stat. 297, 278 (authorized further construction funds to be reimbursed from the sale of lands); Act of March 1, 1911, 36 Stat. 1008, 1009 (made construction charges a lien on the land, not to be enforced as long as original allottee occupied land as a homestead).

²⁰ Principal statutory provisions, other than those relating to appropriations or those generally applicable to all projects, which relate specifically to the Crow Reservation are: Act of April 27, 1904, 33 Stat. 862, 367 (agreement by which proceeds from ceded lands were to be used in irrigation); Act of March 9, 1900, 31 Stat. 781, 797 (extended provisions for entry upon ceded lands); Act of May 25, 1918, 40 Stat. 761, 574 (made reimbursable appropriation from tribal funds); Act of June 1, 1920, 41 Stat. 751 (made irrigation charges a lien on the land, hence that your firm have been appropriated from the United States Treasury); Act of May 20, 1928, 41 Stat. 658 (amends the Act of June 4, 1920, 41 Stat. 751, by providing that the tribal funds not approved by the tribal council be reimbursed to the tribe). For regulations see 25 C. F. R. 94.1-44.22.

²¹ See *United States v. Powers*, 306 U. S. 851 (1938); *Anderson v. Spear-Morgan Litchfield Co.*, 71 F. 2d 607 (1935).

²² Act of March 4, 1900, 35 Stat. 781, 797.

²³ Act of May 25, 1918, 40 Stat. 661, 674.

²⁴ Principal statutory provisions other than those relating to appropriations or those generally applicable to all projects, which relate specifically to the Flathead project are: Act of April 23, 1904, 33 Stat. 802, 805 (authorized survey for irrigation purposes); Act of June 21, 1900, 34 Stat. 825, 854, and Act of April 30, 1908, 35 Stat. 76, 83 (amended and extended Act of April 23, 1904, 33 Stat. 802, 805); Act of May 20, 1908, 35 Stat. 444, 448 (provided that emphyteus on the portion of reservation may provide cost of irrigation construction. Allotted Indian lands were relieved of construction costs); Act of April 4, 1910, 36 Stat. 290, 277 (authorized construction); Act of August 24, 1912, 37 Stat. 518, 526 (related to the disposal of allotted land); Act of July 17, 1914, 38 Stat. 510 (provided for reimbursement of funds spent for irrigation); Act of May 18, 1918, 38 Stat. 128, 139 (provided for operation and maintenance charges and amended the Act of May 20, 1908, 35 Stat. 444, 448, so that purchasers of allotted Indian lands were liable for construction charges, refunded money spent from tribal funds for irrigation); Act of June 5, 1924, 43 Stat. 890, 402 (transferred the Flathead reservation from the Bureau of Reclamation to the Indian Service). For regulations see 25 C. F. R. 97.1-100.10. For regulations relating to electric power system see 133.1-131.52.

²⁵ *Moody v. Johnston*, 86 F. 2d 899 (C. C. 9, 1938) and *United States v. McIntire*, 101 F. 2d 650 (C. C. 10, 1939) relate to water rights of this tribe.

one-fourth of the land is owned by Indians. Repayment contracts providing for payment of construction and operation and maintenance costs have been executed by non-Indian owners. A power system is operated in connection with the irrigation project.

Tribal money was expended for a part of the construction. By the Act of May 18, 1918,²⁶ these funds were refunded and placed on the credit of the tribe.

F FORT BELKNAP PROJECT²⁷

The Fort Belknap project, on the reservation of that name, in north central Montana, has been in operation about 40 years. The irrigated land is all Indian owned. Tribal money has been used extensively in the construction of this project. All construction appropriations were made reimbursable but water users on this project have not had sufficient income to pay charges.

G FORT HALL PROJECT²⁸

The Fort Hall project on the Fort Hall Reservation in the southeastern part of Idaho contains a total irrigable area of 60,000 acres, of which 60,000 acres are under constructed works. Additional storage on Snake River will be necessary to provide a water supply for the remaining 30,000 acres of irrigable land. Irrigation on this reservation is vital as the key to the agricultural enterprises by which the Indians expect to become self-sustaining. In the agreement of the United States with this tribe²⁹ it was provided "that water rights are to be without cost to the Indians so long as title remained in said Indians or tribe." The white-owned lands pay both construction and operation and maintenance charges. A nonreimbursable appropriation has been made each year to cover the Indian share of the costs.

H FORT PECK RESERVATION³⁰

By the Act of May 30, 1908, under the direction of the Reclamation Service, irrigation projects were built on Fort Peck

as 30 Stat. 128, 141.

²⁷ Principal statutory provisions, other than those relating to appropriations or those generally applicable to all projects, which relate specifically to the Fort Belknap project are: Act of June 10, 1890, 26 Stat. 521, 521 (agreement of the United States to irrigate lands on Fort Belknap Reservation); Act of April 4, 1910, 36 Stat. 297, 277 (provided that costs of irrigation be reimbursed from tribal funds); Act of March 4, 1911, 36 Stat. 1008, 1009, provided charges become a lien when land ceases to be used as a homestead); Act of March 8, 1921, 41 Stat. 1853, 1767 (provided all charges become a lien on the land). For regulations see 25 C. F. R. 101.1-103.22.

²⁸ Principal statutory provisions, other than those relating to appropriations or those generally applicable to all projects, which relate specifically to the Fort Hall project are: Act of March 1, 1907, 34 Stat. 1015, 1024 (invited construction); Act of April 4, 1910, 36 Stat. 290, 274 (provided for the payment of construction charges on lands in private ownership); Act of March 3, 1911, 36 Stat. 1008, 1009 (provided for the completion of the project and that charges should be a lien on land not used as Indian homestead); Act of May 24, 1922, 42 Stat. 552, 558 (provided that the cost of rehabilitation to be paid by both Indian and non-Indian owners, making proportionate reimbursable expenditures a lien on Indian lands); Act of March 3, 1937, 44 Stat. 1308 (required contracts for the repayment of further charges by white owners and created a lien on Indian lands. This applied to the Gibson unit only). For regulations see 25 C. F. R. 101.1-103.97.

²⁹ See 801 I. D. No. 5886, June 10, 1923 (authority of the Secretary of the Interior to appropriate land in Fort Hall Reservation as a reservation site without consent of the Indians).

³⁰ Principal statutory provisions, other than those relating to appropriations or those generally applicable to all projects which relate specifically to the Fort Peck Reservation are: Act of May 30, 1908, 35 Stat. 568 (authorized construction); Act of May 18, 1910, 36 Stat. 128, 140 (provided that a lien was to be created in patents for unpaid charges, the tribal funds being to be used for construction be returned to the tribal account); Act of June 8, 1924, 43 Stat. 890, 402 (transferred jurisdiction from the Bureau of Reclamation to the Indian Service).

Reservation Mout, into which both white and Indian interests entered. The proceeds of the sale of surplus land were used for original construction.

I. SAN CARLOS PROJECT²²

The San Carlos irrigation project²³ was designed to irrigate 100,000 acres of which 50,000 are owned by whites and 50,000 acres on the Gila River Indian Reservation owned in part by individual Indians and in part by the Gila River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community.²⁴ The project has a hydroelectric plant at Coolidge Dam and a Diesel electric plant located near the town of Coolidge, with high voltage and low voltage lines to carry power to project irrigation wells, nearby towns, mining camps and rural farm consumers.

J. UTAH²⁵

On the Utah Reservation in Utah an irrigation project was constructed over a period of years, from 1908 to 1912. A system and program of replacement is now in process.

This project is designed to irrigate 77,194 acres of project land and to carry water to approximately 28,000 acres of private lands through carrying capacity granted to companies and individuals who pay a proportionate share in the operation and maintenance of the project.

²² Principal statutory provisions, other than appropriations or acts generally applicable to all projects, which relate specifically to the San Carlos project are: Act of March 3, 1907, 33 Stat. 1018, 1041 (authorized construction and provided that costs of the project for the Pima Indians be repaid within 30 years after the Indians have become sovereign); Act of August 21, 1912, 37 Stat. 618, 622 (provided that the cost of the irrigation work be reimbursed and created a lien upon Indian lands); Act of May 18, 1916, 39 Stat. 129, 129 (provided for the construction of a dam to irrigate white and Indian-owned lands); Costs of this construction were reimbursed by project to Indian lands under the Act of August 24, 1912. Code of non-Indian-owned land was to be paid in accordance with the Act of August 13, 1914, 38 Stat. 1401; Act of June 7, 1924, 43 Stat. 175, 176 (providing that the San Carlos project provided for benefits for irrigation of the Gila River Reservation and of white-owned land).

²³ Preference of Indians to waters stored by Coolidge Dam. Memo Sol. I. D., February 10, 1933.

²⁴ Memo Sol. I. D., August 25, 1930 (collection of claims).

²⁵ Principal statutory provisions, other than those relating to appropriations or acts generally applicable to all projects, which relate specifically to the Utah irrigation projects are: Act of June 21, 1904, 34 Stat. 325, 327 (authorized the project and provided that the cost should be repaid within 30 years after becoming self-supporting); Act of April 30, 1908, 35 Stat. 70, 75 (provided for the leasing of allotted irrigated lands with the consent of the allottee with the approval of the Secretary of the Interior); Act of May 21, 1922, 42 Stat. 752, 678 (provided for extension and rehabilitation of the project; repaid from the principal funds held in trust for the Confederated Band of the Indians). For regulations see 25 C. F. R. 121.1-121.23.

K. WIND RIVER²⁶

The Wind River irrigation project includes the diminished and ceded portions of the Wind River Reservation, Wyoming. The project consists of five systems, embracing irrigable areas of approximately 157,000 acres. The funds furnished for this project were made reimbursable. Assessments of operation and maintenance costs are made against all land to which water can be delivered except Indian lands not farmed. Regulations concerning the first sale of the irrigated land provided for pro-rata water rights. These lands are not charged with construction costs.²⁷

L. YAKIMA²⁸

The Yakima Re-creation irrigation projects in the State of Washington include the Wapato, Toiyenush-Sumner, Salms, and Methum units containing a total irrigable area of 170,000 acres, of which 129,000 acres are in Indian ownership and 50,000 acres in private ownership. Of this area some 128,000 acres are supplied with irrigation facilities.

²⁶ Principal statutory provisions, other than appropriations or acts generally applicable to all irrigation projects, which relate specifically to the Wind River project are: Act of March 3, 1907, 33 Stat. 1016 (provided for the construction of the project from proceeds of sale of ceded lands); Act of April 30, 1908, 35 Stat. 70, 75 (appropriations with provision for reimbursement of lands appropriated by this act); Act of May 25, 1928, 45 Stat. 562, 590 (provided that private lands under this project pay their pro-rata share of the cost of construction). For regulations see 25 C. F. R. 127.1-127.22.

²⁷ Op. Sol. I. D., March 10, 1925.

²⁸ Principal statutory provisions, other than those relating to appropriations or acts generally applicable to all projects, which relate specifically to the Yakima project are: Acts of December 21, 1904, 38 Stat. 705 (provided for the construction of irrigation works on the Yakima Indian Reservation "to the benefit to compensate the Indians for any water right heretofore assigned by act of Congress. This act provided that the proceeds of the sale of land be used in the construction of the project"); Act of June 21, 1904, 38 Stat. 325 (appropriated reimbursable lands); Act of April 4, 1910, 36 Stat. 220, 226 (provided for the construction of a drainage system for the Wapato project); Act of June 30, 1918, 39 Stat. 77, 100 (provided for the appointment of a four congressional committee to report on the feasibility of constructing irrigation systems on this reservation); Act of August 1, 1914, 38 Stat. 582, 604 (provided that the Indians who had been unfairly deprived of the Yakima River be entitled to 147 cubic feet per second in perpetuity); Act of August 1, 1914, 38 Stat. 684, 684 (constructed in Op. Sol. I. D., March 10, 1925, holding that no penalty could be charged on delinquency. This applied to the Wapato and Salms units only); Act of May 18, 1916, 39 Stat. 123, 153, 161 (provided for an extension of project be reimbursed in 30 annual installments and created a lien on Indian lands in the Wapato and Salms unit, authorized the Secretary of the Interior to fix operation and maintenance charges, construed in Ind. Off. Memo, June 12, 1933); Act of June 30, 1910, 41 Stat. 8 (8 (indemnified charges levied on land under the Toiyenush-Sumner unit); Act of February 14, 1920, 41 Stat. 104, 431 (provided that landowners under the Wapato and Salms units repay construction costs of land at \$5 per acre per year); Act of May 25, 1922, 43 Stat. 616 (reduced annual construction payment, from \$5 to \$2.50 per acre on the Wapato and Salms units). For regulations regarding the Wapato irrigation project, Washington, see 25 C. F. R. 124.1-124.19.

SECTION 8. FEDERAL LEGAL SERVICES

The United States without specific statutory authority represents the Indian generally in legal matters in which the United States has an interest. Federal legal services, therefore, are available to the Indian in cases involving the protection of property allotted or furnished to the Indian by the Government in which an interest of the United States may be found, either in the fact that it holds such property in trust for the Indians or in the fact that the property may be held by the Indians subject to restrictions against alienation.²⁹

²⁹ See Chapter 18, sec. 2(A1).

The Federal Government, as a routine service to the Indian, brings actions to enforce terms of leases or other contracts arising in connection with restricted property. It institutes or defends litigation relating to all royalties and other mineral rights and represents the Indians in suits involving federal and state taxes.³⁰

The Department of Justice has, for the most part, followed the policy of representing Indians in matters relating to their allotments or reservations or to property of Indians over which

³⁰ Justice Department File No. 90-2-012-1, Memo, of July 20, 1932.

Congress has provided that the United States maintain control and supervision."

Legal representation is also given the Indian in other cases involving interests of the United States, as expressed in treaty provisions or acts of Congress. These cases in the most part relate to hunting and fishing privileges, water rights, and to trespass, or other rights arising out of reservation property.⁴¹

A specific statutory duty to represent the Indian in all suits at law and in equity is found in section 175, title 25, of the United States Code. This section provides:

In all States and Territories where there are reservations of allotted Indians the United States district attorneys shall represent them in all suits at law and in equity.

The language of this provision is very broad, and this probably has been a factor in the failure of the Department of Justice to adopt a consistent policy as to when it will authorize or require the United States district attorneys to appear on behalf of the Indian.

The original enactment, as found in the Act of March 3, 1893,⁴² is part of a paragraph which reads:

To enable the Secretary of the Interior, in his discretion to pay the legal costs incurred by Indians in contests initiated by or against them, to any entry, filing, or other claims, under the laws of Congress relating to public lands, on any sufficient cause affecting the legality or validity of the entry, filing or claim, five thousand dollars. *Provided*, That the fees to be paid by and on behalf of the Indian party in any case shall be one-half of the fees provided for law in such cases, and said fees shall be paid in the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, with the approval of the Secretary of the Interior, on an account stated by the proper land officers through the Commissioner of the General Land Office. In all States and Territories where there are reservations of allotted Indians the United States District Attorney shall represent them in all suits at law and in equity.

It may be argued that the last sentence of the paragraph should be construed as relating only to the first sentence, and the circumstance that the last sentence was introduced on the floor of the House in the course of a discussion of the first sentence may be thought to give support to this construction.⁴³ Such a construction, however, would subordinate the plain language of the statute to the form of paragraphing, and would ignore the long established custom of including items of permanent general

legislation on Indian affairs in scattered paragraphs of appropriation acts. This narrow construction has never been adopted by the Attorney General, and it was rejected by the codifiers of the United States Code, who accepted the proviso in the first sentence, and the last sentence of the paragraph, as distinct statements of general and permanent legislation.

While rejecting the construction which would limit the duty of legal representation to public land contests, the Department of Justice has occasionally taken the view that the statute in question contains an implied proviso, and that the phrase "all suits at law and in equity" really means "all suits at law and in equity in which the United States has an interest."⁴⁴ The Department of Justice has not been consistent, however, in the use of this construction and has on occasion given a less narrow interpretation to the words of Congress.⁴⁵ Carried on consistently, this narrow construction would nullify the statute, since, as we have noted, the United States has represented Indians in such cases without special statutory authorization.

In criminal prosecutions⁴⁶ for alleged violations of state laws committed outside the reservation, where the jurisdiction of the state is plenary and unquestionable, the United States has not represented the Indians in any such criminal prosecutions brought by state authorities, unless the Indian claims immunity from such state laws by reason of the status of the *locus in quo*, or because of some treaty stipulation or provision of a federal law affecting the act, the commission of which is regarded as a crime by the state law. Within this latter class of cases may be included, for instance, the defense of Indians who are prosecuted for alleged violations of the state fish and game laws,⁴⁷ the Indian claiming a right to fish or hunt in the particular place where the offense is alleged to have been committed, or prosecuted on the driving of a truck without a state license.

Special provision has been made by Congress to provide legal services for the Five Civilized Tribes,⁴⁸ the Osages,⁴⁹ and the Pueblo Indians.⁵⁰

⁴¹ In the *Constitution Indemnity Company* case in California, no legal representation was furnished in a suit for negligence resulting in personal injuries or death of Indians, even though such Indians were still wards of the government (Justice Department File No. 90-2-0-03). And again representation was denied in suit to recover damages for the death of "red-head" Port Peck, lecherous Indian from the Great Northern Railway (Justice Department File No. 90-2-0-125).

⁴² On December 28, 1929, the Attorney General advised a United States Attorney to represent a Hopi Indian, Tom Prayson, sued for accidental shooting of a white man off the reservation. See Ind Off Memo, May 26, 1930. In the case of the claim of the Indians of the Warm Springs Reservation against the Montana Home Products Company, the United States Attorney brought suit in the name and behalf of the Indian to compel the said company to pay to individual Indians the stipulated consideration for catching a number of wild horses roaming on the reservation (Justice Department File No. 90-2-10-0).

⁴³ In the Imeson murder case in New York the position was taken that section 175 has no relation to criminal prosecutions and had never been so construed (Justice Department File No. 90-2-7-42).

⁴⁴ See, in 227, *supra*.

⁴⁵ See Chapter 25, sec. 6.

⁴⁶ See Chapter 26, sec. 12.

⁴⁷ See Chapter 20, sec. 8A.

⁴⁴ Justice Department File No. 90-2-012-1, Memo of July 29, 1932.

⁴⁵ Where the State of Idaho prosecuted several Indians of the Coeur d'Alene Agency in that state for the killing of deer out of season on alleged violation of the state game laws, the Department of Justice took the position that, since the United States had the duty to protect the Indians in their treaty rights of subsistence, it could maintain an action to restrain the state authorities from interfering with the exercise of such treaty rights by the Indians, and the United States Attorney appeared for the purpose of protecting and defending the Indians. (Justice Department File No. 90-2-4-71.)

⁴⁶ 27 Stat. 612, 631. Compare the statute of September 6, 1893, embodied in the Laws of the Indies, requiring the King's Solicitors to "be protectors of the Indians" * * * and plead for them in all civil and criminal suits, whether official or between parties, with Spaniards demanding or defending." 2 White's Recopilacion (1830) 96.

⁴⁷ Cong. Rec., 62d Cong., 2d sess., February 24, 1903, p. 2132.

CHAPTER 13

TAXATION

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The use of the phrase "Indians not taxed" in the provisions of the Federal Constitution relating to representation in Congress¹ has given color to the popular belief that tribal Indians are exempt from taxes. Whatever the situation may have been when this phrase was first used, it is a fact today that Indians pay a great variety of taxes, federal, state, and tribal. It is, however, a fact that peculiarities of property ownership and special jurisdictional factors affecting Indian reservations result in certain tax exemptions not generally applicable to non-Indians. These exemptions involve a series of difficult legal and political problems.²

¹ Art. I, sec. 2, amendment XIV, sec. 2. For an analysis of the legislative and administrative history of this phrase, leading to the conclusion that there is no longer any class of "Indians not taxed," see Op. Sol. T. D., M 516-6, November 7, 1916. And see 87 Cong. Rec. 70 (January 8, 1917); for Chairman report following this opinion.

² See Sen. Rept. 108, 75th Cong., 2d sess. (May 6, 1938), Sen. Rept. 1365, 75d Cong., 2d sess., Hearings, Sen. Comm. on Ind. Aff., on S.

Limitations upon the power to tax, which has been called an attribute of sovereignty,³ give rise to certain immunities. Such limitation may be expressed in federal, state, and tribal constitutions,⁴ or laws⁵ or they may be imposed by contract.⁶

Revs. 282, 72d Cong., 1st sess. The proposal has been made for many years that the Federal Government pay to counties and states in which tax-exempt Indian lands are located sums in lieu of taxes to pay for educational and other services. See Twenty-first Report of the Board of Indian Commissioners (1889). This principle has been occasionally embodied in special legislation. Act of July 1, 1902, sec. 2, 27 Stat. 62, 68 (Colville). And see Chapter 12, sec. 2A.

³ See *McCulloch v. Maryland*, 4 Wheat. 319, 428-320 (1819), 1 Cool., Taxation (4th ed. 1924) c. 1, sec. 1, p. 61.

⁴ See secs. 1C and 8, *infra*.

⁵ Act of June 18, 1931, sec. 5, 48 Stat. 984, 985, 25 U. S. C. 405, Act of June 20, 1936, 40 Stat. 1642.

⁶ 1 Cool., Taxation (4th ed. 1924) c. 2, sec. 58, p. 151.

SECTION 1. SOURCES OF LIMITATIONS ON TAXING POWER OF THE STATES

To the extent that Indians and Indian property within an Indian reservation are not subject to state laws, they are not subject to state tax laws.⁷

We have seen, elsewhere, that state laws are not applicable to tribal Indians on an Indian reservation except where Congress has expressly provided that state laws shall apply.⁸ It follows that Indians and Indian property on an Indian reservation are not subject to state taxation except by virtue of express authority conferred upon the state by act of Congress. Conversely Indian property outside of an Indian reservation is subject to state taxation unless congressional authority for a claim of tax exemption can be found.⁹ This jurisdictional immunity from state taxation is sometimes buttressed by:

(a) The judicial doctrine that states may not tax a federal instrumentality, operating upon the assumption that various incidents of Indian property are federal instrumentalities;

(b) Express prohibition in enabling acts and other federal statutes against taxation of Indians and Indian property;

(c) Explicit waiver in state constitutions of the right to tax Indians or Indian property;

(d) Express prohibition in state statutes against taxation of Indians or Indian property.

It is not clear whether any of these added reasons need be advanced to justify the immunity of Indian property on an Indian reservation from state property taxes. Since, however, they often figure largely in the reasoning used by the courts in attaining a particular result, they will hereinafter be discussed in some detail.

A. "INSTRUMENTALITY" DOCTRINE

Perhaps the most frequent reason stressed by the courts for the exemption of Indian property from state taxation is the federal instrumentality doctrine. The doctrine in its application to Indians and Indian property is founded upon the premise that the power and duty of governing and protecting tribal Indians is

⁷ See *Surplus Trading Co. v. Cook*, 281 U. S. 647, 651 (1930).

⁸ See Chapter 6.

⁹ Act of June 18, 1934, sec. 6, 48 Stat. 984, 985, 25 U. S. C. 408, Act of June 20, 1936, 40 Stat. 1642.

primarily a federal function,²⁰ and that a state cannot impose a tax which will substantially impede or burden the functioning of the Federal Government.²¹

The doctrine is limited in its application to the property or functions of those Indians who are in some degree under federal control or supervision. Thus it has afforded immunity to the property and functions of tribal Indians whether allotted or unallotted.²²

Summing of the nature of the doctrine as well as its scope may be found in the illuminating opinion of the Chief Court of Appeals in the case of *United States v. Thurston County*²³ where the proceeds of the sale of restricted Indian lands were held exempt from state taxation:

"The experience of more than a century has demonstrated the fact that the uneducated, weak, rapacity, cunning, and perfidy of members of the superior race in their dealings with the Indians unavoidably drive them to poverty, despair, and woe. To protect them from want and despair, and the superior race from the inevitable attacks which these evils produce, to lead them to abandon their nomadic habits and to learn the arts of civilized life, the government of the United States has long exercised the power granted to it by the Constitution (article 1, § 8, clause 3) to receive and hold in trust for them large tracts of land and large sums of money derived from the release of their rights of occupancy of the lands of the continent, to manage and control their property, to furnish them with agricultural implements, houses, barns, and other permanent improvements upon their lands, domestic animals, means of subsistence, and small amounts of money, and to provide them with physicians, farmers, schools and teachers. The Indian reservations, the funds derived from the release of the Indian right of occupancy, the lands allotted to individual Indians, that still in trust by the nation for their benefit, the improvements upon these lands, the agricultural implements, the domestic animals and other property of like character furnished to them by the nation to enable and induce them to cultivate the soil and to establish and maintain permanent homes and families, are the means by which the nation pursues its wise policy of protection and instruction and exercises its lawful powers of government."

"They instrumentally lawfully employed by the United States to execute its constitutional laws and to exercise its lawful governmental authority is necessarily exempt from state taxation and interference. *McIntosh v. Maryland*, 6 Wheat 315, 4 U. S. 470. *Van Brocklin v. State of Tennessee*, 317 U. S. 151, 155, 8 Sup. Ct. 670, 29-1, Fed. 845. *Wiscasset United Railroad Co. v. Price County*, 133 U. S. 406, 504, 10 Sup. Ct. 841, 83 U. S. 687. It is for this reason that the Supreme Court decided that lands held by Indian allottees under Act Feb 8, 1887, 24 Stat. 880, c. 119, § 6, within 25 years after their allotment, houses and other permanent improvements thereon and the cattle, houses, and other property of like character which had been issued to the allottees by the United States and which they were using upon their allotments, were exempt from state taxation, and declared that "no authority exists for the state to tax lands which are held in trust by the United States for the purpose of carrying out its policy in reference to these Indians." *U. S. v. Rickert*, 188 U. S. 432, 441, 28 Sup. Ct. 478, 482, 47 L. Ed. 632.

"* * * The proceeds of the sales of these lands have been lawfully substituted for the lands themselves by the trustee. The substitutes partake of the nature of the originals, and stand charged with the same trust. The

lands and their proceeds, so long as they are held or controlled by the United States and the terms of the trust has not expired, are alike instrumentally employed by it in the lawful exercise of its powers of government to protect, support, and instruct the Indians, for whose benefit the complainant holds them, and they are not subject to taxation by any state or county. (17-297-298 292.)

B FEDERAL STATUTES

Congressional power to exempt land from state taxation²⁴ is limited only by the requirement that the property or function in question be reasonably considered incident to a federal function. So large is the discretion permitted the legislature in the exercise²⁵ in this connection that no case has been found in which the court refused to sustain Congress' power to exempt.

When a tax immunity is offered to individual Indians by federal statute or treaty, by way of inducement to a voluntary transaction, the courts have held that the immunity becomes contractual in the sense that the individual Indians acquire a vested right to the exemption when it is protected against Congress itself by the Fifth Amendment.²⁶

Other federal statutes limiting the power of the states to tax are the enabling and organic acts authorizing the formation of state and territorial governments,²⁷ expressly exempting Indians and Indian property from the application of state law.

²⁰ Act of June 18, 1934, sec. 5, 48 Stat. 981, 25 U. S. 105, provides:

"The Secretary of the Interior is hereby authorized, in his discretion, to acquire * * * any interest in lands, whether or not without existing improvements, * * * for the purpose of providing land for Indians. Title to any lands * * * shall be taken in the name of the United States * * * and such lands or rights shall be from State and local taxation."

See also Act of June 20, 1916, 49 Stat. 1342, upheld in *United States v. Board of County*, 28 F. Supp. 270 (D. C. Okla. 1939). *U. S. v. United States v. Board of County Commissioners of Osage County, Okla.*, 103 Fed. 485 (C. C. W. D. Okla. 1915), aff'd 210 Fed. 481 (C. C. A. 8, 1914), app. dismissed 244 U. S. 602 (1917).

²¹ The leading case is *Choate v. Papp*, 221 U. S. 805 (1912), holding that the Act of May 27, 1908, 35 Stat. 512, was invalid insofar as it attempted to remove the tax exemption as to Choate and Chulawaw allottees under the Alaska Agreement and Ceded Act of June 28, 1908, 40 Stat. 403. The rationale of this decision has been followed in many cases. See for example, *Geoprey v. State*, 380 U. S. 507 (1940), *Ward v. Love County*, 235 U. S. 17 (1920), *Board of County v. United States*, 310 F. 2d 429 (C. C. A. 10, 1938), cert. granted 106 U. S. 629, mod. 106 U. S. 291, *Board of County of Caddo County, Okla. v. United States*, 87 F. 2d 675 (C. C. A. 10, 1936), *Glenn County, Mont. v. United States*, 90 F. 2d 798 (C. C. A. 9, 1938), *Morrow v. United States*, 248 Fed. 874 (C. C. A. 8, 1917).

²² The doctrine is not without limitations. The immunity can only vest in an Indian and does not accrue to a purchaser from him. *Pink v. County Commissioners*, 248 U. S. 879 (1919). This condition is sometimes based upon the ground that the immunity has been contractually relinquished by the Indian in consideration for a removal of restriction. *Becker v. Ship*, 245 U. S. 102 (1917). This immunity, finally, extends only for the time prescribed in the defining statute. *United States v. Speech*, 24 F. Supp. 465 (D. C. Minn. 1938).

²³ *United States v. Fournier*, 251 Fed. 270 (D. C. S. D. 1918) (Enabling Act for North Dakota, South Dakota, Montana, and Wyoming, Act of February 22, 1889, 25 Stat. 677, 677, *Van-Pe-Aan-Que v. Adirak*, 28 Fed. 486 (C. C. Ind. 1889) (Northwest Ordinance, July 13, 1787, U. S. C. (1864 ed.) p. xxvii). *United States v. Tuleman County*, 274 Fed. 119 (D. C. B. D. Wash. 1921) (Enabling Act for Washington, Act of February 22, 1889, 25 Stat. 677), see *United States v. Ferry County, Wash.*, 24 F. Supp. 890 (D. C. B. D. Wash. 1918) (Enabling Act for Washington, Act of February 22, 1889, 25 Stat. 677, 677), *Fink v. County Comrs.*, 248 U. S. 880, 401 (1919), *United States v. Board of County of McIntosh County*, 271 Fed. 747 (D. C. B. D. Okla. 1914), aff'd 284 Fed. 108 (C. C. A. 8, 1922), app. dismissed 208 U. S. 989 (1921), 263 U. S. 601 (1924), *United States v. Board of County*, 20 F. Supp. 270, 275 (D. C. N. D. Okla. 1939) (Enabling Act for Oklahoma, Act of June 10, 1906, 34 Stat. 297), *Truett v. Hurbur Land & Cattle Co.*, 73 Fed. 60 (C. C. A. 8, 1906) (Enabling Act for Montana, Act of February 22, 1889, 25 Stat. 677, 677), app. dismissed sub *Hurbur Land & Cattle Co. v. Truett*, 106 U. S. 719 (1897).

²⁰ See Chapter 5.

²¹ *United States v. Rickert*, 188 U. S. 432 (1908), *United States v. Prevon*, 281 Fed. 270 (D. C. S. D. 1918), *Dancy County, S. D. v. United States*, 28 F. 2d 431 (C. C. A. 8, 1928), cert. den. 278 U. S. 649 (1928), *United States v. Thurston County*, 148 Fed. 287 (C. C. A. 8, 1900), *United States v. Wagon*, 12 F. 2d 300 (C. C. A. 4, 1918), cert. den. 285 U. S. 830, *Morrow v. United States*, 248 Fed. 854 (C. C. A. 8, 1917).

²² *New York Indians*, 5 Wall. 761 (1866).

²³ 148 Fed. 287 (C. C. A. 8, 1906).

Thus Indian immunity from taxation has been predicated¹⁹ upon clauses providing that nothing in the enabling act shall impair the rights of persons or property pertaining to the Indians, or that Indian lands shall remain subject to the absolute jurisdiction of Congress.²⁰

C STATE CONSTITUTIONS

Most of these enabling act provisions have been written into

¹⁹ *The Kansas Indians*, 5 Wall. 725, 736 (1866); *United States v. Yakima County*, 251 P.2d 115 (11 C. B. 11 Wash. 1921); *United States v. Penasco*, 211 P.2d 270 (11 C. B. 11 1946); see *United States v. Shoshone*, 27 Fed. Cas. 90, 101 (11 C. B. 11 1849); see *United States v. Board of Commissioners of Utah Territory*, 271 Fed. 737 (11 C. B. 11 D. Okla. 1921); *all 281 Fed. 103* (11 C. B. 11 1922) *app. dism.*, 261 U. S. 650 (1921), 203 U. S. 101 (1921).

²⁰ See, for example, *Arizona*, Act of June 20, 1910, 36 Stat. 557, *Colorado*, Act of February 28, 1861, 12 Stat. 174, *Idaho*, *Wyoming*, Act of March 2, 1890, 12 Stat. 236, 12 Stat. 231, *Idaho*, *Wyoming*, Act of March 4, 1890, 12 Stat. 808-809, *Kansas*, Act of January 29, 1890, 12 Stat. 120-127, *Montana*, *Territory*, Act of May 28, 1890, 12 Stat. 51, 56, *New Mexico*, Act of June 20, 1910, 16 Stat. 757, *Idaho*, Act of Mar. 2, 1890, 20 Stat. 81, 82, Act of June 10, 1900, 14 Stat. 267-270, *Utah*, Act of July 16, 1890, 28 Stat. 107, *Wyoming*, *Territory*, Act of July 25, 1890, 18 Stat. 178.

SECTION 2. STATE TAXATION OF TRIBAL LANDS

Land which is occupied by a tribe or tribes of Indians have always been regarded as not within the jurisdiction of the state for purposes of state property taxation. The principal reason for this immunity has been the fact that the tribes have been regarded as distinct political communities, exercising many of the attributes of a sovereign body.²¹ A landmark in this field is the case of *The Kansas Indians*.²² In holding that the tribal lands (as well as lands held by individual members thereof) were not subject to state tax laws, the court said:

"If the tribal organization of the Shawnees is preserved intact, and recognized by the political department of the government as existing, then they are a 'people distinct from other' capable of making treaties, separated from the jurisdiction of Kansas, and to be governed exclusively by the government of the Union. If under the control of Congress, from necessity there can be no divided authority. If they have outlived many tribes, they have not outlived the protection afforded by the Constitution, treaties, and laws of Congress. It may be, that they cannot exert much longer as a distinct people in the presence of the civilization of Kansas, but until they are clothed with the rights and bound to all the duties of citizens, they enjoy the privilege of total immunity from State taxation. There can be no question of State sovereignty in the case, as Kansas accepted her admission into the family of States on condition that the Indian rights should remain unimpaired and the general government at liberty to make any regulation respecting them, their lands, property, or other rights, which it would have been competent to make if Kansas had not been admitted into the Union." * * * While the general government has a superintending care over their interests, and continues to treat with them as a nation, the State of Kansas is estopped from denying their title to it. She accepted this status when she accepted the act admitting her into the Union. Conferring rights and privileges on these Indians cannot affect their situation, which can only be changed by treaty stipulation, or a voluntary abandonment of their tribal organization. As long as the United States recognizes their national character they are under the protection of treaties and the laws of Congress, and their property is withdrawn from the operation of State laws. (Pp. 735-737.)

¹⁹ See Chapter 14.

²⁰ 5 Wall. 727 (1866). Where, however, the tribe has ceased to exist as such within the state, lands owned by Indians, namely members of the tribe are subject to state taxation unless forbidden by some other federal law. *Pensack v. Commissioner*, 108 U. S. 44 (1880).

state constitutions, thus adding additional reason for limitation upon the power of the state.²³

D STATE STATUTES

A state may also limit its own power to tax the property of an Indian tribe by entering into an agreement with the tribe guaranteeing exemption of its lands from taxation, which guarantee is protected against violation by the obligation of contracts clause of the Federal Constitution.²⁴ This source of immunity, however, is of little importance today because states seldom make agreements with Indian tribes.

The agreement may sometimes take the form of a statutory enactment.²⁵

²¹ *Okla. Gen. Council*, Act 1, sec. 2; *South Dakota Gen. Act*, XXII, sec. 2. See *United States v. Baker*, 188 U. S. 432 (1901), *United States v. Yakima County*, 271 Fed. 115 (11 C. B. D. Wash. 1921).

²² *United States v. Council*, Act 1, sec. 10, cl. 2. *New Jersey v. Wilson*, 7 Cranch 161 (1812). Cf. to 35, *infra*.

²³ See *Jeffer v. Wilson*, 7 Cranch 161 (1812), and see *Wong-Pan-Quan v. Adair*, 28 Fed. 186 (11 C. B. Ind. 1880).

When the State of New York attempted to levy taxes upon the lands occupied by various tribes of Indians, contending that though the tribes might be sold for payment of the taxes the right of occupancy of the tribe would continue unchallenged, its attempt was frustrated by the Supreme Court²⁶ in the following words:

"It will be seen on looking into the general laws of the State imposing taxes on town, county charges, as well as into the special acts of 1840 and 1841, that the taxes are imposed upon the lands in these reservations, and it is the lands which are sold in default of payment. They are dealt with by the town and county authorities in the same way in making this assessment, and in levying the same, as other real property in these subdivisions of the State. We must say, regarding these reservations as wholly exempt from State taxation, and which, as we understand the opinion of the learned Judge below, is not denied, the exercise of this authority over them is an unwarrantable interference, inconsistent with the original title of the Indians, and offensive to their tribal relations."

The tax titles purporting to cover these lands to the purchaser, even with the qualification suggested that the right of occupancy is not to be affected, may well embarrass the occupants and be used by unworthy persons to the disturbance of the tribe. All agree that the Indian right of occupancy creates an inalienable title to the reservations that may extend from generation to generation, and will cease only by the dissolution of the tribe, or their consent to sell to the party possessed of the right of pre-emption. He is the only party that is authorized to deal with the tribe in respect to their property, and thus with the consent of the government. Any other party is an intruder, and may be proceeded against under the twelfth section of the act of 30th June, 1884.* (P. 771.)

* *Stat. at Large*, 780.

On the other hand, though a state may not tax the lands which the tribe occupies, it was early held that the state might tax cattle of non-Indians grazing upon tribal land under a lease from the Indians.²⁷ "But it is obvious," said the court, "that a tax put upon the cattle of the lessees is too remote and indirect to be deemed a tax upon the lands or privileges of the Indians."

²⁴ *The New York Indians*, 5 Wall. 761 (1866).

²⁵ *Thomas v. Gay*, 109 U. S. 264 (1883).

Until recently, the federal instrumentality doctrine was employed to exempt from state taxation the income of non-Indian lessees of tribal or restricted Indian lands. However in sustaining a federal tax on the income accruing to a lessee under a lease of state lands, the Supreme Court in *Heldring v. Producers Corp.*¹ expressly overruled the leading case of *Gillespie v. Oklahoma*,² which held that a state tax on income derived by a lessee from leases of Creek or Osage restricted lands was invalid because it hampered the United States in making the best terms possible for the Indian nation.

The *Gillespie* case seems to have rested on the premise that a lessee of lands from which a Government derives income for its governmental functions becomes thereby an instrumentality of that Government.

The Supreme Court, in 1938, was more concerned with the immunity from state and federal taxation which its decision 6 years earlier in the *Gillespie* case had granted to large private incomes than with any question of interference with federal power in Indian affairs.

As said by the court, in the *Heldring* case:

"... immunity from non-discriminatory taxation sought by a private person for his property or gains because he is engaged in operations under a government contract or lease cannot be supported by merely theoretical conceptions of interference with the functions of government. Regard must be had to substance and direct effects. And while it merely appears that one operating under a government contract or lease is subjected to a tax with respect to his profits on the same lands as others who are engaged in similar businesses, there is no sufficient ground for holding that the effect upon the Government is other than indirect and remote."³ (Pp. 830-837)

And even if the lessee were in fact an agency of the Government, "no constitutional implications prohibit a State tax upon the property of an agent of the Government merely because it is the property of such an agent."⁴

¹ 301 U. S. 876 (1938).

² 237 U. S. 501 (1922). But see dissenting opinion in *Heldring v. Producers Corp.*, 309 U. S. 870, 87 (1938).

³ In its original form the tax payments of governmental lessees seemed a relatively innocuous doctrine designed to protect the income of the Indian lands of the nation. See Note 51 *Harv. L. Rev.* 707, 712, fn. 30 (1938). But from exemption of the income income of the lessee at Indian lands, the cases progressed through exemption of net receipts to various impairments of the taxing powers of Oklahoma. *Cherokee Oil & Gas R. v. Harrison*, 276 U. S. 232 (1928) (gross income tax, not paid directly to Federal Government); *Indian Territory Mineral Leasing Oil Co. v. Oklahoma*, 249 U. S. 822 (1916) (leaseholds of Indian land exempt from general property tax); *Itasca v. Gasco Oil Co.*, 217 U. S. 508 (1918) (gross production tax in lieu of property taxes); *Gillespie v. Oklahoma*, 237 U. S. 501 (1922) (net income tax, interstate commerce analogy rejected); *Jacobus Mining Co. v. H. H. 271 U. S. 809 (1926)* (non-discriminatory property tax on ore at mine before sale). But of *Indian Territory Mineral Leasing Oil Co. v. Bond*, 268 U. S. 325 (1925) (oil taxable before sale, while royalty already paid to Indians).

⁴ *Radin and Co. v. Pension*, 18 Wall. 5, 88 (1878). Cf. *Clallum County v. United States*, 263 U. S. 841 (1922). See also discussion of Federal income tax, *infra*, note 73.

It is to be noted, however, that in the cases overruled the taxes were levied on private individuals or corporations organized for profit and which were only incidentally performing a federal function. A distinction may be drawn between these cases, and cases involving a corporation organized solely to carry out governmental objectives, such as the tribal corporations organized under the Indian Reorganization Act of June 18, 1934,⁵ and it is probable that an attempt by a state to impose income or other types of taxes on such business organizations would still be held in direct violation on a federal instrumentality.⁶

There seems little doubt in view of the foregoing that the validity, if not the scope, of the instrumentality doctrine, in so far as it relates to Indians, their property and their affairs, remains unchanged. For just as the right to tax the lessee of state lands does not include the right to tax the state itself, so the right to tax the lessee of Indian lands does not imply a right to tax the Indians or their property.

When the lands pass from the tribe to non-Indians they become ordinary, subject to state taxation. Thus a railroad purchasing a right-of-way through a reservation must pay taxes on that right-of-way as though the lands were entirely withdrawn from the reservation,⁷ and the fact that property owned by a railroad is subject to a right of reversion to an Indian tribe does not preclude the state from taxing such property while owned by the railroad.⁸

On the other hand a state may contract with a tribe that designated lands be tax exempt. In such a case it has been held that the exemption runs with the lands even into the hands of a non-Indian purchaser.⁹ Nevertheless, as pointed out by the Court, the state could, as a condition to permitting the sale of the lands, require that the right of exemption be waived, in which event the lands in the hands of the purchaser would be subject to state property taxes.

In the exercise of its plenary power over the Indian tribes, Congress may expressly subject a privilege of a property right of the tribe to state taxation. Thus the Act of May 20, 1924,¹⁰ provided that—

- "... the production of oil and gas and other minerals on [unallotted Indian reservation land, other than land of the Five Civilized Tribes and the Osage reservation] may be taxed by the State in which said lands are located
- "... the same as production on unrestricted lands,
- "... Provided, however, That such tax shall not become a lien or charge of any kind or character against the land or the property of the Indian owner.

⁵ 48 Stat. 994.

⁶ See *Clallum County v. United States*, 263 U. S. 841 (1922).

⁷ *Utah and Northern Railway v. Fisher*, 110 U. S. 28 (1885); *Missouri and Phoenix Railroad v. Allison*, 136 U. S. 347 (1900).

⁸ *Cherokee Oil & Gas R. v. Harrison*, 276 U. S. 232 (1928).

⁹ *New Jersey v. Wilson*, 7 Cranch 101 (1812); *Of Paul v. County Commissioners*, 218 U. S. 390 (1910); *Robert v. School*, 245 U. S. 182 (1917).

¹⁰ 48 Stat. 244.

SECTION 3. STATE TAXATION OF INDIVIDUAL INDIAN LANDS

A TREATY ALLOTMENTS

The earliest individual Indian land holdings with which the cases are concerned are those resulting from treaty. The early cases of *The Kansas Indians* involved, among others, the question of whether tribal lands conveyed, pursuant to treaty, to tribal members in severalty were exempt from state taxation. As we have seen¹ the Court was of the opinion that since "There is

no evidence ... to show that the Indians with separate estates have not the same rights in the tribe as those whose estates are held in common," and since "as long as the United States recognizes them [the tribes] national character they are under the protection of treaties and the laws of Congress, and their property is withdrawn from the operation of State laws," the individual Indian holdings, as those of the tribe, are exempt from state taxation.

Similarly, lands allotted pursuant to treaty to a chief of the

¹ 5 Wall. 787, 796, 787 (1866). See *Fn. 24 supra*.

Manum, and restricted as to alienation remain tax exempt even in the hands of the heirs of the allottee, provided that tribal relations are maintained.³⁰

With the growth of the practice of allotting tribal lands in severalty the question of their exemption from state taxation became of increasing importance. We find the courts holding uniformly that restricted lands within an Indian reservation remain exempt from taxation. The extent, however, of their immunity from taxation is dependent in each case upon the statute under which the allotment is made. Generally, land held by individual Indians outside an Indian reservation is exempt only to the extent that it is declared exempt by statute or state constitution or is recognized by the court as a federal instrumentality.³¹

B. THE GENERAL ALLOTMENT ACT

The division of tribal lands in severalty to individual Indians was largely accomplished by the General Allotment Act of 1887.³² This act did not apply to all the Indians, several tribes, including the Five Civilized Tribes inhabiting the Indian Territory, which has since become a part of Oklahoma, being omitted.³³ However, it covered all Indian tribes except those explicitly named, and provided for the allotment to individual Indians of tracts of land for their own use. Under it the President was authorized to allot to individual Indians plots of land, and the Secretary of the Interior to issue patents.

" . . . in the name of the allottees, which patents shall be of the legal effect, and declare that the United States does and will hold the land thus allotted, for the period of twenty-five years, in trust for the sole use and benefit of the Indian to whom such allotment shall have been made, . . . and that at the expiration of said period the United States will convey the same by patent to said Indian, or his heirs as aforesaid, in fee, discharged of said trust and free of all charge or incumbrance whatsoever." (P. 880)

Notwithstanding their holding with the argument that the "trust" is the means whereby the Federal Government exercises control over the Indian ward in order to fulfill the duty of care and protection which it owes him, the courts have uniformly declared the subject of that trust a federal instrumentality and hence not subject to state taxation. As said by the Supreme Court in quoting a statement of the Attorney General:

"It was therefore well said by the Attorney General of the United States, in an opinion delivered in 1888, 'that the allotment lands provided for in the Act of 1887 are exempt from state or territorial taxation upon the ground above stated, . . . namely, that the lands covered by the act are held by the United States for the period of twenty-five years in trust for the Indians, such trust being an avenue for the exercise of a Federal power, and therefore outside the province of state or territorial authority.' 39 Op Atty Gen 101, 169 (P. 489)"

The courts have also argued that the lands allotted under this act are not subject to state taxation, on the theory that if the lands

were taxable, they could be mortgaged, and any mortgagee would prevent the United States from fulfilling its trust obligation.⁴⁰

Similarly, lands allotted under authority of acts incorporating the General Allotment Act by reference are not taxable.⁴¹ In *Harmon v. United States*,⁴² the court said that the exemption arose from the legal trusteeship obligating the United States to convey free of encumbrance, rather than from any concept of "governmental wardship over a dependent and inferior people" (P. 838).

The faithfulness of exempting the lands and not the improvements thereon was recognized in *United States v. Barker*⁴³ wherein the court said:

"Looking at the object to be accomplished by allotting Indian lands in severalty, it is evident that Congress expected that the lands so allotted would be improved and cultivated by the allottee. But that object would be defeated if the improvements could be assessed and sold for taxes. The improvements to which the question referred is of a permanent kind. While the title to the land remained in the United States, the permanent improvements could no more be sold for local taxes than could the land to which they belonged. It is very evident that it can be urged to show that the land was not subject to local taxation applies to the assessment and taxation of the permanent improvements."

" . . . The fact remains that the improvements here in question are essentially a part of the lands, and their use by the Indians is necessary to effectuate the policy of the United States." (P. 422)

It is clear, of course, that an allotment made under the General Allotment Act⁴⁴ remained exempt from taxation so long as the land was held in trust by the United States.⁴⁵ The allottee was thus assured that his lands would be tax exempt for at least 25 years and perhaps longer. However, in 1900 Congress empowered the Secretary of the Interior, before the expiration of the 25-year trust period, to issue a patent in fee "whenever he shall be satisfied that any Indian allottee is competent and capable of managing his or her affairs." . . . The duration of the exemption came thus to be determined according to the federal Indian policy in vogue at any particular time.⁴⁶ Yet, the importance to the Indian of his tax immunity can hardly be understated. The consequences of the losing of a fee patent have been expressed in Merriam, The Problem of Indian Administration as follows:

" . . . The statistics of Indian property previously given in this chapter demonstrate the fact, so obvious to persons who visit the Indian country, that the value of the Indian lands is relatively high as compared with the

³⁰ *Morris v. United States*, 248 Fed. 854 (C. C. A. 8, 1917), *Board of Comm'rs v. United States*, 100 F. 2d 920 (C. C. A. 10, 1938), mod. 60 Sup. Ct. 295 (1938); *Ginsler County, Mont. v. United States*, 90 F. 2d 738 (C. C. A. 9, 1938); *United States v. Benconah County, Idaho*, 200 Fed. 628 (C. C. A. 9, 1928); *United States v. Okemah County, 217 Fed. 261* (D. C. W. D. Wash. 1914); *United States v. Peavy County, Washington*, 24 F. Supp. 800 (D. C. E. D. Wash. 1938); see *United States v. New Price County, Idaho*, 65 F. 2d 232 (C. C. A. 9, 1938), rehearing den. 95 F. 2d 238 (C. C. A. 9, 1938).

³¹ *P. v. Nelson*, Act of January 14, 1880, 25 Stat. 643, 645, sec. 7, applied to Minnesota Chippewas in *Morris v. United States*, 248 Fed. 854 (C. C. A. 8, 1917), cf. *United States v. Speech*, 24 F. Supp. 405 (D. C. Minn. 1938), Act of June 6, 1900, 31 Stat. 872, 878, sec. 6 (Comanches, Kiowas, and Apaches) discussed in *United States v. Board of Comm'rs (Comanche County)*, 9 F. Supp. 401 (D. C. W. D. Okla. 1934); Act of March 3, 1893, 27 Stat. 557, applying to the Kiokapans in Indian Territory. Cf. *United States v. Matthews*, 82 F. 2d 745 (C. C. A. 8, 1929).

³² 248 Fed. 854 (C. C. A. 8, 1917).

³³ 158 U. S. 435 (1903).

³⁴ Act of February 8, 1887, 24 Stat. 888.

³⁵ *United States v. Barker*, 188 U. S. 482 (1908).

³⁶ Act of May 8, 1900, 31 Stat. 182.

³⁷ For a discussion of such policy and its effects, see Chapters 2 and 11.

³⁸ *Hon-Po-Zan-Qu v. Aishah*, 28 Fed. 450 (C. C. Ind. 1880), *O'Leary v. Weaver*, 16 Fed. Cir. No. 893 (C. C. Ind. 1910).

³⁹ *Pendell v. Commissioner*, 103 U. S. 44 (1880).

⁴⁰ Act of February 8, 1887, 24 Stat. 888. See Chapter 4, sec. 11, and Chapter 11.

⁴¹ The act, by its terms, did not apply to territory occupied by the Cheyennes, Ojibwas, Chickawas, Seminoles, Osages, Mixons, Peorias, Sacs, and Foxes, in the Indian Territory, nor to any reservations occupied by the Seneca Nation in New York, nor to a certain strip of land in Nebraska adjoining the Sioux Nation on the north. For a discussion of state taxation of the lands of the Five Civilized Tribes and the Osages see Chapter 23.

⁴² The trust period was extended from time to time by various Executive orders, and indefinitely by the Act of June 18, 1934, 48 Stat. 964.

⁴³ *United States v. Barker*, 188 U. S. 482 (1908).

Indians' income from the use of that land. The general property tax, although based on the value of land, must be paid from income unless it is to result in the forfeiture of the land itself. And as is the general property tax from many points of view, it is peculiarly bad when applied to Indians, suddenly removed from the status of a tax exempt incompetent and subjected to the full weight of state and local taxation. Such as the Indians are concerned, the tax violates the deepest canon of taxation that a tax shall be related to the capacity to pay. The levying of these taxes has without doubt been an important factor in causing the loss of Indian lands by so large a proportion of those Indians who have been declared competent.

The policies involved in making individual allotments and issuing fee patents brought into the economic problems of the Indian Service the difficult subject of taxation. Under the allotment and the incompetent Indian holding a trust patent is generally exempt from taxation. On the day he is declared competent and is given his fee patent, he straightaway becomes subject to the full burden of state and local taxation. The more common form of taxation is the general property tax, the basis of which is the value of the property owned and the burden of which falls heavily on land, because it cannot slip out from under in the way other forms of property frequently do.

Many wise, conservative Indians, with a keen power to observe the expense of others, have no desire to progress to the point where they will be declared competent and be obliged to pay taxes. They know that the taxes will consume a large proportion of their total income and that taxes are inevitable. To them to achieve the status of competency means all probability the ultimate loss of their lands. From their point of view the reward for success is the imposition of an annual fine. (P. 177)

A policy of "strict liberalism" inaugurated in 1917 led to wholesale patenting in fee whether the allottee desired the patent or not. Fairly typical is the following description by the Court of Appeals in the Tenth Circuit.¹⁴

"Briefly, the record discloses that in the year 1918 patents covering the lands involved were issued to the United States in trust for twenty-seven Indians to whom the lands had been allotted in severalty. Within two years thereafter, fee patents were issued to these Indians. It is stipulated that the fee title was granted to the Indians without any application on their part and without their consent. Apparently there was some opposition among the Indians to the policy at the Department and some had said that they would not accept for the fee patents. There is a letter in the record written under date of April 24 1918 from the office of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs to the special superintendent in charge at the reservation, asking him to inform the Indians that the Secretary of the Interior has the right to issue these patents, and if they refuse to accept them, you are directed to have the patents recorded and after recording same, to send them to the patentees by registered mail and return the receipt cards for the files in your office." (P. 784.)

The year 1921 saw a reversal of policy in the issuing of patents and recent years have witnessed the cancellation of such patents¹⁵ and a variety of suits by the Federal Government seeking to recover taxes paid the state by the allottee, to enjoy further taxa-

¹⁴ *Glacon County, Mont v United States* 99 F.2d 788 (C.C.A. 9, 1938).

¹⁵ Authority for such cancellation is accorded by the Act of February 20, 1927, 44 Stat. 1217 which provides:

"That the Secretary of the Interior is hereby authorized, in his discretion, to cancel any patent in fee simple issued to an Indian allottee or to his heirs before the end of the period of trust described in original or first patent issued to such allottee, or before the expiration of any extension of such period of trust by the Patent Office, whenever such fee simple patent was issued without the consent or an application therefor in the allottee or by his heirs. Provided that the patentee has not relinquished or sold in part or the land described in such patent. Provided also that upon cancellation of such patent in fee simple the land shall be of the same status as though such fee patent had never been issued."

See also Act of February 21, 1931, 46 Stat. 1206

tion and to strike allotments from the tax rolls.¹⁶ In all these cases the Government was successful on a rationale perhaps best expressed in *United States v. Nez Perce County, Idaho*, as follows:

"The Allotment Act, as well as the trust patent, by plain implication granted the Indian immunity from taxation during the trust period or any extension of it, and he had the right finally to recover his lands 'free of all charge or incumbrance whatsoever.' The authorities are uniform to the effect that this right of exemption is a vested right, as much a part of the grant as the land itself, and the Indian may not be deprived of it by the unwarranted assumption to him of a fee patent prior to the end of the trust period. (*Booth v. Trapp*, 224 U.S. 605, 32 S. Ct. 563, 56 L. Ed. 1041, *Ward v. Love County*, 253 U.S. 17, 40 S. Ct. 419, 61 L. Ed. 747, *United States v. Bureau County*, 9 Cir., 290 F. 625, *Alton v. United States*, 8 Cir., 243 F. 874, *Board of County of Caddo County v. United States*, 10 Cir., 87 F. 2d 65, *United States v. Deery County*, D. C. 14 F. 2d 784, *United States v. Comanche County*, D. C. 6 F. Supp. 401, *United States v. Chehalis County* D. C. 217 F. 287. Treaties with the Indians and acts of Congress, relative to their rights in property reserved to them have always been strictly construed by the courts. The dependent condition of these wards of the Government makes it imperative that doubtful provisions in treaties and statutes be resolved in their favor. This court in *United States v. Bureau County*, supra, as early as 1923 declared that the Act of May 8, 1906, should be held to mean that the action of the Secretary of the Interior authorized in it can be held only on the application of the allottee or with his consent. The Act of February 20, 1927, was little more than a 'satisfactory recognition of the principle there announced. The fee patent in the present instance was issued during the trust period, or at least during an extension of that period. It follows from what has been said that, if it was issued to Carter without his application or consent, his land remained immune from taxation during the whole of the time from 1921 to 1932, and the lien of the county should be held void. (Pp. 283-290.)

Therefore, it would appear that the allottee under the General Allotment Act obtains a vested right to tax exemption which cannot be taken from him without his consent.¹⁷ Should he, on the other hand, apply for the issuance of a fee patent and be accorded one pursuant to law, there seems no reason to believe that his lands would not thereby become subject to state taxation.¹⁸

C HOMESTEAD ALLOTMENTS

Lands acquired by individual Indians under the general homestead laws are exempt from taxation for specified periods following the date of issuance of the patent. Section 15 of the Homestead Act of March 3, 1876,¹⁹ extended to Indians born in the United States who were heads of families or over 21 years of age and who have abandoned or shall abandon tribal relations, the benefits of the General Homestead Act of 1862.²⁰ The 1876 Act defined a tax exemption for a 5-year period by providing that the title to the lands acquired under it

"shall not be subject to alienation or incumbrance, either by voluntary conveyance or by judgment."

¹⁶ *United States v. Bureau County*, 209 Fed. 828 (C.C.A. 9, 1928); *United States v. Board of Com.,* 6 F. Supp. 401 (D.C. W.D. Okla. 1934); *United States v. Price County*, Washington, 21 F. Supp. 800 (D.C. B.D. Wash. 1938).

¹⁷ 95 F.2d 782 (C.C.A. 9, 1938).

¹⁸ *United States v. Price County*, Washington 24 F. Supp. 809 (D.C. B.D. Wash. 1938). For an account of legislation designed to deal with this situation see Chapter 5 see 113.

¹⁹ 18 Stat. 460 50 L. D. 601 (1924).

²⁰ 18 Stat. 462 459.

²¹ Act of May 20, 1890, 12 Stat. 392 allowing citizens over 21 or heads of families to enter a quarter section of public lands. This act was thought not to include Indians because they were not considered citizens. *United States v. Jover*, 240 Fed. 610 (C.C.A. 8, 1917).

decree, or order of any court, and shall be and remain unalienable for a period of five years from the date of the patent issued therefor."

This was supplemented by the Act of July 1, 1881,²¹ which applied the homestead laws to Indian generally who had been located on public lands rather than to a "special class," and contained a 25-year "trust period" provision almost identical to that contained in the General Allotment Act.²² The same principles applied to the General Allotment Act allotments would seem, therefore, applicable to lands acquired under the 1881 Act.²³

D. LAND PURCHASED WITH RESTRICTED FUNDS

In 1928 the Mezzini report on "The Problem of Indian Administration" was published. Its authors had had occasion to study the then perplexing problem of the taxability of land purchased with restricted funds and their comments concerning it are particularly enlightening:

* * * A perplexing problem confronting the Indian Office today is the taxation by the states of the lands purchased for the Indians with their restricted funds which are under the supervision of the Office. The volume of such purchases is large because the allotments originally made to the Indians are often not suitable for homes. These original allotments must be sold and new property purchased at the Indians are to be started on the road to better social and economic conditions. In order to preserve these new lands for the use and benefit of the Indian owner, it has been the uniform rule to impose upon them the restrictions which existed upon the funds with which they were obtained. Some states are claiming and exercising the power to tax such lands. Since the Indian owner, on account of his lack of ready funds or his insufficient sense of public responsibility, either cannot or will not pay taxes, the result is that the lands purchased for his permanent home are speedily slipping from him and he himself is becoming a homeless public charge. This unfortunate situation is remedied more or less because the terms of the deeds prohibit alienation by voluntary act, and thus the Indian owner is not able either to mortgage or sell his lands to secure for himself the interest that he may have in the land over and above the delinquent taxes.

The United States Supreme Court²⁴ held at an early date that the allotted lands of the Indians, the title to which was held in trust by the United States, were not taxable by the states. This policy of withholding land to the Indians and holding the title to it in abeyance until such time as they could be trusted with its full and free control had been adopted by the national government as a means for more fully civilizing the Indians and bringing them to the position where they could assume the full responsibility of citizenship. The lands were therefore the instrumentalities of the United States, and as such, by virtue of long-standing principles of constitutional law, not taxable by the several states. To this unquestioned decision may be added the ruling that, in the event of the sale of the allotted lands by govern-

mental consent, the proceeds, being simply the medium for which the lands were exchanged, were likewise held in trust by the government and not taxable.²⁵ This Supreme Court has also sustained the power of the Secretary of the Interior, in whom is vested the discretion to permit the conveyance of Indian lands, to allow such conveyance on the sole condition that the proceeds be invested in lands subject to his control in the matter of sale.²⁶

²¹ *United States v. Becker*, 188 U. S. 432, (1903).

²² *National Bank of Commerce v. Anderson*, 147 Fed. 87 (C. C. Minn. C. 1906), *United States v. Thibault*, 113 Fed. 287 (C. C. A. 8th Cir. 1903).

²³ *United States v. Scarborough*, 266 U. S. 220 (1925). See also *United States v. Brown*, 8 Fed. 2nd 204 (C. C. 8th Cir. 1925), holding that the Secretary of the Interior may purchase lands on the Indians with money arising from the lease of allotted lands, and protect the title of the lands purchased.

In spite of the intimation from these cases and from the express decisions of two district courts of the Northwest²⁷ more favorable to the Indians, the exemption from state taxes of restricted lands purchased for them by the government with their restricted funds is in a precarious situation. In a case which was taken to the United States Supreme Court²⁸ it was held that lands purchased with trust funds for an Osage Indian, and made unalienable without the consent of the Secretary of the Interior, were not taxable. This decision, however, and involving necessarily the declaration of a general principle, since the ruling was occasioned by the fact that the special act²⁹ under which these particular funds were released to the allottee gave to the Secretary no authority to control and limit the use of such release. In this case, moreover, it was shown that the money released from the trust was invested directly in the property purchased. The thought of the court is perhaps shown in its closing remark, "Congress did not confer upon the Secretary of the Interior authority to give to property purchased with released funds immunity from state taxation." By a series of recent decisions³⁰ the Circuit Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit, although omitting some dicta favorable to the Indian position, has uniformly sustained state taxation of lands purchased for the Indians with their restricted funds and made subject to alienation only with the consent of the Secretary of the Interior, and has declared itself committed to the proposition that such lands are taxable.³¹ One of these cases was affirmed by the United States Supreme Court³² in a *per curiam* decision on the somewhat doubtful authority of the McCurdy case *supra*.³³

²⁴ *United States v. New Pease County*, 207 U. S. 495 (D. C. Idaho, 1927), *United States v. Tahoma County*, 274 Fed. 116 (D. C. E. D. Wash. 1923).

²⁵ *United States v. McCurdy*, 246 U. S. 578 (1918).

²⁶ Section 5 of the act of April 22, 1908, § 578.

²⁷ *United States v. Gray*, 254 Fed. 107 (1922); *United States v. Reardon*, 284 Fed. 109 (1922); *United States v. Brown*, 284 Fed. 109 (1922); *United States v. McCurdy*, 15 Fed. 2nd 684 (1926), *decum*, *United States v. Mammali*, 15 Fed. 2nd 628 (1926).

²⁸ *United States v. Reardon*, 287 U. S. 891 (1924).

²⁹ *United States v. McCurdy*, 246 U. S. 578 (1918).

The declaration by the Circuit Court of Appeals³⁴ that the national government has no authority to withdraw from state taxation lands formerly subject thereto is certainly not tenable. Congress has the power to relieve from the burden of state taxes a governmental instrumentality, whether a post office or a home for the government's Indian wards, and it matters not that the prior status of the property may have been such that the state could freely tax it.

³⁵ *United States v. Brown*, 8 Fed. 2d 884 (1926), *decum*.

²¹ See *United States v. Zommer*, 241 U. S. 379 (1916).

²² 28 Stat. 76, 90.

²³ The 1876 Act was also supplemented by the Act of January 18, 1881, 21 Stat. 815, making funds available to the Winnebagoes of Wisconsin so they could avail themselves of the benefits of it. That act expressly provided that titles acquired by the Winnebagoes should be non-taxable for 20 years from date of issuance of the patent.

²⁴ For discussion comparing the two acts, see *United States v. Hemmer*, 241 U. S. 379, 384-385 (1916); *United States v. Conception of the President*, 101 F. 2d 150 (C. C. A. 10, 1930).

²⁵ This trust period was extended to 1945 by Executive order issued under authority of Act of June 21, 1906, 84 Stat. 325, 826, and indefinitely under the Act of June 15, 1941, 48 Stat. 864.

²⁶ See note 83, *supra*.

²⁷ See discussion of General Allotment Act, *supra*, note 83. Also see *United States v. Jackson*, 280 U. S. 188 (1930).

²⁸ On the other hand, some courts have held that where land is purchased for an Indian with restricted funds from another Indian who held it tax exempt, it is tax exempt in the hands of the new purchaser, the reason given being that the lands and funds involved were at all times used by the United States in the discharge of its obligation to its Indian wards. *McDerham v. Ashland County*, 192 Wis. 177, 212 N. W. 920 (1927); *United States v. G. Menocher* (D. C. E. D. Okla. June 14, 1934), *Justice* file No. 90-5-11-431; *McDerham v. Ashland County* (D. C. W. D. Okla. August 27, 1934) *Justice* file No. 90-5-5-88; *United States v. Stone* (D. C. W. D. Okla. September 20, 1934), *Justice* file No. 90-2-11-822.

If, as has been intimated, there be doubt as to the intention of Congress to give immunity from state taxation, it is recommended that legislation be secured expressly conferring the exemption. The states will not suffer from such a practice, for in return for the lost taxes on the purchased lands will be the subjection to the state taxing power of the relinquished lands, or of the funds used in making the new purchase.

Pending litigation should, of course, be pressed to a final conclusion with all possible speed in order that the existing uncertainty be ended. Should it transpire that these Indian lands are taxable, then the national government must fairly consider the nature of the duty to the ward of the grantor who has employed the funds for tax-exempt lands to purchase property on the express or implied misrepresentation that the newly-acquired property is likewise exempt. Several Indians have complained to the survey staff that they are being taxed despite the formal assurance of Indian Service employees that the land purchased for them would be exempt from taxation.²⁶ (Pp. 795-798.)

In the case of *Shur v. Gibson-Zahner's Oil Corp.*,²⁷ lands outside a reservation purchased with restricted Indian funds and subject to a restraint against alienation were held subject to state property taxation. The court, however, recognized the fact that:

There are some instrumentalities which, though Congress may protect them from state taxation, will nevertheless be subject to that taxation unless Congress speaks.²⁸ (P. 581.)

Thereafter by the Act of June 20, 1930,²⁹ Congress expressly exempted such lands from state taxation. In order that its purpose and meaning may be more fully understood, both section 1 and section 2 of the 1930 Act are quoted in full:

That there is hereby authorized to be appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury of the United States not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$25,000, to be expended under such rules and regulations as the Secretary of the Interior may prescribe, for payment of taxes, including penalties, and interest, assessed against individuals owning Indian land the title to which is held subject to restrictions against alienation or encumbrance except with the consent or approval of the Secretary of the Interior, heretofore purchased out of trust or restricted funds of an Indian, where the Secretary finds that such land was purchased with the understanding and belief on the part of said Indians that after purchase it would be non-taxable, and for redemption or repurchase of any such land heretofore or hereafter sold for nonpayment of taxes.

Sec. 2. All lands the title to which is now held by an Indian subject to restrictions against alienation or encumbrance except with the consent or approval of the Secretary of the Interior, heretofore purchased out of trust or restricted funds of said Indians, are hereby declared to be instrumentalities of the Federal Government and shall be non-taxable until otherwise directed by Congress.

The 1937 amendment³⁰ to section 2 of the above act reads as follows:

All homesteads, heretofore purchased out of the trust or restricted funds of individual Indians, are hereby declared to be instrumentalities of the Federal Government and shall be non-taxable until otherwise directed by Congress. *Provided*, That the title to such homesteads shall be held subject to restrictions against alienation or encumbrance except with the approval of the Secretary of the Interior. *And provided further*, That the Indian owner or

owner's shall select, with the approval of the Secretary of the Interior, either the agricultural and grazing lands, not exceeding a total of one hundred and sixty acres, of the village, town, or city property, not exceeding in cost \$5,000, to be designated as a homestead.

The 1930 Act was passed to establish the tax-exemption of the lands purchased with restricted funds under the guidance and direction of the Interior Department as tax-exempt lands. After the passage of the act it was found that section 2 had application to such a large quantity of lands that it was introduced in Congress for its repeal. This bill was, however, amended on the recommendation of the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs to provide for restricting the tax exemption to homesteads purchased with trust or restricted funds rather than for repealing the tax exemption entirely, and the bill was passed in this amended form. The report of the Senate Committee in which this recommendation was made contains the following pertinent statement of the purpose of the 1930 Act and the 1937 amendment:

The said act of June 20, 1930 (46 Stat. L. 1542) was designed to bring relief and reimbursement to Indians who in failure to pay taxes have lost or were at risk of losing lands purchased from them under supervision, advice, and guidance of the Federal Government, which losses were not the fault of the Indians, but were purchased with the understanding and belief on their part and induced in representatives of the Government that the lands be non-taxable after purchase. It was intended that such lands would be redeemed out of the fund of \$25,000 authorized to be appropriated under the provisions of said act of June 20, 1930 (49 Stat. L. 1542).

Since the passage of said act of June 20, 1930 (49 Stat. L. 1542), it was found the provisions of section 2 thereof would apply to lands and other property purchased by restricted Indian funds, which would exempt from taxation vast quantities of property, such as business buildings, town lands which are not homesteads, etc.

The Commissioner of Indian Affairs appeared before the committee and suggested the amendment herein proposed, which proposed amendment was adopted and herein recommended by your committee. (Senate Report No. 882 75th Cong., 1st sess.)

In *United States v. Board of Comm's*,³¹ the court, in construing these statutes, held that Congress had the power to define federal instrumentalities, and that the 1930 Act clearly applied to prevent taxation for 1930³² of real estate used for both residence and business purposes, which was purchased with restricted funds of Osage Indians. The court said that the act applied to Indians in general, and was not made inapplicable to the Osages by reason of prior acts referring specifically to Osage homesteads.

In an unreported case, the same court applied these statutes to prevent taxation of homesteads purchased with trust funds held on deposit by the United States for Pawnee Indians in lieu of allotment.³³

The further extent of the operation of these statutes is not known at the present time, but they express the clear intent of Congress to continue homesteads of Indians tax exempt, whether the homestead was purchased for the Indian or allotted to him.³⁴

²⁶ 28 F. Supp. 270 (D. C. N. D. Okla. 1939) (Osage County). The court followed the view expressed in 60 U. S. 48 (1857) as to the applicability of the 1890 act to the Osages.

²⁷ The court held that the act was in force at the date of levy which was the critical date.

²⁸ *United States v. Board of County Comm's of Pawnee County, Okla.* (D. C. N. D. Okla., January 18, 1938), Justice Re No. 90-2-11-640.

²⁹ For a discussion of questions of tax exemption not yet passed upon by the courts, see Op. Sol. I. D., M-29887 (1939). And of letter of Attorney General dated October 6, 1938, declining to pass upon cases thereon discussed.

²⁹ The legislation referred to was finally enacted in 1936. Act of June 20, 1936, 40 Stat. 1542. Cf. Act of June 20, 1937, 47 Stat. 474.

³⁰ 29 U. S. 875 (1928).

³¹ 49 Stat. 1542. Cited in *United States v. Board of Comm's*, 26 F. Supp. 270 (D. C. N. D. Okla. 1939).

³² Act of May 10, 1937, 50 Stat. 188.

SECTION 1. STATE TAXATION OF PERSONAL PROPERTY

Wherever personal property is acquired by or for tribal Indians for use on Indian reservation lands in connection with or in furtherance of the policy adopted by the Government in encouraging the Indians to cultivate the soil and to establish permanent homes and families, or otherwise and in their economic rehabilitation, such property may not be taxed by the state.¹² The immunity exists whether the property be purchased with moneys held in trust by the United States for the Indians or with moneys accruing to the Indians from other federal sources. The reason behind this doctrine of immunity is that the state has no power, by taxation or otherwise, to retard, impede, burden, or control the operations of instrumentality employed by the Federal Government in carrying into execution the powers lawfully vested in it.

In *United States v. Thornton County*,¹³ the Circuit Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit ruled that the proceeds of the sales of allotted lands held in trust by the United States were exempt from state taxation for the reason that the proceeds, like the lands from which they were derived, constituted an instrumentality lawfully employed by the Government in the exercise of its powers to protect, support, and instruct the Indians. The court said, among other things:

The allotted lands were held in trust in the United States in the benefit of those to whom they were assigned, and then heirs, under the acts of August 7, 1882, and February 8, 1887. The proceeds of the sales of these lands have been lawfully subordinated for the lands then sales in the trustee. The substitutes purchase of the nature of the originals, and stand charged with the same trust. The lands and their proceeds, so long as they are held or controlled by the United States and the term of the trust has not expired, are alike instrumentalities employed by it in the lawful exercise of its powers of government to protect, support, and instruct the Indians, for whose benefit the complainant holds them, and they are not subject to taxation by any state or county. (P. 222)

The doctrine of the foregoing case was approved in *United States v. Pearson*,¹⁴ a case involving issue property, that is, property issued to the Indians by the Federal Government. Immunity from state taxation was there extended to personal property which could be traced and identified as issue property, the increase of issue property, property purchased with the proceeds of the sale of issue property, property purchased with the proceeds of the sale of the increase of issue property, property for which similar issue property has been exchanged for similar use, the increase of property received in such exchange, the increase of issue property exchanged for similar property for similar use, and property purchased with money given to the Indians by the United States.

To the same general effect is *United States v. Dewey County*¹⁵ and *United States v. Erick*.¹⁶ In the case first cited the court held that personal property consisting of horses, cattle, and other property issued by the United States to the Indians and used by them on their allotments was not subject to assessment and taxation by the state.

For the same reason that property purchased by Indians with

restricted funds and property issued to the Indians by the Government for Government instrumentality, property purchased by the Indians pursuant to a specific plan for economic rehabilitation approved by the Government and carried out under Government supervision should likewise be recognized as a Government instrumentality. As said by the Solicitor of the Interior Department:¹⁷

The purchase of property by the Indians themselves in accordance with an economic plan worked out with the Government is unquestionably, as a method of assuring the possession by Indians of productive property, the old method of the Government's issuing such property to the Indians. From a legal viewpoint the purpose and content of the Government are identical whether the plow or the cattle are bought by the Indian with Individual Indian Moneys, the expenditure of which has been approved by the Superintendent, or bought by the Indians with revolving loan funds or judgment fund money, pursuant to a plan of rehabilitation approved by the Superintendent or bought by the Superintendent with maturity funds and issued to the Indians. The reasoning of the courts applies equally to these purchases, except that in the cases above cited the complainant had an ownership interest in the title to the property was found to be in the United States. The form of title, while indicative of the interest of the Government, is not, in my opinion, the determining factor. The important factor is the acquisition and use of the property in execution of a government plan for the Indians.

There are apparently no cases determining the right of the state to tax personal property of an Indian on a reservation which is not used pursuant to some federal plan. Apparently no state has attempted to collect such a tax. The doctrine that Indians on a reservation are not subject to state law in the absence of congressional authority¹⁸ would indicate that any such tax would be invalid.

On the other hand, personally issued to an Indian by the Federal Government and used by him outside the reservation is taxable by the state.¹⁹

Personally owned by non-Indians but held on an Indian reservation is subject to state taxation.²⁰ This is true even though the personally belongs to a Catholic mission situated on an Indian reservation and devoting both the personally and the proceeds thereof to the welfare of the Indians. In so deciding the Supreme Court declared:²¹

Taking the complaint as it is, it shows on its face that the Indians have neither any legal nor equitable title to the property, neither have they any legal or equitable right to its beneficial use, and it also appears from the complaint that the property is owned unconditionally and absolutely by the plaintiff. The plaintiff, as the owner of the cattle, may, at any time, abandon its present manner of using them and may devote them, or any income arising from their ownership, to any other purpose it may choose, and the Indians would have no legal right of complaint. The plaintiff might refuse to spend another dollar upon the Indians upon these reservations, and refuse to further maintain or aid them in any way whatever, and no right of the Indians would be thereby violated, nor could they call upon the courts to enforce the application of the plaintiff's property, or the income thereof, to the same purposes the plaintiff had theretofore applied them. There is nothing

¹² This immunity extends to the personality of a half-blood Indian adopted into a tribe, *United States v. Haydon*, 138 Fed. 964 (C. C. Mont. 1905), and in fact to the personality of any recognized member of an Indian tribe, *United States v. Hovine*, 168 Fed. 848 (C. C. Mont. 1909). But of *United States v. Trappan*, 110 Fed. 609 (C. C. Mont. 1901).

¹³ 148 Fed. 287 (C. C. A. 8, 1900).

¹⁴ 281 Fed. 270 (C. C. A. 8, 1910).

¹⁵ 174 F. 2d 784 (D. C. 8, 1926), aff'd sub nom. *Dewey County v. United States*, 20 F. 2d 484 (C. C. A. 8, 1928), cert. den. 373 U. S. 940.

¹⁶ 188 U. S. 482 (1903). And see *McKnight v. United States*, 180 Fed. 609 (C. C. A. 8, 1904).

¹⁷ Op. Rel. I. D., M. 80449, May 8, 1940.

¹⁸ See Chapter 6.

¹⁹ *United States v. Foster*, 22 F. 2d 465 (C. C. A. 9, 1927).

²⁰ *Phonax v. Gav*, 160 U. S. 264 (1898); *Wagoner v. Evans*, 170 U. S. 558 (1898); *Oathole Mission v. Missouri County*, 200 U. S. 118 (1906); *Tranville v. Swanton Land & Cattle Co.*, 78 Fed. 80 (C. C. A. 9, 1899), app. den. sub nom. *Swanton Land & Cattle Co. v. Tranville*, 166 U. S. 710 (1897).

²¹ *Oathole Mission v. Missouri County*, 200 U. S. 118 (1906).

ing in *Morrison Church v. United States*, 136 U. S. 1, which in the remotest degree applies to this case. This court has heretofore determined that the Indians interest in this kind of property, situated on their reservations, was not such as to exempt such property, when owned by private individuals, from taxation. *Thomas v. Gay*, 160 U. S. 261; *Wagoner v. Brown*, 170 U. S. 680. In the first of above-cited cases, the right to mine over the reservation was leased by the Indians to the owners of the cattle, and it was alleged that if the cattle were taxed the value of the lands would be reduced, because the owners of the cattle would not pay as much for the right to mine as they would if their cattle were not subjected to taxation, and that therefore the tax was, in effect and substance, upon the land. This court held that the tax paid upon the cattle of the lessees was too remote and indirect to be deemed a tax

upon the lands or privileges of the Indians, citing *Blue Railroad v. Pennsylvania*, 195 U. S. 431, and other cases, as authority for the decision. This is reaffirmed in the second case above cited. In this case the Indians have not even given a lease, and the owners are not obliged to pay anything for the privilege of grazing, and, as we have said, devote the property, or the income thereof, to purposes wholly foreign to the Indians themselves. However, mentioning the conduct of the owners of the cattle may be, in devoting the income on any portion of the principal of their property to the charitable work of improving and educating the Indians (and we could not admit the merit of such conduct), we cannot say that there is, on that account, the least claim for exemption from taxation because of any Federal provision, constitutional or otherwise. (Pg. 128-129)

SECTION 5. STATE SALES TAXES

The question of the extent to which Indians and persons trading with Indians are subject to state sales taxes has been treated in a recent opinion of the Solicitor of the Interior Department. "Though the questions treated arise under Arizona statutes, the problem they present is a general one and the Arizona statutes involved are not dissimilar in substance from the sales tax laws of other States. For this reason the following opinions quoted from the opinion serve to illuminate the entire subject."

There are two Arizona statutes particularly involved, each of which is illustrative of a type of sales tax law. The Revenue Act of 1935, Chapter 77, Laws Regular Session 1935, as amended by Chapter 2, Laws of First Special Session 1937, places an annual privilege tax on the business of selling at retail measured by the gross proceeds or the gross income from the business. Provision is made by the law for the use of tokens by purchasers to reimburse the dealers for the tax applicable to any sale. The other statute in question, Chapter 78, Laws Regular Session 1935, as amended in 1936, 1937, and 1938, places a tax on certain designated burdens to be paid by stamps to be affixed to the articles by the dealers. Both statutes contain, as a method of enforcement, the requirement that all dealers shall take out State licenses. Both statutes provide for an exemption from the tax of businesses and transactions not subject to tax under the United States Constitution and provide for refund to the dealer of the tax paid by him. This provision is made that the transactions and articles taxed were not subject to tax under the law. In both statutes, the tax is, on its face, a tax to be paid by dealers, whether wholesalers or retailers, and to be enforced against them, although both acts contemplate that the amount of the tax shall be added to the price paid by the consumer.

1 Application of State taxes to persons trading with Indians

The question of the application of these taxes to persons trading with Indians is subject to different answers depending upon the location of the trade and upon whether the traders or the persons dealt with are Indians. The regulation of trade with Indian tribes is one of the powers expressly delegated to Congress by section 8 of Article I of the United States Constitution. Congress has exercised this power in statutes restricting trade with the Indians and giving exclusive authority to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs to regulate each trade and the prices at which goods shall be sold to the Indians. (Sections 201 through 268, Title 25 of the United States Code.) These statutes, by their terms or by indirect construction, are limited in their application to Indian reservations. *United States v. Taylor*, 44 F. (2d) 837 (C. C. A. 9th, 1930), cert. den. 283 U. S. 820; *Rider v. La Olan*, 71 Wash. 488, 188 Pac. 3, *United States v. Certain Property*, 26 Faw 517 (Ariz. 1917). Congress has not exercised this power to regulate trade with the Indians in so far as

trade off the reservation is concerned except in the case of trade in liquor.

(a) Where Congress has exercised its authority it is axiomatic that the field is closed to State action. *Agnew Oil and Gas Co. v. Oklahoma*, 241 U. S. 188. Therefore, persons selling to or buying from Indians on Indian reservations are not subject to State laws which regulate or tax such transactions. However, it should be emphasized that it is trade with the Indians which is removed from State interference and not the trader himself, if the trader is a white person and is dealing with other white persons, even though such transactions occur on a reservation.

The Supreme Court has repeatedly permitted the taxation by the State of the property of white persons located on Indian reservations on the theory that such taxation did not interfere with the exercise of Federal authority within the reservation. *Thomas v. Gay*, 160 U. S. 264; *Wagoner v. Brown*, 170 U. S. 680; *Cuthbert v. Missionary*, 200 U. S. 118. This principle has been carried by the State courts to the extent of permitting State taxation of the property of Indian traders, including their stock on trade. *Morse v. Brown*, 7 Wyo 292, 51 Pac 570; *Covey v. McMillan*, 22 Mont 484, 50 Pac 908; *Noblet v. Amorette*, 71 Pac 870 (Wyo 1903). In the review of the relationship between the Federal Government and the State government on an Indian reservation, in *Supplies Trading Co. v. Cook*, 281 U. S. 697, the Supreme Court stated that the jurisdiction of the State over the reservation is full and complete save as to the Indians and their property.

In view of this jurisdiction of the State I held in my opinion submitted to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs on February 4, 1938, that white traders in their dealings with non-Indians must comply with the State laws, including those imposing sales taxes. I believe this ruling was correct. Traders on Indian reservations who are non-Indians are, in my opinion, required to take out licenses under the Arizona laws in question to carry on trade with non-Indians on the reservation, and must account to the State authorities for sales taxes on so much of their business as is done with non-Indians. They are not required to account to the State authorities for their transactions with Indians on the reservations, but are, if they do deal with the Indians, required to conform with the licensing provisions in the Federal statutes regulating trade with Indians. Traders who are themselves Indians are not subject to the State laws whether they deal with Indians or non-Indians.

(b) Where traders are not located on Indian reservations they are, in my opinion, responsible for the State taxes and subject to license whether or not they are Indians and whether or not they deal with Indians. Since

* Op Sol I D, M 30440, May 8, 1940

* The position of the Solicitor in this connection has been substantiated by the recent case of *Neah Bay Fish Co. v. Wisconsin*, 101 P. 2d 600 (Wash. 1940). The court there held that the State of Washington may levy a sales tax upon a company conducting its business solely within the Indian reservation under a license from the Commissioner of Indian Affairs and the tribe, for sales made to persons other than Indians.

Congress has not attempted to regulate such trade and since such trade has been carried on subject to State laws for a long number of years, there is no ground for exemption of such trade in the absence of congressional authority, except in the special types of Indian purchases discussed in part 2 (b) of this opinion.

2. Application of State taxes to sales to Indians

This subject falls into two parts—sales to Indians on the reservation and sales to Indians off the reservation.

(a) The preceding part of this opinion demonstrates that sales to Indians on the reservation are not subject to State taxation and Indian purchasers are not required to pay the additional cost which is added to the price of the article to cover the tax. Such additions to the price of articles by State action are clearly inconsistent with the authority of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs to regulate the prices at which goods shall be sold to the Indians.

(b) The preceding part of this opinion likewise demonstrates that when Indians purchase goods off the reservation they are not exempt from sales taxes on the ground of State interference with Federal regulation of Indian trade. However, certain purchases by Indians may be exempt on the ground that these purchases are instrumentalities of the Federal Government used to improve the economic conditions of its wards. Where this is the case, the purchase may be considered not subject to State taxation under the principle that the State, through the use of its taxing power, cannot hinder or interfere with an instrumentality of the Federal Government.

After noting the fact that personal property purchased by Indians with restricted funds and property issued to the Indians by the Government are Government instrumentalities, and that property purchased by the Indians pursuant to a specific plan for economic rehabilitation approved by the Government and carried out under Government supervision should likewise be recognized as a Government instrumentality, the opinion continues with a review of the authorities on the question of whether a state tax upon the acquisition of such property places an unconstitutional burden upon a Federal instrumentality and concludes:

The Supreme Court has held that the application of a State tax on the selling of gasoline to sales of gasoline to the United States is unconstitutional as placing a direct burden on the Federal Government. *Purdie Oil Co. v. Mississippi*, 277 U. S. 218, *Graves v. Texas Co.*, 298 U. S. 803. However, in *James v. Davis Contracting Co.*, 302 U. S. 318, the Supreme Court said that the *Purdie* and *Graves* cases, while being distinguished and should be limited to their particular facts. In the *James* case a State tax on the gross proceeds of a contractor on Government work was held constitutional as having only an indirect effect on the Federal Government. That case is representative of the recent Supreme Court cases tending to

restrain the tax immunity of agencies of Government where the burden on the Government was not clear and direct. *Hettinger v. Mountain Products Corp.*, 303 U. S. 370, *Hettinger v. Gravelly*, 304 U. S. 406.

Although the law on the question is in a state of flux, the proper holding at the present time is, in my opinion, that where purchases are made either by the Indians themselves or by Government agents in carrying out a specific economic program for the Indians approved and supervised by the Federal Government, or where such purchases are made with restricted funds, the purchases are not subject to the State sales taxes even though they are made off the reservation.

SUMMARY

1 Persons trading with the Indians on Indian reservations are not subject to the Arizona sales tax laws. However, where such traders are non-Indians, they are subject to the sales tax laws on so much of their business as is carried on with other non-Indians. Traders off an Indian reservation are subject to the State sales tax laws, whether or not they are Indians or dealing with Indians.

2 Purchases made by Indians on Indian reservations are not subject to the Arizona sales taxes nor are purchases made by Indians or Government agents off the reservation where they are made with restricted funds or in carrying out a specific program for the economic rehabilitation of the Indians approved and supervised by the Federal Government.

In another recent opinion of the Solicitor of the Interior Department the application of certain state taxes to sales of tobacco and gasoline to the Menominee Indian Mills was considered. The state taxes in question were (1) the State excise tax on the sales of gasoline, levied under chapter 78 of the Wisconsin Statutes of 1917, and (2) the State occupational tax on the sale of tobacco products, levied under chapters 443 and 518 of the Laws of Wisconsin, 1939.

After a searching analysis of the problems presented, the Solicitor made a twofold finding, to wit:

1 State gasoline sales taxes (a) do not apply to sales of gasoline to the Menominee Indian Mills for use in the operation of the mills, but (b) do apply to sales of gasoline to the mills for resale through the commissary of the mills to employees and the general public. This latter ruling was occasioned by the fact that title IV of the Internal Revenue Act of 1932 and the regulations issued thereunder exempted from the operation of the tax only gasoline sold "for the exclusive use of the United States."

2 The state tax on the selling of tobacco products does not apply to the selling of such products by the commissary of the Menominee Indian Mills to employees and the general public.

* Op. Bd. I D., M 30644, May 31, 1940.

SECTION 6. STATE INHERITANCE TAXES

There appears to be meager authority on the question of the liability of an Indian's estate to the payment of state inheritance taxes. The only case to reach the Supreme Court involved allotted lands of a restricted full-blood Quapaw Indian which had been declared inalienable for a period of 25 years by the Act of March 2, 1895.¹ By the Act of June 25, 1910,² the Secretary of the Interior was directed to determine the heirs of deceased allottees according to state statutes of descent. According to the state statute the land herein involved descended to two full-blood Quapaws. The state auditor of Oklahoma attempted to

subject the lands to the state inheritance tax. Upon appeal the Supreme Court declared:

Apparently appellant supposed that the lands passed to the heirs by virtue of the laws of the State and were subject to the inheritance taxes which she laid. He accordingly demanded the payment of appellees and threatened enforcement by summary process and sale of the lands. The court below held that the State had no right to demand the taxes and restrained appellant from attempting to collect them.

The duty of the Secretary of the Interior to determine the heirs according to the State law of descent is not questioned. Congress provided that the lands should be

¹ 28 Stat. 870.

² 36 Stat. 855.

³ *Childers v. Weaver*, 270 U. S. 555 (1926).

send and directed how the heirs should be ascertained. It adopted the provisions of the Oklahoma Statute as an expression of its own will—the laws of Missouri in Kansas, at any other State, might have been accepted. The lands really passed under a law of the United States, and not in Oklahoma's possession.

It must be accepted as established that during the trust or restricted period Congress has power to control lands

within a State which have been duly allotted to Indians by the United States and thereafter conveyed through trust in restrictive patents. "It is essential to the proper discharge of their duty to a dependent people, and the means or instrumentalities utilized therein cannot be subjected to taxation by the State without assent of the federal government." 1P 579.

SECTION 7. FEDERAL TAXATION

A SOURCES OF LIMITATIONS

While the tax which was declared invalid in *Choate v. Trapp*¹¹ was payable to the State of Oklahoma, the question to which the Supreme Court addressed its primary attention in that case was the validity of the congressional enactment which purportedly subjected the land to state taxation. In holding that Congress had no power to subject the land to taxation after agreement in exchange for a valuable consideration, that the land should be tax-exempt, the Supreme Court evinced and went far to support a rule which would lay limits upon federal taxation as well as upon state taxation. Thus it in circumstances similar to those exemplified in *Choate v. Trapp*, the Federal Government, pursuant to an agreement with an Indian tribe, issues a trust patent promising clear title to the patentee after a fixed period, it seems probable that any attempt, for example, to impose a federal inheritance tax upon such land would be held invalid by the Fifth Amendment.

Nevertheless, in the only Supreme Court case in which the constitutionality of a federal law violating an agreement with an Indian tribe was considered, the case of *The Cherokee Tobacco*,¹² the Supreme Court held that the violation of a treaty provision by an act of Congress presented a purely political question which the courts were powerless to remedy. This doctrine would, of course, preclude the relief which the Supreme Court gave in *Choate v. Trapp*.

It seems clear, then, that the holding in *Choate v. Trapp* is inconsistent with the doctrine of *The Cherokee Tobacco*, and that the holding in that case is incompatible with the doctrine of *Choate v. Trapp*. The opinion in the later case does not attempt to distinguish the earlier case—does not even mention the earlier case. It is easy to make verbal distinctions, to say that *The Cherokee Tobacco* involved a question of the plenary power of Congress over tribal affairs and that *Choate v. Trapp* involved individual property rights. But one might as easily say that plenary power of Congress over tribal affairs was involved in *Choate v. Trapp*, since all the legislation in that case dealt with tribes, and that the individual rights of the Indian Bins Bondurant in *The Cherokee Tobacco*, which in fact Congress itself called upon to recognize and compensate 4 years after the Supreme Court decision,¹³ were even more individual than the rights of the 8,000 plaintiff members of the Choctaw and Chickasaw tribes in *Choate v. Trapp*. To say that property rights existed in one case and not in the other is to describe the result rather than to explain it or to aid in predicting future decisions.¹⁴

Whether the *Choate* case overruled the case of *The Cherokee Tobacco*, and *sic*, or whether the doctrine of the earlier case is to prevail outside the narrow fact situation presented in the *Choate* case, the future will determine. Some support is given

to the latter hypothesis by the consideration that the decision of the Supreme Court in *Choate v. Trapp* was unanimous, while that in *The Cherokee Tobacco* was a four-to-two decision with three members of the court not hearing argument.¹⁵

In recent years Congress has occasionally made certain that no claim to permanent tax exemption would arise, by specifying that designated Indian property should be "non-taxable until otherwise directed by Congress."¹⁶

B FEDERAL INCOME TAXES

In considering federal taxation of Indian income, one finds the courts concerned not, as in the case of the state, with the question of whether the state may tax, but with the question of whether the Federal Government has intended to tax. Whether it has done so in a particular case depends on the construction accorded the taxing statute by the courts. The rule of construction most recently announced¹⁷ is that the federal income tax law, applying as it does to the income of "every individual" and to income derived "from any source whatever," includes within its application Indians and their income unless they are by agreement or statute exempted.

It is clear that the exemption accorded tribal and restricted Indian lands extends to the income derived directly therefrom.¹⁸ Accordingly, rents, royalties, and other income of Quapaw,¹⁹ Ojibwa,²⁰ Ojibwa and Mescalero,²¹ and Ponca²² Indians have been held tax-exempt. Likewise, the income derived by individual Indians as then share in the oil or mineral deposits in tribal lands has been held tax-exempt.²³

¹¹ "The case of the Cherokee Tobacco Tax, 11 Wall 816, cannot be treated as authority against the conclusion we have reached. The decision only disposed of that case, as three of the judges of the court did not sit in it and two dissented from the judgment announced by the other four." *United States v. Paul Thorpe, Gallies of Whiskey*, 108 U S 401, 497-498 (1881).

¹² Act of June 20, 1896, sec. 2, 49 Stat. 1542, amended May 14, 1897, 50 Stat. 188, 21 U S C § 414. No such limitation is found in various other statutes, e.g., Act of June 18, 1934, sec. 5 48 Stat. 984, 985, 28 U S C § 485.

¹³ *Report and Findings of Commission of Internal Revenue*, 215 U S 115 (1915).

¹⁴ *United States v. Howardsville*, 40 W 2d 105 (1) (C W 2d Okla. 1940), app. dismissed 49 F 2d 10-9, *Blackbird v. Commissioner of Internal Revenue*, 35 F 2d 976 (1) (C A 10 1910), *Palmer v. Commissioner*, 64 F 2d 510 (1) (C A 10, 1944).

¹⁵ T D 3774, C B VI-2, p. 27, G C M 2036, C B VI-a, p. 65.

¹⁶ The following abbreviations, referring to Treasury Department rulings, are used in this and succeeding footnotes:

- C M—General Counsel Memo
- C B—Cumulative Bulletin, Treasury Department
- B T A—Board of Tax Appeals
- A F T R—American Federal Tax Reports
- S M—Solicitor's Memo
- T D—Treasury Decision

¹⁷ G C M 2715, C B VII-1, p. 70, revealed however in G C M 6020, C B VII-1, p. 63.

¹⁸ *United States v. Howardsville*, 40 F 2d 905 (1) (C W 2d Okla. 1940).

¹⁹ S M 6832, C B V-1, p. 138.

²⁰ *Blackbird v. Commissioner of Internal Revenue*, 35 F 2d 976 (1) (C A 10, 1930).

¹¹ 221 U S 606 (1912).

¹² 11 Wall 618 (1870).

¹³ Act of May 14, 1897, c. 173, 18 Stat. 549.

¹⁴ *Of F S Cohen, Transcendental Nonsense and the Functional Approach* (1935) 85 Col L Rev 806, 818-820.

Conversely, income which is derived from unrestricted lands has been held taxable,¹²⁶ and the Circuit Court of Appeals has held that upon the death of a restricted Creek allottee, his surplus allotment having been freed of restrictions by the Act of May 27, 1908,¹²⁷ the income therefrom was taxable in the hands of a nonmember son although income from the homestead which remained restricted was not taxable.¹²⁸ It has been held, too, by the United States Supreme Court¹²⁹ that where an Indian holds a certificate of competency the income paid to him as royalties from oil and gas leases is taxable. And the income of a Hopi Indian derived from his commercial business in trading with other Indians and from the sale of cattle given him by the Government is taxable.¹³⁰

Though income derived directly from restricted allotted lands is exempt from federal income taxation, so-called reinvestment income is subject to such taxation.¹³¹ The case of *Superintendent Pitt v. United States v. Commissioner*,¹³² involved the taxability of the income of a nonmember Indian derived from the reinvestment of income from restricted allotted lands. The court there said that the taxation of the income from trust property of its Indian wards by the Federal Government, under federal revenue acts general in scope, is not so inconsistent with the relationship between the Government and its Indian wards that exemption is a necessary implication, and held that reinvestment income is clearly taxable under the federal revenue laws.¹³³

It has been held that the income of a non-Indian lessee derived from a lease of restricted Indian lands is subject to the federal income tax.¹³⁴

The courts in considering an Indian claim for refund of taxes erroneously paid, have looked upon an unrestricted Indian claimant as upon any other taxpayer. Thus an unrestricted Indian member of the Choctaw Tribe of Indians is not entitled to a refund of taxes erroneously paid upon income from tax-exempt lands where no claim for refund was filed until after the running

of the statute of limitations.¹³⁵ But there is no limitation on refund to restricted Indians if (1) a tax was assessed against them on taxable income, and (2) such tax was paid by an Indian superintendent, at other such officer of the United States, out of funds in his possession belonging eventually to his ward.¹³⁶

Provision has been made by public resolution¹³⁷ for the allowance of claims for refund of taxes erroneously or illegally collected from a duly enrolled member of an Indian tribe who received in pursuance of a treaty or agreement with the United States an allotment of land which by the terms of said treaty or agreement was exempted from taxation, notwithstanding his failure to file a claim for refund within the time prescribed by law. A recent statute¹³⁸ similar in nature to the foregoing resolution, has expressly stated that it is not the policy of the Government to make or read the statute of limitations in order to escape its obligation to its Indian wards.

C OTHER FEDERAL TAXES

By section 617 of title 4 of the Revenue Act of 1925,¹³⁹ an excise tax was levied on sales of gasoline. In considering the application of this tax to sales of gasoline to the Menominee Indian Mills, the Solicitor of the Interior Department in a recent opinion¹⁴⁰ made the following finding, to wit:

1. Federal gasoline sales taxes (a) do not apply to sales of gasoline to the Menominee Indian Mills for use in the operation of the mills, but (b) do apply to sales of gasoline to the mills for resale through the commissary of the mills to employees and the general public. This latter ruling was occasioned by the fact that title 4 of the Internal Revenue Act of 1922 and the regulations issued thereunder exempted from the operation of the tax only gasoline sold "for the exclusive use of the United States."

From an early date Congress has expressly provided that no duty shall be levied or collected from Indians on the importation of peltries brought by them into the territories of the United States¹⁴¹ and the desire to encourage native Indian handicrafts has been clearly evidenced by the express exemption from the operation of the Revenue Act of 1932¹⁴² of "any article of native Indian handicraft manufactured or produced by Indians on Indian reservations, or in Indian schools, or by Indians under the jurisdiction of the United States Government in Alaska."

¹³¹ *G. C. M. 782*, C. B. June 1927, p. 123. To the same effect, *United States v. Richards*, 27 F. 2d 284 (C. A. 8, 1928), cert. den. 278 U. S. 530, *Lundman v. Alexander*, 20 F. Supp. 752 (D. Okla. 1930), see 5207 of P. H. Fed. Tax Service for 1930, app. 105 F. 2d 1018 (C. A. 10), see 6527 of P. H. Fed. Tax Service for 1936.

¹³² 85-2 U. S. 6082, C. B. June 1928, p. 126.

¹³³ Public Resolution No. 74, 71st Cong. (S. J. Res. 163), approved May 10, 1930.

¹³⁴ Act of February 14, 1932, 47 Stat. 807.

¹³⁵ 26 U. S. C. 3481, et seq., chap. 29 of the Internal Revenue Code, approved February 10, 1926, 58 Stat. 409.

¹³⁶ Pub. Sol. I. D. M. 30544, May 31, 1940. See sec. 5, *supra*.

¹³⁷ Act of March 2, 1900, 4 Stat. 627; Act of October 1, 1900, 26 Stat. 607; Act of August 27, 1904, 28 Stat. 609.

¹³⁸ Act of June 6, 1942, sec. 624, 47 Stat. 100.

¹²⁶ *Becker*, *Heene*, 21 B. T. A. 1539, involving a full-blood Creek Indian, *G. C. M. 2908*, C. B. VI-2, p. 299, involving a half-blood, nonmember Creek Indian; *G. C. M. 8000*, C. B. IX-2, p. 816.

¹²⁷ 35 Stat. 312, *Off. Reorg. v. United States*, 60 Fed. 80 (C. C. A. 10, 1932).

¹²⁸ *Pittman v. Commissioner*, 64 F. 2d 710 (C. C. A. 10, 1933). *G. C. M. 1051*, *Heene*, 76 F. 2d 708 (C. C. A. 10, 1934).

¹²⁹ *Choctaw v. Bisset*, 288 U. S. 801 (1933).

¹³⁰ 8 U. S. 457, C. B. VI-2, p. 20.

¹³¹ *Katie Reed et al. v. Commissioner*, 10 B. T. A. 1081, and *G. C. M. 941*, C. B. December 1931, chap. III.

¹³² 202 U. S. 418 (1933), *aff'd*, 70 F. 2d 183 (C. C. A. 10, 1936).

¹³³ For a discussion and construction of this case see the rulings of the Board of Tax Appeals, as contained in *Pittman v. Commissioner*, *Internal Tax Service*, para. 8835, 8230.

¹³⁴ *Heene v. Colonial Trust Co.*, 275 U. S. 232 (1927). To the same effect, *S. R. 8408*, C. B. June 1928, p. 188, *Cortes Oil Co. v. United States*, 41 C. C. 400 (1928), *T. D. 4146*, C. B. June 1928, p. 282, 6 A. F. T. R. 7130 (cert. den. May 28, 1928), *The Pittman Co. v. B. T. A.* 1131 (involving a lease of Indian lands expressly exempted from taxation); *Western American Oil Co.*, 10 B. T. A. 17, *Wentz v. Benton*, 10 B. T. A. 21, *Thomas Coal Co.*, 10 B. T. A. 630, *Africaflex-Bidwells Coal Co.*, 10 B. T. A. 1308, *Philadelphie Quartz Co.*, 13 R. T. A. 1140 (nonmember), C. B. December 1930, p. 60.

SECTION 8. TRIBAL TAXATION

As distinct political communities, the Indian tribes possess some of the attributes of sovereignty, among which is the power to legislate regarding their internal relations.¹³⁵ Thus power, with certain exceptions, includes the power to levy local taxes on all property within tribal limits, belonging to members of the tribe.¹³⁶ Though the scope of the power as applied to nonmem-

bers is not clear, it extends at least to property of nonmembers used in connection with Indian property as well as to privileges enjoyed by nonmembers in trading with the Indians.¹³⁷ The power to tax nonmembers is derived in the cases from the authority, founded on original sovereignty and guaranteed in some instances by treaties, to remove property of nonmembers from

¹³⁵ See Chapter 7.

¹³⁶ 65 I. D. 14, 48 (1934).

¹³⁷ See *Morris v. Hitchcock*, 21 App. D. C. 505, 508 (1908), *aff'd* 194 U. S. 884 (1904).

the territorial limit of the tribe. Since the tribal government has the power to exclude, it can exact a fee from nonmembers as a condition precedent to granting permission to remain or to operate within the tribal domain.¹⁴¹ Since, however, the exclusive power to regulate trade with the Indians is vested in the Commissioner of Indian Affairs,¹⁴² it would seem that, in the absence of specific federal authorization, the tribe has no power to tax nontribe traders.¹⁴³

Limitations on the taxing power of the state governments arising from the federal instrumentality doctrine logically also apply to the tribal governments.¹⁴⁴

It would seem that the tribal taxing power is not subject to limitation imposed upon state or federal legislation by the Federal Constitution.¹⁴⁵ In the only Supreme Court case on the point the court recoiled in approving such a tax that the net of the tribal legislation was not arbitrary and did not violate the Federal Constitution.¹⁴⁶

Under section 16 of the Act of June 18, 1934,¹⁴⁷ tribal constitu-

tions containing provisions authorizing taxation of members and nonmembers have been adopted by many tribes and approved by the Secretary of the Interior. Since there is no express grant of taxing power in the act, such power must be traced to tribal sovereignty, the power to exclude, or some federal statute or treaty. Several types of limitations are imposed on the tribal taxing power in the constitutions.

Some of the constitutions provide that taxes may be levied upon members of the tribe without review by the Secretary of the Interior, but that taxes upon nonmembers shall be subject to such review,¹⁴⁸ and another group provides for general review of all taxing ordinances by the Secretary.¹⁴⁹ Still another group provides that an assessment upon members of the tribe shall not be effective unless the eligible voters of the tribe approve.¹⁵⁰

Under some of the constitutions, only a per capita tax on eligible voters can be levied.¹⁵¹ One constitution providing for assessments to obtain funds for carrying out any project for the benefit of the community as a whole allows any district not directly benefited by the project to exempt itself from the assessment by a majority vote.¹⁵²

¹⁴¹ *Morris v. Hitchcock*, 194 U. S. 884 (1901) (Cheek v. Saw), *Burke v. Wright* 135 Fed. 917 (C. C. A. 9, 1905) (Crosby), app. dism. 291 U. S. 799, *Barber v. Wright*, 1 Ind. T. 241, 51 S. W. 507 (1900) aff'd 305 Fed. 1001 (C. C. A. 8, 1900), 21 Op. A. 114 (1900) (Pie Cured Tribes), 18 Op. A. G. 11 (1881), 17 Op. A. G. 114 (1881) (Chester and Chickasaw), cf. *United v. Hudson* 71 Fed. 426 (C. C. A. 9, 1903). This rationale is more like the converse of a police power than tax power.

¹⁴² 25 U. S. C. 263, derived from Act of August 13, 1876, sec. 5, 19 Stat. 176, 200, and 27 U. S. C. 262, derived from Act of March 3, 1901, sec. 1, 11 Stat. 1078, 1066, March 4, 1903, sec. 10, 32 Stat. 982, 1009.

¹⁴³ 1 Op. A. G. 615 (1924) (Chicksee), 65 I. D. 14, 48 (1931).

¹⁴⁴ For example, it has been judicially determined that the tribe may not tax employees of the Federal Government. See Memo Sol. I. D., February 17, 1919.

¹⁴⁵ See Chapter 7, sec. 2. Cf. *Tallon v. Hayes*, 164 U. S. 376 (1906), *Wentworth v. Gorman*, 6 Fed. 676, 679 (1892), Memo Sol. I. D., February 17, 1919.

¹⁴⁶ See *Morris v. Hitchcock* 194 U. S. 881, 893 (1904).

¹⁴⁷ 48 Stat. 981, 987, 25 U. S. C. 476.

¹⁴⁸ Constitution, Lamahville Indian Community, Art. V, sec. 1 (8), Constitution, Keweenaw Bay Indian Community, Art. VI, sec. 1 (i).

¹⁴⁹ Constitution, Keweenaw Bay Indian Community, Art. IV, sec. 1 (5), Constitution, Kishpio Indian Community, Wash. Art. IV, sec. 2 (i), Constitution, Fort McDowell Indian and Shoshone Tribe, Art. VI, sec. 1 (i), Constitution, Flathead Indian Tribe, Art. IV, sec. 1 (f).

¹⁵⁰ Constitution, Omaha Tribe of Nebraska Art. IV, sec. 1 (b), Constitution, Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians of Wisconsin, Art. VI, sec. 1 (i), Constitution, Lower Sioux Indian Community in Minnesota, Art. V, sec. 1 (b), Constitution, Nye County Cooperative Association, Alaska, Art. 4, sec. 1 (d).

¹⁵¹ Constitution, Colorado River Indian Tribe, Art. VI, sec. 1 (g), Constitution, Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe, Art. IV, sec. 1 (i), Constitution, Three Affiliated Tribes, Fort Belknap Reservation, Art. VI, sec. 5 (b).

¹⁵² Constitution, Fort Belknap Indian Community, Art. V, sec. 1 (g).

THE LEGAL STATUS OF INDIAN TRIBES

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SECTION 1. TRIBAL EXISTENCE

The term "tribe" is commonly used in two senses, an ethnological sense and a political sense. It is important to distinguish between these two meanings of the term.¹ Groups that consist of several ethnological tribes, sometimes speaking different languages, have been recognized as single tribes for administrative and political purposes. Examples are the Fort Belknap Indian Community² (Gros Ventre and Assiniboin), the Cheyenne and Arapahoe Indians of Oklahoma,³ the Cherokee Nation (in which Delaware, Shawnee, and others were assimilated), and the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes of the Flathead Reservation.⁴ Despite the use of the plural "Tribes" in this last case, and other similar cases, the group has been treated, politically, as a single tribe. Likewise what is a single tribe, from the ethnological standpoint, may sometimes be divided into a number of independent tribes in the political sense. Examples of this situation are offered by the Sioux, the Cheyenne, and the Shawnee.

The question of tribal existence, in the legal or political sense, has generally arisen in determining whether some legislative, administrative, or judicial power with respect to Indian "tribes" extended to a particular group of Indians.

The most basic of these issues has been the constitutional issue arising from the grant of power to Congress to regulate "commerce with . . . the Indian Tribes."⁵ The Supreme Court has, in a number of cases, taken the position that the applicability or constitutionality of congressional legislation affecting individual Indians, and the unapplicability or unconstitutionality

of state legislation affecting such individuals, depended upon whether or not the individuals concerned were living in tribal relations.

While thus linking the validity of congressional and administrative actions depend upon the existence of tribes, the courts have said that it is up to Congress and the executive to determine whether a tribe exists. Thus the "political arm of the Government" would seem to be in a position to determine the extent of its power. In this respect the question of tribal existence and congressional power has been classed as a "political question" along with the recognition of foreign governments and other issues of international relations.⁶

Thus in the case of *United States v. Holliday*,⁷ the Supreme Court held that federal liquor laws were applicable to a sale of liquor to a Michigan Chippewa Indian, despite a treaty provision looking to the dissolution of the tribe, for the reason that the Interior Department regarded the tribe as still existing. The Court declared:

In reference to all matters of this kind, it is the rule of this court to follow the action of the executive and other political departments of the government, whose duty is specially and only to determine such affairs. If by them those Indians are recognized as a tribe, this court must do the same. (P. 419.)

Again, in the case of *The Kansas Indians*,⁸ the Supreme Court dealt with the converse situation, involving an attempt to apply state tax laws to Shawnee, Wya, and Miami Indians of Kansas, and held such laws to be unconstitutional on the ground that the tribal relations of these Indians were still recognized by the Interior Department. In this case the Court declared:

If the tribal organization of the Shawnee is preserved intact, and recognized by the political department of the government as existing, then they are a "people distinct from others," capable of making treaties, separated from the jurisdiction of Kansas, and to be governed exclusively by the government of the Union. . . . (Conferring rights and privileges on these Indians cannot affect their situation, which can only be changed by treaty stipulation, or a voluntary abandonment of their tribal organization. As long as the United States recognizes their national character they are under the protection of treaties and the laws of Congress, and their property is withdrawn from the operation of State laws. (Pp. 705-707.)

¹ Cf. *Cherokee Nation v. United States*, 80 U. S. 1 (1862), holding that "Cherokees by blood, calling themselves 'The Cherokee Tribe of Indians,' including the various tribes and groups incorporated into or adopted by the Cherokee Nation, had no standing to bring a suit to the Court of Claims under the special Cherokee Jurisdictional Act of March 19, 1924, 43 Stat. 27. For example of tribal consolidation effected by intertribal agreement authorized by a general treaty provision, see *Cherokee Nation v. Blackfeather*, 136 U. S. 218 (1901) (Shawnee and Cherokee), and *Cherokee Nation v. Jumper*, 136 U. S. 100 (1894) (Cherokee and Delaware). To the effect that the dissolution of a union between two tribes requires consent of the United States whose such consent was a condition of the original act of union, see *Cherokee and Chickasaw Union*, 7 Op. A. G. 142 (1835). On the situation in Alaska, see Chapter 21.

² For an anthropological definition of "tribe," see *Handbook of American Indians* (Bureau of American Ethnology, Bulletin No. 80, 1930), pt. 2, p. 814.

³ See Memo, Sol. I. D., March 29, 1886.

⁴ See Treaty of October 28, 1867, with these Indians, 16 Stat. 598, particularly Arts. XII and XVI.

⁵ U. S. Const., Art. I, sec. 8.

⁶ See *United States v. Brink*, 188 U. S. 482 (1908); *United States v. Boyd*, 98 Fed. 547 (C. C. 4, 1897).

⁷ 98 Wall. 407 (1880).

⁸ 98 Wall. 737 (1880).

In the case of *Chippewa Indians v. United States*,¹ the power of Congress over Chippewa lands was challenged on the theory that the tribe had been dissolved and the lands individualized, and that Congress had therefore no right to expend the funds for various tribal purposes. In rejecting this argument, the Supreme Court put its criterion of tribal existence in these terms:

It is true that, prior to the adoption of the Act of 1889, the tribe had been broken up into numerous lands, some of which held Indian title to lands in the State of Minnesota. The Act refers to these collectively as "the Chippewas in the State of Minnesota." Whether or not the tribal relation had been dissolved prior to its adoption, the Act contemplates future dealings with the Indians upon a tribal basis. It exhibits a purpose gradually to extinguish the Indians and to bring about a status comparable to that of citizens of the United States. But it is plain that, in the interim, Congress did not intend to surrender its guardianship over the Indians or treat them otherwise than as tribal Indians.

This is evidenced by a series of acts, the first of which was adopted nineteen months after the Act of 1889, which are inconsistent with the view that the Congress considered the Indians as emancipated or intended to enter into a binding contract with them as individuals. (Citing holdings.) Many of these statutes refer to the Chippewas of Minnesota as a tribe. (Citing statutes.) Moreover, an examination of the Act of 1889 discloses that it is not cast in the form of an agreement, and we may not assume that Congress abandoned its guardianship of the tribe or the lands and entered into a formal trust agreement with the Indians, in the absence of a clear expression of that intent. (Pp. 4-5)

Issues similar to the above have been raised in many other cases, and determined in accordance with the foregoing principles.²

The limits of legislative power in this field were suggested in the opinion written by Mr. Justice Van Devanter, for a unanimous court, in *United States v. Sandoz*:³

Of course, it is not meant by that Congress may bring a community or body of people within the range of this power by arbitrarily calling them an Indian tribe, but only that in respect of distinctly Indian communities the question whether, to what extent, and for what time they shall be recognized and dealt with as dependent tribes, requiring the guardianship and protection of the United States are to be determined by Congress, and not by the courts. (T. 46)

Aside from those cases which have dealt with the term "Indian tribes" as used in the Constitution, there have been a few statutes which have used the term and about which legal questions of tribal existence have been raised.

One such statute is that regulating the purchase or leasing of land "from any Indian nation or tribe of Indians."⁴ Under this

statute a state court decree partitioning Oneida Indian lands in New York, based upon the theory that the Oneidas in New York had ceased to exist as a tribe, was set aside. The federal court held that the Oneidas of New York still existed as a tribe, in the eyes of the Federal Government, and that it was for Congress, and not the state courts, to say when this tribal existence was at an end.⁵

A similar holding with respect to the Pueblos of New Mexico is elsewhere discussed.⁶

Questions of tribal existence were extensively litigated under the Indian Dependent Act of 1891,⁷ which gave to the Court of Claims jurisdiction over "all claims for property of citizens of the United States taken or destroyed by Indians belonging to any band, tribe, or nation, in amity with the United States, without just cause or provocation on the part of the owner or agent in charge, and not returned or paid for." Under the statute it became necessary, in each case, to determine whether the land or title to which the offender belonged was in amity with the United States.⁸

The question of tribal existence presented little difficulty under the 1891 Act where the group in question had entered into treaty relations with the United States, or where a separate

¹ *United States v. Boudin*, 265 Fed. 165 (C. A. 2 1920) sup. 404; 257 U. S. 614 (1921). Accord: *United States v. Olinde*, 23 F. Supp. 848 (D. C. W. D. N. Y., 1958) (Tonawanda Band).

² See Chapter 20, sec. 4.

³ Act of March 8, 1891, 26 Stat. 851, 852. Of the Act of March 1, 1885, 23 Stat. 802, 376, which dealt with depredation claims where treaties made provision for redress. An illuminating account of Indian depredation legislation will be found in the opinion of the Court of Claims in *Leighton v. United States and Ogilvie Band*, 39 C. Cls. 228 (1904), aff'd 161 U. S. 291 (1905). See also *United States v. Ventres*, 155 U. S. 464 (1901), *Corrells Co. v. United States*, 178 U. S. 280 (1900), and *sub nom. Corrells v. United States*, 32 C. Cls. 442 (1899). The extinction of tribal title, to damage claims by private citizens was an outgrowth of the collective responsibility imposed by early statutes and treaties upon the tribes for the acts of their members. See sec. 11 of Indian Dependent Act of May 18, 1796, 1 Stat. 401, 472, recited by sec. 11 of Indian Intercourse Act of March 8, 1799, 1 Stat. 715 747 made permanent in sec. 11 of Indian Intercourse Act of March 18, 1802, 2 Stat. 130 341, recited as sec. 17 of Indian Intercourse Act of June 20 1834, 4 Stat. 729, 275 U. S. 129. See also sec. 4 and 6 infra.

⁴ The following cases involved questions on tribal existence reached under this statute: *Alaska v. United States*, 28 C. Cls. 147 (1894), aff'd 161 U. S. 297 (1905) (Pute and Dumnogw Tribe), *Yukon v. United States*, 80 *Boone River Indians*, 20 C. Cls. 62 (1894), aff'd 108 U. S. 710 (1887), *Woolworth, Adams v. United States and Bear River Indians*, 20 C. Cls. 107 (1894), *Jacqui v. United States and Yana Indians*, 20 C. Cls. 173 (1894), *Leighton v. United States and Ogilvie Band*, 20 C. Cls. 228 (1894), aff'd 161 U. S. 291 (1905), *Love Adams v. United States*, *Rogue River Indians*, et al., 20 C. Cls. 134 (1894), *Barrow, Porter & Co. v. United States*, *Maple, Coe, and Yavapai Indians*, 30 C. Cls. 54 (1895), *Graham v. United States and Sioux Tribe of Indians*, 30 C. Cls. 318 (1895), *Gomez v. United States and Apache Indians*, 31 C. Cls. 321 (1896), *Carver v. United States*, 31 C. Cls. 441 (1896), *Pelly v. United States*, 35 C. Cls. 1 (1900) (Apatche), *Hulob v. United States and Kiowa Indians*, 32 C. Cls. 95 (1896), *Davis, Adams v. United States and Navajo Indians*, 32 C. Cls. 378 (1897), *Brown v. United States and Bush Shoshone*, 32 C. Cls. 403 (1897), *Heissig v. United States and Ute Indians*, 32 C. Cls. 536 (1897), *Linnell v. United States and Shoshone and Cheyenne Indians*, 32 C. Cls. 555 (1897), *Grimes v. United States and Navajo Indians*, 32 C. Cls. 589 (1897), *McKee v. United States and Shoshone Indians*, 34 C. Cls. 90 (1897), *Powell v. United States, Hamboldt, Mel River, Yana Creek, Redo, and Mod River, and Klamath Indians*, 38 C. Cls. 114 (1907), *Dobbs v. United States and Apache Indians*, 38 C. Cls. 308 (1908), *Cassara v. United States and Cheyenne Indians*, 38 C. Cls. 317 (1898), 383 180 U. S. 371 (1901), *Lindner v. United States and Cheyenne Indians*, 38 C. Cls. 470 (1898), *Scott v. United States and Apache Indians*, 38 C. Cls. 486 (1898), *Luke v. United States and Ute Indians*, 38 C. Cls. 10 (1898), *Alford v. United States and Ute Indians*, 38 C. Cls. 280 (1901), *Loose v. United States and Cheyenne Indians*, 37 C. Cls. 433 (1902), *Thompson v. United States and Klamath Indians*, 44 C. Cls. 890 (1909).

⁵ 307 U. S. 1 (1938).

⁶ *United States v. Koonau*, 118 U. S. 375 (1886) (upholding constitutionality of federal statute on murder of one Indian by another, as applied to Hopi Valley Indians), *Lou Wolf v. Hirschbach*, 187 U. S. 553 (1903) (upholding constitutionality of federal allotment statute for Kiowa, Comanche and Apache tribes), *Tyus v. Western Investment Co.*, 721 U. S. 258, 818 (1911) (upholding constitutionality of congressional restriction upon alienation of lands of "a member of the existing Creek Nation"), *United States v. Wright*, 58 F. 2d 800 (C. A. 4, 1981), rev. sub nom. *United States v. Hinson County*, 46 F. 2d 98 (D. C. W. D. N. C. 1930), cert. den. 205 U. S. 539 (upholding constitutionality of congressional act exempting Eastern Cherokee lands from state taxation, declaring, at p. 804 "they live under a primitive tribal organization"); *United States v. 14078 Acres of Land*, 97 F. 2d 447 (C. A. 4, 1938) (Eastern Cherokee lands held "tribal" land exempt from condemnation by state), *Peoria v. United States*, 232 U. S. 478, 487 (1914) (upholding constitutionality of liquor legislation covering lands ceded by Yankeet Sioux Tribe, where "the tribal relation has not been dissolved"). And see Chapter 6, sec. 8.

⁷ 251 U. S. 28 (1919), rev'd 198 Fed. 538 (D. C. N. M., 1912).

⁸ Act of June 30, 1894, sec. 12, 4 Stat. 729, 730, 18 E. R. 1126, 25 U. S. C. 177.

reservation had been set aside for the group." A more difficult question, however, was presented in cases where a portion of a tribe went on the warpath. In this situation the rule was established that if the hostile party constituted a *distinct band* the original tribe was not responsible for its depredations.¹² In the case of *Montana v. United States*,¹³ the Supreme Court upheld the rule laid down by the Court of Claims and sought to establish working definitions of the terms "tribe" and "band," in these words:

We are now concerned in this case with the meaning of the words "tribe" and "band." By a "tribe" we understand a body of Indians of the same or a similar race, united in a community under one leadership or government and inhabiting a particular though sometimes ill-defined territory, by a "band," a company of Indians not necessarily, though often of the same race or tribe, but united under the same leadership in a common design. While a "band" does not imply the separate racial origin characteristic of a tribe, of which it is usually an offshoot, it does imply a leadership and a concept of action. How large the company must be to constitute a "band" within the meaning of the act it is unnecessary to decide. It may be doubtful whether it requires more than independence of action, continuity of existence, a common leadership and control of action. (P. 200.)

In the parallel case of *Conner v. United States*,¹⁴ the Supreme Court declared:

To constitute a "band" we do not think it necessary that the Indians composing it be a separate political entity, recognized as such, inhabiting a particular territory, and with whom treaties had been or might be made. These peculiarities would rather give them the character of tribes. The word "band" implies an inferior and less permanent organization, though it must be of sufficient strength to be capable of initiating hostile proceedings. (P. 275.)

In the case of *Dobbs v. United States*,¹⁵ the Court of Claims declared:

It has been urged in this and other cases that when a number of Indian tribes have been removed to a reservation the tribal unity of each ceases, that they become in legal effect one tribe and that the question of unity must be directed to all of the Indians thus banded together.

In dealing with the question of the unity of such a tribe as a band of the Apaches, the court has been more and

more compelled to fall back upon the purpose of the earlier statutes, which created a liability and gave to these Indians their right of action. That purpose, as has been said before, was to keep the peace in present Indian warfare upon the frontier. The Government said both to the white man and to the Indians, "This depredation or this outrage is wrong, is indefensible, and you shall be indemnified for your loss so far as property is involved, provided always that you refrain from war." If the transaction and the Indians did not comply with the simple condition, if the purpose of the statute was not effective, the Indians have no right to seek it under the act of 1891.

The practical question, then, is, Who were the Indians whose unity was to be maintained? Who were the Indians so inhibited by the legislation in fact that the depredations might reasonably be regarded as a part of them and they be treated as a body whose unity it was desirable to maintain?

In dealing with this question the court has held, first, that a nation, tribe or band will be regarded as an Indian entity whose the relations of the Indians in their organized or tribal capacity has been fixed and recognized by treaty; second, that where there is no treaty by which the Government has recognized a body of Indians, the court will recognize a subdivision of tribes or bands which has been recognized by these officers of the Government whose duty it was to deal with and report the condition of the Indians to the legislative branch; third, the Government, third, that where there has been no such recognition in the Government, the court will accept the subdivision into tribes or bands made by the Indians themselves. (*Pratt v. The Apache Indians*, 32 C. Cl. R. 1.)

But in the application of this rule the court has had to go further and recognize bands which simply in fact existed, irrespective of recognition, either by the Department of the Interior or the Indian tribes from which the members of the band came. Where the band of Apaches was merely a combination of individuals from different bands associated together for the purpose of warring against the United States. The band did not exist until its warfare began. It had no geographical home or Indian. A furious sense of injustice induced the Indians to prefer death to submission, and they sought the troops of the United States until the band and its members were extinct. (*Montana v. The Menaville Apaches*, 32 Id. 349.)

The Chiricahuas were an isolated mountain band, they had their own habitat in remote valleys distinct from the valleys of mountains of the other bands; they fought their own battles, they pursued their own policy, they were hunted down and captured as Chiricahuas and were brought in and placed upon a reservation as a distinct and well-known military enemy. On the reservation they remained distinct, neither in fact nor in a legal sense merging with the other tribes of their antithesis and escape from the San Carlos Reservation, in 1881, they still retained their tribal distinctness. For the court to hold that they had become an integral part of all the Indians upon the reservation, and that all of the Indians upon the reservation, little better than prisoners of war, had become a new, fictitious Indian nation or tribal organization would be to introduce a new and artificial element into this branch of litigation founded not on the facts of the case but on a speculative theory. (Pp. 515-517.)

The question of what groups constitute tribes or bands has been extensively considered in recent years by the administrative authorities of the Federal Government in connection with tribal organization effected pursuant to section 16 of the Act of June 18, 1934.¹⁶ A showing that the group seeking to organize is entitled to be considered as a tribe, within the meaning of the act,¹⁷ is deemed a prerequisite to the holding of a referendum on

¹² *Thompson v. United States and Klamath Indians*, 41 C. Cl. 360 (1907).

¹³ *Herring v. United States and the Indians*, 32 C. Cl. 530 (1897), *aff'd v. United States and the Indians*, 36 C. Cl. 280 (1901); *Montana v. United States and Menaville Apaches*, 32 C. Cl. 340 (1897), *aff'd* 180 U. S. 261 (1901); *Dobbs v. United States and Apache Indians*, 37 C. Cl. 308 (1898); *Conner v. United States and Cheyenne Indians*, 33 C. Cl. 717 (1908), *aff'd* 180 U. S. 271 (1901). In the case of *Herring v. United States and the Indians*, the Court of Claims held that while the tribe was in unity with the United States, the members of Black Hawk's band had separated themselves from the tribe in order to engage in hostile acts, so that neither the tribe nor the band was liable for the depredations which had been committed, the tribe being immune because not involved, the band immune because engaged in war. The Court declared:

A band, being the lowest and smallest subdivision, constitutes more readily than any other form of corporate existence, so to speak and may be composed of Indians of different tribes or nations, and becoming a *de facto* band by the extent of its membership, its continuity of existence and its persistent cohesion subject to the control and power of a leader having the recognized authority of a commander and chief.

The different divisions of the Indians have not usually originated from the conventional mode which organizes whole nations into political communities, but have originated as a condition in fact and, when so existing, they are recognized by the laws and treaties as a separate entity, and hold responsible as such. (P. 515.)

¹⁴ 180 U. S. 261 (1901), *aff'd* 22 C. Cl. 349 (1897).

¹⁵ *Conner v. United States*, 180 U. S. 271 (1901), *aff'd* 33 C. Cl. 317 (1898).

¹⁶ 33 C. Cl. 308 (1898).

¹⁷ 48 Stat. 684, 688, 25 U. S. C. 476.

¹⁸ Sec 16 of the act covers "any Indian tribe, or tribes residing on the same reservation." U. S. 19 defines "tribe" as follows: "The term 'tribe' whenever used in this Act shall be construed to refer to any Indian tribe, organized band, pueblo, or the Indians residing on one reservation." Critical cases arise particularly where the last phrase is applicable. Where this phrase is applicable, and the Indians of a given reservation

a proposed tribal constitution, and the basis for such a holding is regularly set forth in the letter from the Commissioner at Indian Affairs to the Secretary of the Interior recommending the submission of a tribal constitution to a referendum vote. In cases of special difficulty, a ruling has generally been obtained from the Solicitor for the Interior Department as to the tribal status of the group seeking to organize. The considerations which, singly or jointly, have been particularly relied upon in reaching the conclusion that a group constitutes a "tribe" or "band" have been:

- (1) That the group has had treaty relations with the United States.
- (2) That the group has been denominated a tribe by act of Congress or Executive order.
- (3) That the group has been treated as having collective rights in tribal lands or funds, even though not expressly designated a tribe.
- (4) That the group has been treated as a tribe or band by other Indian tribes.¹⁴
- (5) That the group has exercised political authority over its members, through a tribal council or other governmental units.¹⁵

Other factors considered, though not conclusive, are the existence of special appropriation items for the group¹⁶ and the social solidarity of the group.

Ethnological and historical considerations, although not conclusive, are entitled to great weight in determining the question of tribal existence. A situation of peculiar difficulty and complexity arose in connection with the application of two tribal towns of the Creek Nation to organize under the Oklahoma Indian Welfare Act. In upholding the tribal status of the applicants, the Solicitor for the Interior Department declared:

For the information of the Solicitor's Office an anthropological report, compiled by Mr. Morris Opler, was submitted which dealt with the history and present character of these towns. This report provided data and opinions of authorities on the Creeks showing that the Creeks were originally a confederacy composed of a number of tribes, each referred to as a "Tulwa". This word was generally translated into the English word "town" but rather covers the conception contained in the word "tribe". Each Tulwa was self-governing. It was composed of people living in a single locality. Membership was dependent on birth rather than residence since a Creek Indian belonged to the Tulwa of his mother. These towns were originally recognized by the Federal Government as the governing units in the Creek confederacy. The treaties of 1790 and 1796 with

the Creeks were signed by the representatives of the various towns.¹⁷ However, because of the presence of the white people for land and the fact that the towns declared war and peace independently of each other, the Federal authorities found it advisable to insist upon centralization of the Creeks to avoid dealing with each Tulwa. The Indians opposed this centralization and it was not until after the Civil War, in which the towns took opposing positions, that the Federal Government achieved the formation of a single government among the Creek Indians. And even then the union was opposed by the full blood element. In spite of the centralization, however, the towns were still used for the official purposes of census and annuity payments and as a basis for representation in the central body. The census was kept on the basis of these towns until the making of the allotment rolls by the Dawes Commission. It was thought that the allotting of the Creek Indians would destroy their town organization but this did not in fact occur as the members of the town took allotments in the same locality and continued their social and political organization. The report states that at the present time the same officers described by members of the Dr. Soto's expedition are still maintained. Many of the old traditions and distinctions between the towns are likewise maintained, including the traditional membership.

There is other evidence besides the report of this anthropologist now available which indicates the tribal character of these towns. The federated government formed in the latter part of the nineteenth century was a modified replica of the United States government, with representatives elected from the self-governing towns to the two Houses of legislature, the House of Kings and the House of Warriors. These representatives elected the Creek delegation of the chiefs and bandmen of the towns. The present Principal Chief of the Creek Nation has informed the office that these elections will continue, though the National Council has few functions, and that the towns still have their kings and warriors. This institution for an election connected with one of the constitutions and the provisions of the constitutions themselves show the existence of a fully elaborate local organization with a chief, governing committee and various special offices. Some towns have a square dedicated by their members used for meetings, ceremonies and social functions and there is at least one circle of communal ground, also given by the members, worked by them to the benefit of indigent persons in the town. The principal Chief reports various ways in which the towns are active in providing assistance and relief to the members of the town.

That the Indians themselves recognized the existence of the Creek tribal towns is clear from an examination of the constitution and laws of the Muskogean Nation.

Under the foregoing legal authorities it appears to me that the Creek towns can buy a substantial claim to the right to be considered as recognized bands within the meaning of section 8 of the Oklahoma Indian Welfare Act of June 28, 1906.¹⁸

It is not enough, however, to show that any of the foregoing elements existed at some time in remote past. As was said by the Solicitor in passing upon the status of the Miami and Peoria Indians under the Oklahoma Indian Welfare Act:¹⁹

It is not enough that the ethnographic history of the two groups shows them in the past to have been distinct and well-recognized tribes or bands. A particular tribe or band may well pass out of existence as such in the course of time. The word "organization" as used in the Oklahoma Indian Welfare Act involves more than past

organize and adopt a constitution under sec. 16, it has been administratively held that they thereby become a tribe, but do not thereby acquire nonstatutory powers of government which they have never exercised. See Chapter 7, in *Op.*

¹⁴The case of *Tully v. United States*, 32 C. Cls 1 (1896), indicates that where the Indians themselves have treated a group as a band separate from or subordinate to a given tribe, the courts will accept the subdivisions so recognized.

The policy of the United States in dealing with the Indians has been, as we understand, to accept the subdivisions of the Indians into such tribes or bands as the Indians themselves adopted, and to treat with them accordingly.

So that if such subdivisions, whether into tribes or bands, have not been recognized by treaty, but have been by the action of the Government whose duty it was to report in respect thereto, then the court will accept that as sufficient recognition of the tribe or band upon which to predicate a judgment.

Or if there be no such recognition by the Government, then the court will accept the subdivisions into such tribes or bands as made by the Indians themselves, whether such tribes and bands be named by reason of their geographical location or otherwise (Op. 7 and 8).

¹⁵See, for an example of the consideration given to the foregoing elements of tribal existence, *Memo Sol. I. D.*, February 8, 1897 (*Mole Lake and St. Croix Chippewas*).

¹⁶This appears to be given considerable weight by the Court in *Claims in McKee v. United States and Comanche Indians*, 35 C. Cls 90, 104 (1897).

¹⁷Treaty of August 7, 1790, with the Creek Nation, 7 Stat. 35, Treaty of March 29, 1796, with the Creek Nation, 7 Stat. 36.

¹⁸*Memo Sol. I. D.*, July 15, 1897. The Constitution of the Thlopthlocco Tribal Town was ratified on December 27, 1938, that of the Alabama-Quasarte Tribal Town on January 10, 1939. Both constitutions recognize that membership in the town is not inconsistent with membership in the Creek Nation.

¹⁹Act of June 28, 1906, 49 Stat. 1907, 25 U. S. C. 501; cf. *see*

existence as a tribe and its historical recognition as such. There must be a currently existing group distinct and functioning as a group in certain respects and recognition of such activity must have been shown by specific actions of the Indian Office, the Department, or by Congress."

The distinction between a band or tribe and a voluntary association or society is at times difficult to draw with precision. The Acting Solicitor for the Interior Department, ruling that a particular group could not be considered a tribe or band for purposes of organization under the Oklahoma Indian Welfare Act,¹ declined

The primary distinction between a band and a society is that a band is a political body. In other words, a band has functions and powers of government. It is generally the historic unit of government in these tribes whose bands exist. Because of Federal intervention aimed to destroy tribal organization many recognized bands have lost most if not all of their governmental functions. But their identity as a political organization must remain if the group of Indians can be considered a band or tribe.

This character of a band as an existing or historical unit of Indian government seems to be recognized in sections 16 and 19 of the Indian Reorganization Act which refer to "bands, vested in any tribe or tribal council by existing law," and define tribe to include an "organized band." In the administration of the act, or continuities of tribes or bands have included such

¹ Memo. Reel 111, December 18, 1928.

² Vol. of June 26, 1915, 19 Stat. 1667, 28 U. S. C. 501 (1909).

SECTION 2. TERMINATION OF TRIBAL EXISTENCE

Given adequate evidence of the existence of a tribe during some period in the remote or recent past, the question may always be raised: Has the existence of this tribe been terminated in some way?

Generally speaking, the termination of tribal existence is shown positively by act of Congress, treaty provision, or tribal action,³ or negatively by the cessation of collective action and collective recognition. The forms of such collective action and collective recognition which are considered criteria of tribal existence have already been discussed.

The law was once widely entertained that tribal membership was legally incompatible with United States citizenship. "When a number of early treaties and statutes provided that a given tribe should be dissolved when its members became citizens."⁴ Dissolution of the tribe required division of property, and this meant allotment of tribal funds and per capita division of tribal funds.⁵

The Supreme Court in *Matter of Heff*,⁶ took the view that citizenship and allotment involved a termination of tribal relations, and that such termination of tribal relations removed citizen allottees from the scope of the Indian liquor laws.

The defendant in the case was a Kickapoo Indian, and the Treaty of June 28, 1842, with that tribe⁷ had provided that upon allotment these Indians "shall cease to be members of said tribe, and shall become citizens of the United States." This provision provides a possible justification for the actual decision in *Matter of Heff*, but the opinion in the case put the decision upon the broader ground that under section 6 of the General Allotment

Act powers of government as tribal and are considered appropriate. It is this feature which distinguishes organization under section 8 of the Oklahoma Act from organization of voluntary associations under section 4.⁸

The question of tribal existence has generally been treated by the courts as a simple res-quo-quo question. It remains true, however, that an Indian tribe may "cease" for certain purposes, and not for others. Where several Indian groups are considered a single tribe generally for political and administrative purposes, Congress may nevertheless assign tribal status to a component group for specified purposes. This has frequently occurred in connection with claims. Tribe A and Tribe B have amalgamated to form Tribe C and share a common reservation and common funds. But at some time prior to amalgamation, Tribe A had suffered some injury for which a later generation offers redress in the form of a jurisdictional act. In such cases, Congress occasionally recognizes as a tribe, entitled to being suit in the Court of Claims, what is for most purposes only a part of a tribe.⁹

³ Memo. Reel 111, July 25, 1917.

⁴ Examples of this situation are included in the Act of February 28, 1849, 23 Stat. 646 (authorizing suit by "tribe" before the Court in *United States v. Old Medicine*, 118 U. S. 427 (1885), and of October 1, 1890, 26 Stat. 466 (Shawnee and Delaware Indians, incorporated in the Cherokee Nation, allowed to bring tribal suits against the Cherokee Nation and the United States). As of June 28, 1842, see 25 Stat. 495 (authorizing suit by Kickapoo Indians, continued in *Justice v. Indians v. Cherokee Nation*, 108 U. S. 127 (1904)), Joint Resolution of June 9, 1910, 46 Stat. 531 (authorizing suit by Assiniboin Indians).

Act, which provides that allottees shall be citizens of the United States "entitled to all the rights, privileges, and immunities of such citizens," every allottee became emancipated from federal control.

This doctrine was rejected in the case of *United States v. Ayc*,¹⁰ which held that allotment did not terminate tribal existence so as to take allottees outside the scope of Indian liquor laws adopted pursuant to congressional power to regulate commerce with Indian tribes. The Supreme Court declared:

We recognize that a different construction was placed upon section 6 of the act of 1887 in *Matter of Heff*, 197 U. S. 488, but after reconsideration of the question in the light of other provisions in the act and of many later enactments we clearly reflecting what was intended by Congress, we are constrained to hold that the decision in that case is not well grounded, and it is accordingly overruled. (2, 603.)

The view taken in the *Ayc* case has prevailed ever since.¹¹

While it is thus clear that neither allotment nor citizenship,¹² per se, nor both together, imply a termination of tribal existence, in the absence of express provision of treaty or statute asserting such a result, usually these are factors to be considered

⁵ *Delaware v. N*, 1887, 21 Stat. 388, 390, 25 U. S. C. 519. See Chapter 8, sec. 25 (3).

⁶ 211 U. S. 601 (1910).

⁷ *United States v. Ayc*, 205 Fed. 100 (C. C. A. 2, 1923) aff'd 250 Fed. 404 (C. C. N. D. N. 1010), 259 Fed. 257 (C. C. A. 8, 1914).

⁸ *Arred v. United States*, 110 Fed. 842 (C. C. A. 8, 1903).

⁹ Of the argument that the Fourteenth Amendment conferred citizenship upon Indians and thereby dissolved tribal relations, the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs, in 1870:

To maintain that the United States intended, by a change of "the fundamental law, which was not ratified by these tribes, to change upon the United States population of national obligations, rights, and duties, and thereby dissolve tribal relations, whose claims were thus annulled are too weak to enforce their ship and protection of this Government. (Sen. Rep. No. 208, 41st Cong., 2d sess., December 14, 1870, p. 11.)

See Chapter 8, sec. 21 (2), in 31.

⁸ See *United States v. Anderson*, 225 Fed. 525 (C. C. D. Wyo. 1915) (dissolution of Stockbridge Muncie Tribe by tribal agreement ratified by Congress).

⁹ See Chapter 8, sec. 2A. And see Act of March 3, 1873, 17 Stat. 681 (Miami).

¹⁰ See Chapter 15, sec. 28.

¹¹ 107 U. S. 488 (1905).

¹² 18 Stat. 623, 624.

in determining whether a given group has ceased to maintain tribal relations. Other factors considered by courts and administrative authorities in determining whether the tribal relations of a given group have come to an end are: the physical separation of a group from the main body of the tribe, and the cessation of participation in tribal resources and tribal government.

In the case of *The Cherokee Trust Funds*,⁴² it was held that those Cherokees who remained in North Carolina when the main body of the Cherokees were removed to Indian Territory thereby lost their tribal status. The Supreme Court declared:

• • • Whatever union they have had among themselves has been merely a social or business one. It was formed in 1868, at the suggestion of an officer of the Indian office, for the purpose of enabling them to transact business with the Government with greater convenience. Although its articles are drawn in the form of a constitution for a separate civil government, they have never been recognized as a separate Nation in the United States, nor treaty has been made with them, they carry no laws, they are citizens of that State and bound by its laws. (P. 300)

As the Court of Claims pointed out in this case, the nonmigrating Cherokees had expatriated themselves from the Cherokee Nation. • • • The only privilege ever accorded to them by the nation was that they might be one citizen and subject upon removal within its territorial boundaries. • • •

It has been administratively determined that those Choctaws remaining in Mississippi when the Choctaw Tribe removed to Indian Territory lost their tribal status and could not be recognized as a separate tribe,⁴³ and, similarly, that the Indians of the Georgetown or Shawnee Reservation in Washington, all of whom, apparently, took allotments at other reservations or otherwise abandoned the reservation in question, could no longer be recognized as a separate tribe entitled to the use of receipts from timber sales on the Georgetown Reservation.⁴⁴

Many of the attempts made by Congress to terminate the existence of particular tribes have proved abortive. Tribes which have been dissolved not once but several times have been recognized, in later congressional legislation, as still existing.

An example in point is the group of Winnebago Indians who, separating from their brothers in Nebraska, took up homestead allotments in Wisconsin, under the Act of March 3, 1875,⁴⁵ which provided for the issuance of homestead allotments to Indians upon proof of the abandonment of tribal relations. The intent of those Indians "to abandon their tribal relations and adopt the habits and customs of civilized people" was given special legislative confirmation in the Act of January 18, 1881.⁴⁶ Nevertheless,

⁴² *Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians v. United States and Cherokee Nation*, 117 U. S. 388 (1886), aff'd 20 C. Cl. 449 (1886).

⁴³ 20 C. Cl. 440, 474. Accord *United States v. Nim* 26 Fed. Cl. No. 16648 (D. C. N. Y., 1877) (*United*).

⁴⁴ *Memo Sol I II*, August 31, 1939. Cf. note on the status of Popagane Pueblo, Chapter 20, sec. 1.

⁴⁵ Op. Sol I D., M 24174, September 2, 1932 511 D. T.

⁴⁶ See 18, 18 Stat. 402, 420.

in many subsequent statutes Congress recognized the continued existence of the Winnebago Indians of Wisconsin as a separate band.⁴⁷ In 1937 the right of this group to organize as a separate band was affirmed by the Interior Department.⁴⁸

The efforts of Congress to terminate the existence of the Five Civilized Tribes are elsewhere discussed.⁴⁹

The efforts to terminate the existence of the Wyandotte Tribe apparently began in 1870 in a treaty by which that tribe, having "manifested an anxious desire to extinguish their tribal or national character and become citizens of the United States," agreed "that their existence, as a nation or tribe, shall terminate and become extinct upon the ratification of this treaty." • • • The treaty was ratified on September 24, 1870. Apparently the extinguisher clause did not work, for another treaty containing similar provisions for the extinguishment of tribal existence was entered into by the supposedly nonexistent tribe some 5 years later.⁵⁰ In 1873, Congress again provided for the final distribution of the funds belonging to the Wyandotte Tribe.⁵¹ Even this apparently did not interfere with the continued functioning of the tribe, and on July 24, 1887, the chief of the tribe testified that the members of the tribe in a unanimous vote had adopted a tribal constitution under the Oklahoma Indian Welfare Act,⁵² perpetuating the traditional tribal organization.

Various other attempts to terminate tribal relations by treaty or act of Congress have proved abortive.⁵³ These legislative experiences suggest that the dissolution of tribal existence is easier to decree than to effect, and indicate the value of a certain skepticism in considering current legislative proposals looking to the dissolution of all or some Indian tribes. They also point to the reasons, for the judicial rule that an exercise of the federal power to dissolve a tribe must be demonstrated by statutory or treaty provisions which are positive and unambiguous.⁵⁴

⁴⁷ 21 Stat. 813.

⁴⁸ Act of March 3, 1909, 35 Stat. 781, 788, Act of January 20, 1910, 36 Stat. 571, Act of July 1, 1912, 37 Stat. 187, Act of December 17, 1928, 45 Stat. 1097.

⁴⁹ *Memo Sol I D*, March 6, 1887.

⁵⁰ See Chapter 21, sec. 6.

⁵¹ Treaty of April 1, 1870 with the Wyandotte 9 Stat. 687, 689.

⁵² Treaty of January 31, 1875, 10 Stat. 1139, confirmed in *Redman v. Atkinson*, 181 U. S. 290 (1901). Cf. Art. XIII of the Treaty of February 28, 1867, with the Senecas and others, including certain Wyandottes, 16 Stat. 518, 519, providing for Wyandottes, "many of whom have been in a disorganized and unfortunate condition since their treaty of one thousand eight hundred and fifty-five." And see *Gray v. Goffman*, 10 Fed. Cl. No. 3714 (C. C. Kans. 1914), (*Confederate Soldiers*) 316 U. S. 81 (1920).

⁵³ Act of August 27, 1896, 49 Stat. 864.

⁵⁴ Act of June 26, 1906, 34 Stat. 3987.

⁵⁵ *Wagon v. Country*, 103 U. S. 56 (1866), continuing the Treaty of June 24, 1862, with the Ottawa Indians of the United Bands of Blanchard's Fork, etc., 12 Stat. 1237, providing for the termination of tribal relations on July 16, 1867, and also the Treaty of February 28, 1867, with the Oklawaha and other tribes, 10 Stat. 514, repealing this provision. And see Act of August 6, 1846, 9 Stat. 65.

⁵⁶ *Jones v. Meehan* 173 U. S. 1 (1899), *Manter v. Alcorn*, 21 Tenn. 228 (1843).

SECTION 3. POLITICAL STATUS

The political status of Indian tribes may be considered with respect to the relations subsisting between the tribe and (a) its members, (b) other governments, and (c) private persons not members of the tribe.

(a) So far as concerns the political relation between a tribe and its members, this is a subject which has already been considered in treating of the nature and scope of tribal self-government.⁵⁵

⁵⁵ See Chapter 7.

(b) The relation of an Indian tribe to other governments presents a series of difficult problems of international law. These problems involve (1) The treaty-making capacity of an Indian tribe, (2) the capacity of a tribe to wage war, (3) its capacity to sue as a "foreign nation", (4) its relationship to a foreign country (5) the recognition which it may demand of the several states, (6) its relation to the federal power of eminent domain, (7) its relation to the state power of eminent domain, and (8) its status as a federal instrumentality.

(1) The Indian tribes were recognized as powers capable of making treaties with the United States.¹² The validity of the many treaties made and ratified between the United States and nearly all the tribes within its boundaries, is clearly established, as a matter of law.¹³ Their making, however, depends upon the will of two parties, and either the United States or an Indian tribe may refuse, and frequently has refused, to make treaties which the other party desired. Thus, since Congress expressed its opposition to the continued making of treaties with the Indian tribes, in a order which the House of Representatives attached to the Indian Department Appropriation Act of March 3, 1871,¹⁴ the President and the Senate have refused to make such treaties. Whether Congress, which is not the treaty-making department of the Government, has the power thus to lay down a bar to the making of the treaty-making power, viz., the President and the Senate, and whether a treaty made next year with an Indian tribe and constitutionally ratified would be valid or invalid, are probably academic questions. They are also primarily verbal questions. When Congress condemned the use of treaties, it did not prevent the making of treaties with Indian tribes by means of "conventions," "agreements," "charters," and "constitutions." From the standpoint of the Indian tribes, it made little difference what manner of ratification and procedure was incumbent upon the representative of the United States who treated with them.¹⁵

(2) A second fundamental attitude of sovereignty, in international law is the power to make war. This power has been recognized in Indian tribes down to recent times,¹⁶ and there are still on the statute books laws which contemplate the possibility of hostilities by an Indian tribe.¹⁷ The capacity of an Indian tribe to make war involves certain definite consequences for domestic law. Acts which would constitute murder or manslaughter in the absence of a state of war, whether committed by Indians,¹⁸ or by the military forces¹⁹ of the United States, may be justified as acts of war where a state of war exists. Hostile Indians surrendering to armed forces are subject to the disabilities and entitled to the rights of prisoners of war.²⁰ While the existence of a state of war at some time in the past continues to be a current question in Indian litigation, parties

only claim litigation if it may be doubted whether the courts would recognize the legal capacity of an Indian tribe to engage in war today.

(3) A third issue in the relations between an Indian tribe and other governments relates to the possibility of suit by an Indian tribe against a state or its citizens in the federal courts.

It was settled in the historic case of *Cherokee Nation v. Georgia*²¹ that the Cherokee Nation was not a foreign state entitled to bring suit in the federal courts against the State of Georgia to restrain the enforcement of unconstitutional laws.²² The Supreme Court, *per* Marshall, C. J., laid down the classic outlines of the doctrine which has since prevailed.

It is the Cherokee nation a foreign State, in the sense in which that term is used in the constitution.²³ The counsel for the plaintiffs have maintained the affirmative of this proposition with great earnestness and ability. So much of the argument as was intended to prove the character of the Cherokee Nation as a State, as a distinct political society, separated from others, capable of managing its own affairs and governing itself, has, in the opinion of a majority of the judges, been completely succeeded.

A question of much more difficulty remains. Do the Cherokees constitute a *foreign* state in the sense of the constitution? The counsel have shown conclusively, that they are not a state of the Union, and have insisted that, individually, they are aliens, not owing allegiance to the United States. An aggregate of aliens composing a state must, they say, be a foreign state each individual being foreign, the whole must be foreign.

This argument is unavailing, but we must examine it more closely, before we yield it. The condition of the Indians in relation to the United States, perhaps, unlike that of any other two people in existence. In general, nations not owing a common allegiance, are foreign to each other. The term *foreign* nations is, with strict propriety, applicable by either to the other. But the relation of the Indians to the United States is marked by peculiar and cardinal distinctions which exist nowhere else. The Indian nation is admitted to compose a part of the United States. In all our maps, geographical treatises, histories, and laws, it is so considered. In all our intercourse with foreign nations, in our commercial regulations, in any attempt at intercourse between Indians and foreign nations, they are considered as within the jurisdictional limits of the United States, subject to many of those restrictions which are imposed upon our own citizens. They acknowledge themselves, in their treaties, to be under the protection of the United States, they admit that the United States alone have the sole and exclusive right of regulating the trade with them, and managing all their affairs as they think proper, and the Cherokees in particular were allowed by the treaty of Hopewell, which preceded the constitution, "to send a deputy of their choice, whenever they think fit, to congress." Treaties were made with some tribes, by the state of New York, under then unsettled construction of the confederation, by which they ceded all their lands to that state, taking back a limited grant to themselves, in which they admit their dependence. Though the Indians are acknowledged to have an unquestionable, and heretofore unquestioned, right to the lands they occupy, until that right shall be extinguished by a voluntary cession to our government, yet it may well be doubted, whether those tribes which reside within the acknowledged boundaries of the United States can, with strict accuracy, be denominated foreign nations. They may, more correctly, perhaps, be denominated domestic dependent nations. They occupy a territory to which we assert a title independent of their will, which must take effect in point of possession, when their right of possession ceases. Meanwhile, they are in a state of pupillage, their relation to the United States resembles that of a ward to his guardian. They look to our government for protection, rely upon its kindness and its power, appeal to it for relief to their wants; and address the president as their great Father. They and their country are considered by foreign nations, as well

¹² See *Preston v. Browder*, 1 Wheat 315 (1818), *Pettibon v. Jenks*, 2 Pet. 216 (1829), *Worcester v. Georgia* 6 Pet. 515 (1832), *Lattimes v. Poteet*, 14 Pet. 4 (1840); *Pottifield v. Clark* 2 How. 78 (1844); *Seneca Nation v. Chissey*, 152 U. S. 283 (1896), *Michiel v. United States*, 9 Pet. 711 (1830). Also see *Chaplet*, see 44.

¹³ See *Chaplet* § 3.

¹⁴ 16 Stat. 544, 566.

¹⁵ See *Chaplet* § 8, sec. 6.

¹⁶ *Montoya v. United States*, 180 U. S. 261 (1901), *Scott v. United States and Apache Indians*, 13 C. Cl. 486 (1898), *Dobbs v. United States and Apache Indians*, 33 C. Cl. 308 (1898). Warfare among the Indian tribes themselves was long a matter of concern to the Federal Government. See, for example, the Act of July 11, 1812, 4 Stat. 596.

¹⁷ Act of July 6, 1862, 12 Stat. 512, 528, R. S. § 2050, 26 U. S. C. 72 (authorizing abrogation of treaties with tribes engaged in hostilities), Act of March 2, 1897, 11 Stat. 402, 515, R. S. § 2106, 29 U. S. C. 127 (authorizing withholding of annuities from hostile Indians), Act of February 11, 1878, 17 Stat. 497, 499, R. S. § 48, 497, 21-56, 26 U. S. C. 260 (regulating sale of arms to hostile Indians), Act of March 8, 1873, 18 Stat. 120, 416, 20 U. S. C. 128 (forbidding payments to Indians in bands of war).

¹⁸ The fact that they were treated as prisoners of war also refutes the idea that they were murderers, burglars and other common criminals. *Conner v. United States*, 180 U. S. 271, 276 (1901). *And of United States v. Chissey-Lak-nag-sha* 28 Pet. 60 No. 14789a (Supreme Court, Aug. 1834) (holding Osage Indians guilty of murder, blood being in unity). Cf. also *Kee-see-mun-gush v. McClure*, 122 Ind. 541, 28 N. E. 1090 (1890).

¹⁹ See *Conners v. United States and Cheyenne Indians*, 33 C. Cl. 317, 825 (1898), aff'd 180 U. S. 271 (1901) (killing of "sacred persons of war" legally justified).

²⁰ *Id.* And see *Montoya v. United States and Macoleno Apaches*, 180 U. S. 261 (1901), aff'd 32 C. Cl. 349 (1897).

²¹ 5 Pet. 1 (1831).

²² Cf. *Worcester v. Georgia*, 6 Pet. 515 (1832), discussed in Chapter 7.

as by themselves, as being so completely under the sovereignty and dominion of the United States that any attempt to acquire their lands, or to form a political connection with them, would be considered by all as an invasion of our territory and an act of hostility. These considerations so far support the opinion that the Indians of our constitution had not the Indian tribes in view when they opened the courts of the Union to controversies between a state or the citizens thereof and foreign states.

"We should feel some difficulty in considering them as denizens by the term foreign state, were there no other part of the constitution which might shed light on the meaning of these words. But we think that in construing them, considerable aid is furnished by that clause in the eighth section of the third article, which empowers congress to 'regulate commerce with foreign nations, and among the several states, and with the Indian tribes.' In this clause, they are as clearly comprehended, by a name inappropriate to themselves, from foreign nations, as from the several states, comprehended by the Union."

"The court has bestowed its chief attention on this question, and, after mature deliberation, the majority is of opinion, that an Indian tribe or nation within the United States is not a foreign state, in the sense of the constitution, and cannot maintain a suit in the courts of the United States. (Pp 16-18, 20.)"

(4) It has been held that the relation of dependence existing between an Indian tribe and the Federal Government is not terminated by the flight of the tribe to foreign soil or by its sojourn on such soil for years. Thus the return of a refugee tribe has been demanded of the foreign country in which it was sojourning."

(5) The Indian tribes have been treated, for certain purposes as similar to states, territories, or dependencies of the United States." Thus, in the case of *Mackay v. Cozo*,¹¹ the Supreme Court held that an administrator appointed by a probate court of the Cherokee Nation occupied the same position as an administrator appointed by any state or territory of the United States. The court declared:

"In some respects they bear the same relation to the federal government as a territory did in its second grade of government, under the ordinance of 1787. Such territory passed its own laws, subject to the approval of congress, and its inhabitants were subject to the constitution and acts of congress. The principal difference consists in the fact that the Cherokees enacted their own laws, under the recognition, approval, and sanction of officers, and pay their own expenses." Thus, however, is no reason why the laws and proceedings of the Cherokee territory, so far as relates to rights claimed under them, should not be placed upon the same footing as other territories in the Union. It is not a territory, but a domestic territory—a territory which originated under our constitution and laws."

By the 11th section of the act of 24th of June, 1812, it is provided "that it shall be lawful for any person or persons to whom letters testamentary or of administration hath been or may hereafter be granted, by the proper authority in any of the United States or the territories thereof, to transmit any suit or action, and to prosecute and receive any debt in the District of Columbia, in the same manner as if the letters testamentary or administration had been granted in the District."

The Cherokee country, we think, may be considered a territory of the United States, within the act of 1812. In no respect can it be considered a foreign State or territory, as it is within our jurisdiction and subject to our laws. (Pp 108-104.)

¹¹ *Lone v. United States and Kickapoo Indians*, 87 C. Cl. 415 (1902). Compare, however, *McQuinn v. United States ex rel. Dubois*, 25 F. 2d 71 (C. A. 8, 1928) (Indians in Canada).

¹² See, for example, the Joint Resolution of June 16, 1860, 12 Stat. 116, providing that certain tribes should receive all congressional documents supplied to states and territories.

¹³ 18 How 100 (1855).

Again, in the case of *Staudt v. Roberts*,¹⁴ the question arose whether a federal court might, by injunction, restrain the enforcement of a judgment rendered by the circuit court of the Cherokee Nation and affirmed by the supreme court of that nation, affecting title to land and rights to rentals within the Cherokee Nation. This issue was resolved in favor of the Cherokee Nation by the Circuit Court of Appeals, and the decision was sustained by the Supreme Court. In the opinion of the former court, rendered by Judge Sanborn, it was said:

"The judgments of the courts of these nations, in cases within their jurisdiction, stand on the same footing with those of the courts of the territories of the Union and are entitled to the same faith and credit. (P. 842.)"

A similar decision was reached in the case of *Raymond v. Raymond* where the validity of a final divorce decree was upheld.

The Interior Department has taken the view that tribal elections are within those provisions of the Hatch Act¹⁵ applicable to 'any election.'"

(6) Again, it is held that an Indian tribe is not exempt from the power of federal eminent domain."

(7) The rule has likewise been established that an Indian tribe is exempt from the eminent domain power of the several states, in the absence of federal legislation subjecting the tribe to such power."

(8) In its relations with state and municipal governments, an Indian tribe is treated for certain purposes as an instrumentality of the Federal Government." Following a ruling of the Attorney General of North Dakota to the effect that a state crop mortgage law did not apply to mortgages made to an Indian tribe, for the reason that such tribe was deemed an "agency" of the United States within the meaning of the statutory exemption, the Interior Department authorized the acceptance of such mortgages as security for revolving fund loans. The Assistant Secretary declared:

"... This Department has previously held in various communications that an Indian tribe, patently where incorporated, is a Federal agency. In the Solicitor's Opinion M 27810, of December 18, 1934, the following statement is made:

"The Indian tribes have long been recognized as vested with governmental powers, subject to limitations imposed by Federal statutes. The powers of an Indian tribe cannot be restricted or controlled by the governments of the several States. The tribe is, therefore, so far as its original absolute sovereignty has been limited, an instrumentality and agency of the Federal Government." (See the recent opinion of this Department, *Towers v. Indian Tribes*, approved October 25, 1934—M 27781.)

"Various statutes authorize the delegation of new powers of government to the Indian tribes. (See opinion cited above.) The most recent of such

¹⁴ 58 Fed. 896 (C. C. A. 8, 1894), *aff'd* 117 Sup. Ct. 999 (1896).

¹⁵ "The Cherokee Nation . . . may maintain its own judicial tribunals, and their judgments and decrees upon the rights of the persons and property of members of the Cherokee Nation as against each other are entitled to all the faith and credit accorded to the judgments and decrees of territorial courts." (*Per Sanborn J.*) *Raymond v. Raymond*, 88 Fed. 724, 723 (C. C. A. 8, 1897). But cf. *Beauregard v. Beaudry*, 20 Fed. 98 (D. C. W. D. Ark., 1884) (holding Cherokee Nation not a "state" for purposes of extradition).

¹⁶ Act of August 2, 1930, 72nd Cong., Pub. No. 282.

¹⁷ Memo. Sol. I. D., April 6, 1940.

¹⁸ *Cherokee Nation v. Kansas Railway Co.*, 125 U. S. 941 (1880), *rev'd* 16 Fed. 909 (D. C. W. D. Ark., 1888). And see Chapter 16, sec. 18D, and Federal Reserved Domain (Dept. Justice 1940).

¹⁹ See Chapter 15, sec. 11.

²⁰ The "instrumentality" and "wardship" concepts are sometimes used interchangeably. See *United States v. 4,469 Acres of Land*, 27 F. Supp. 107 (D. C. Minn. 1939) ("wardship" offered as basis of federal legislative power to condemn land for Indian use). And see Chapter 8, sec. 9.

the plaintiffs were white men, who by proceedings of questionable legality, had secured a lease to approximately 400 square miles of Creek tribal land. When they proceeded to fence the land, the tribal treasurer and many other Indians of the vicinity rose in protest and destroyed 60 miles of fence, which was as much as the plaintiffs had built. Congress thereafter enacted a statute authorizing the Court of Claims to hear the plaintiffs' claim against the Creek Nation. The Court of Claims finally dismissed the plaintiffs' suit, declaring:

Plaintiffs' petition avers that the damage was inflicted by "a mob of Indians of the Creek or Muskogee Nation in Tribal Land" and it is that by the Creek Nation and is to be held responsible to the mob's action. It can be said of the Creek Nation, as was said of the Cherokee Nation, that it has "many of the rights and privileges of an independent people. They have their own constitution and laws and power to administer their internal affairs. They are recognized as a distinct political community, and treaties have been made with them in that capacity." *Delaware Indians v. Cherokee Nation*, 193 U. S. 327, 334. They are not sovereign to the extent that the federal or state governments are sovereign, but this suit is predicated upon the assumption that their laws are valid enactments, and it recognizes the separate existence of the Creek Nation. When, therefore, the effort is made to hold them responsible as a nation for the illegal action of a mob we must apply the rule of law applicable to established governments under similar conditions. It is a familiar rule that in the absence of a statute declaring a liability thereon neither the sovereign nor the governmental subdivisions, such as counties or municipalities, are responsible to the party injured in his person or estate by mob violence.⁴⁷ (Pp. 172-173.)

The decision of the Court of Claims, affirmed by the Supreme Court, clearly establishes that an Indian tribe is not a mere collection of individuals, and that the action of a mob, even though it should include all the members of a municipality, is not the action of the municipality.

⁴⁷ *Citrus Landmark v. Mayo*, 100 U. S. 825, 221 (1881); *Hart v. Rynders*, 11 Fed. Cl. No. 7049 (U. S. Court 1970); *Quintanilla v. New Orleans*, 61 Fed. Cl. 64 (C. C. B. D. La. 1994); *Oily v. Abbot*, 62 Fed. Cl. 240 (C. C. A. 5, 1994); *Mundick State Co. v. Commonwealth*, 162 Mass. 28, 31, 24 N. E. 864 (1890).

Under the Act of March 3, 1855,⁴⁸ the Secretary of the Interior was authorized to pass on claims for depredations where the tribe concerned had, by treaty, assumed collective responsibility for the acts of its members. This statute was narrowly construed. The Court of Claims held that in order to bring a case within the terms of the statute it had to be shown that the tribe had expressly undertaken to make compensation for injuries committed by individual members.

While Congress has the undoubted right to provide that an obligation to pay may arise from an act of Congress, the policy of the Government has confined the responsibility of the Indian and the consequent power of the Secretary to the obligation arising from treaties, in which there is an express undertaking on the part of the Indians to pay for depredations.⁴⁹ (P. 22.)

As was said by the Court of Claims, with respect to a depredation suit brought against an Indian tribe under the statute:

The Indian defendants were not liable, for they were a tribe, a quasi body politic, and the trespassers were individuals. There was no mutual right except that of pursuing and proceeding against the depredators individually. They were the only wrongdoers known to the common law—to any law. As against both of the defendants in this suit, the Government and the Cheyenne tribes, the only semblance of liability that existed, or exists, is that which has been expressly declared and created by treaties and statutes.⁵⁰ (P. 470.)

We have already noted that a liability imposed upon Indian tribes a liability for depredations which was statutory and not based upon treaty provisions. While the power of Congress thus to impose a corporate liability for individual wrongs is unquestioned it remains true that clear and unambiguous language must be used to show such an intention.⁵¹

⁴⁸ 23 Stat. 802, 376.

⁴⁹ *Crow v. United States and Asaphor and Kiowa Indians*, 42 C. Cl. 16 (1896). Accord, *Atter, Adams v. United States and Jicarilla Apache Indians*, 29 C. Cl. 137 (1894).

⁵⁰ *Lahoudi (Lahou) v. United States and Cheyenne Indians*, 33 C. Cl. 470 (1898).

⁵¹ See in 85, *supra*.

SECTION 4. CORPORATE CAPACITY

Whether an Indian tribe, in the absence of some act of incorporation, is to be regarded as a corporate body is an interesting question. The answer to it must depend, in part, upon one's definition of the term "corporation." In the narrow sense in which the term is frequently used, a corporation is something chartered by a government, and in this sense only those Indian tribes which have been chartered by some government, e. g., the Pueblos of New Mexico incorporated by territorial legislation,⁵² and the tribes incorporated under section 17 of the Act of June 18, 1894,⁵³ are to be considered corporations.

The term "corporation," however, is frequently used in a broader sense,⁵⁴ as when it is stated, for instance, that the City of London, or the United States, is a body corporate, even though a charter of incorporation cannot be discovered. The term "corporation," in this sense, might be defined as designating a group of individuals to which the law ascribes legal personality, i. e., the complex of rights, privileges, powers, and immunities enjoyed by natural persons generally. This definition is not precise, because the rights, privileges, powers, and immunities of different classes of natural persons vary, and various organized groups

may enjoy the status of individuals in some respects and not in others. The definition does, however, establish a direction and a method of analysis, and enables us to say that for certain purposes a group has corporate status.

In this sense, we may say that Indian tribes have been assigned corporate status for many different purposes.⁵⁵ Among these purposes are the right to sue, the capacity of being sued, the capacity to hold and exercise property rights not vested in any of the members of the tribe, the power to create contracts that bind the tribe even when in the course of time its entire membership has changed, and the separation of tribal liability from the liability of tribal members.

Various general statutes on Indian depredations, for instance, have authorized suits by injured citizens of the United States against Indian tribes whose members had committed such depredations.

⁵² In *Formosa's Loan and Trust Co. v. Persons*, 180 Mo. 110, 116, 222 N. Y. B. 532 (1897), Justice Brandt of the New York Supreme Court wrote that "a corporation is more nearly a method than a thing, and that the law in dealing with a corporation has no need of defining it as a person or an entity, or even as an embodiment of functions, rights and duties, but may treat it as a name for a useful and usual collection of legal relations, each one of which must in every instance be ascertained, analyzed and assigned to its appropriate place according to the circumstances of the particular case, having due regard to the purposes to be achieved."

⁵³ Laws of New Mexico, 1891-92, pp. 176, 418, see Chapter 20, sec. 2.

⁵⁴ 48 Stat. 984, 988, 26 U. S. C. 477.

⁵⁵ See Stevens on Corporations (1898), § 1.

ditions.⁸¹ None of these statutes imposes individual liability upon the members of the tribe; the liability imposed is purely tribal. It is, in the sense above defined, corporate, and has been so decided by the Court of Claims.⁸² The extent to which Indian tribes have been subjected to suit under these and similar statutes is elsewhere noted.⁸³

"The distinction between property rights of a tribe and rights of individual members is elsewhere analyzed in some detail,"⁸⁴ and for the present it is pertinent only to cite examples of this corporate attitude of the Indian tribes.

In the case of *Pennock v. McConut*⁸⁵ the Supreme Court, per Holmes, J., referred to "the corporate existence of the nation as such," in construing a treaty provision granting a tract to the Cherokee Nation "in fee simple for them and their descendants to have to them while they shall exist as a nation and live on it," and emphasized the distinction between the nation and its members, in reaching the conclusion that title to the tract rested with the former and that no trust was imposed in favor of the latter. The same distinction is confirmed in the case of *Griffis v. Fisher*,⁸⁶ holding that the particular members alive when the distribution of tribal property was ordered did not obtain any vested right which would preclude the liquidation of the tribe and Congress from later deeming that a new list of tribal members should participate in the property.⁸⁷

Another example of the distinction between tribal and individual property rights is found in claims cases which seek to distinguish between the claims of the tribe and the claims of individual members,⁸⁸ holding that damages to members, through denial of education promised in treaty, are not damages to a tribe, except in a sense too remote to serve as a basis of recovery.

Further examples of the distinction between corporate liability and individual liability are found in the cases of *Parks v. Rose*⁸⁹ and *Turner v. United States*,⁹⁰ the former case holding that an officer of a tribe was not personally responsible for the debts of the tribe; the latter case holding that the tribe itself was not liable at common law for torts committed by its members.⁹¹

The distinction between tribe and members is emphasized in *United States v. Cherokee Nation*,⁹² in holding that where Congress allows a tribe to bring suit not on its own behalf but on behalf of a designated class of individuals, some of them non-members, and excluding from the class certain members, the beneficial interest in a judgment rests in the class and not in the tribe.

The practical significance of the corporate concept lies in the form of analogical argument that proceeds from the fact that a tribe is treated as a corporation for some purposes to the conclusion that it may be so treated for other purposes.⁹³

⁸¹ Act of March 3, 1853, 23 Stat. 302, 370, Act of March 3, 1891, 26 Stat. 551. See sec. 1, 3, *supra*.

⁸² *Graham v. United States and Shosha Tribe*, 30 C. Cls. 318, 331-338 (1905).

⁸³ See sec. 5, *infra*.

⁸⁴ See Chapters 9 and 15.

⁸⁵ 215 U. S. 50, 51 (1900).

⁸⁶ 224 U. S. 640 (1912).

⁸⁷ And see analysis of status of Seminole lands in terms of "corporate capacity," in 29 Op. A. G. 340 (1907).

⁸⁸ See, for example, *Shosha Tribe of Indians v. United States*, 34 C. Cls. 16 (1908), *cert. den.*, 305 U. S. 740.

⁸⁹ 11 How. 362 (1850).

⁹⁰ 248 U. S. 964 (1918), *aff'g.* 51 C. Cls. 125 (1910). See sec. 3, *supra*.

⁹¹ Characteristic of holdings on tribal "entity" in the decision in *Osoyoos v. United States*, 31 C. Cls. 288 (1908), to the effect that a treaty or agreement with an Indian nation or tribe is binding upon all the lands and divisions thereof.

⁹² 302 U. S. 101 (1908).

⁹³ See, for example, the opinion of the Supreme Court in *Jane v. Pueblo of Santa Rosa*, 240 U. S. 110 (1919), discussed in Chapter 20, *see*

Recognizing that the corporate existence and corporate powers of Indian tribes are at least subject to considerable uncertainties, Congress has enacted special or general legislation providing for the issuance of charters of incorporation upon application by the Indian tribes. The constitutional power of Congress to incorporate an Indian tribe is clear.⁹⁴ The only general legislation on this subject is found in section 17 of the Act of June 18, 1834,⁹⁵ which provides for the establishment of tribal corporate status in the following language:

"The Secretary of the Interior may, upon petition by at least one-third of the adult Indians, issue a charter of incorporation to such tribe. *Provided*, That such charter shall not become operative until ratified at a special election by a majority vote of the adult Indians living on the reservation. Such charter may confer to the incorporated tribe the power to purchase, take by gift, or bequest, or otherwise, own, hold, manage, operate, and dispose of property of every description, real and personal, including the power to purchase reduced Indian lands and to issue in exchange therefor interests in corporate property, and such further powers as may be incidental to the conduct of corporate business, not inconsistent with law, but no authority shall be granted to sell, mortgage, or lease for a period exceeding ten years any of the land included in the limits of the reservation. Any charter so issued shall not be revoked or surrendered except by Act of Congress.

Various special acts establish procedure for acquiring corporate status applicable to designated tribes or areas.

Section 1 of the Act of May 1, 1935,⁹⁶ extending the foregoing section to Alaska, contains the following proviso:

" . . . That groups of Indians in Alaska not heretofore recognized as bands or tribes, but having a common bond of occupation, or association, or residence within a well-defined neighborhood, community, or rural district, may organize to adopt constitutions and bylaws and to receive charters of incorporation and Federal loans under sections 10, 17, and 10 of the Act of June 18, 1834 (48 Stat. 934).

Section 3 of the Oklahoma Indian Welfare Act of June 20, 1906,⁹⁷ provides:

Any recognized tribe or band of Indians residing in Oklahoma shall have the right to organize for its common welfare and to adopt a constitution and bylaws, under such rules and regulations as the Secretary of the Interior may prescribe. The Secretary of the Interior may issue to any such organized group a charter of incorporation, which shall become operative when ratified by a majority vote of the adult members of the organization voting. *Provided*, however, That such charter shall be valid unless the total vote cast be at least 80 per centum of those entitled to vote. Such charter may convey to the incorporated group, in addition to any powers which may properly be vested in a body corporate under the laws of the State of Oklahoma, the right to participate in the revolving credit fund and to enjoy any other rights or privileges accorded to an organized Indian tribe under the Act of June 18, 1834 (48 Stat. 934). *Provided*, That the corporate funds of any such chartered group may be deposited in any national bank within the State of Oklahoma or otherwise invested, utilized, or disbursed in accordance with the terms of the corporate charter.

Where the corporate status of an Indian tribe is established, it will ordinarily be held to be within the scope of federal legislation extending certain benefits to corporations. Thus it has been administratively determined⁹⁸ that the Pueblos of

9. And of G. F. Canfield, *Legal Position of the Indian* (1881), 16 Am. L. Rev. 21.

See Memo. Acting Sol. I. D., May 15, 1934, citing *McGulloch v. Martin & Whitely*, 4 Wheat. 810 (1819); *Luzon v. North River Bridge Co.*, 153 U. S. 525 (1894); *Panama Railroad Removal Cases*, 115 U. S. 2 (1885).

⁹⁴ 49 Stat. 968; 28 U. S. C. 477.

⁹⁵ 49 Stat. 1293, 48 U. S. C. 902.

⁹⁶ 49 Stat. 1907, 28 U. S. C. 803.

⁹⁷ Op. Sol. I. D., M 28869, February 18, 1937, 66 I. D. 70.

New Mexico are entitled to receive grazing privileges under the Taylor Grazing Act, under the clause in section 3 of that act¹¹⁴ conferring such rights upon corporations authorized to conduct business under the laws of the State. The principle involved would appear to be equally applicable to any Indian tribe which has a recognized corporate status, either under the Act of June 18, 1914, or otherwise.¹¹⁵

Where a tribe is incorporated under the Act of June 18, 1914,¹¹⁶ or similar legislation, the question may be raised, "How far does the incorporated tribe remain possessed of the rights and subject to the obligations vested in it prior to the issuance of its corporate charter?"

That an incorporated Indian tribe is not responsible for debts contracted by individual members, jointly or severally, prior to incorporation was the holding of the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court in *Meyrick v. Guy Head*,¹¹⁷ where the court declared, *per Bigelow, J.*

The claim which the plaintiff seeks to enforce is for a debt alleged to have been incurred by various persons belonging to the Guy Head tribe of Indians, now included within the district of Guy Head, for goods sold and delivered prior to the incorporation of said district by St. 1862, c. 181. The obvious and decisive objection to the enforcement of this claim is, that it is not due and owing to the "body politic and corporate" which that act creates. No contract, either express or implied, exists by force of which the corporate body can be held liable. There is no rule or principle of the common law by

virtue of which the creation of a municipal corporation can be held to convert the debts previously due, either jointly or severally, from the persons who became members of the new municipality, into corporate liabilities. In the absence of any express legislative enactment, the corporation cannot be said to be the successors of or in privity with its members, so as to be responsible for their previously existing liabilities. There is no legal identity between a corporation and the individuals who compose it. The corporate body is a distinct legal entity, and can be held liable only in showing some breach of corporate duty or contract. (Ep. 134-135)

While the distinction here specified between obligations of members and corporate obligations would probably be followed today, it does not follow that an obligation of the tribe as such would be dissolved by incorporation. In fact, the incorporation provisions of the Act of June 18, 1914, have been consistently interpreted by the administrative authorities of the Federal Government and by the tribes themselves as modifying only the status of the tribe and not relieving it of any tribal obligations or depriving it of any tribal property. A customary provision of a tribal charter declares¹¹⁸

7. No property rights of the Northern Cheyenne Tribe, as heretofore constituted, shall in any way be impaired by anything contained in this charter, and the tribal ownership of unallotted lands, whether or not assigned to the use of any particular individual, is hereby expressly recognized. The individually owned property of members of the Tribe shall not be subject to any corporate debts or liabilities, without such owners' consent. Any existing lawful debts of the Tribe shall continue in force, except as such debts may be satisfied or cancelled pursuant to law.

¹¹⁸ Corporate Charter of the Northern Cheyenne Tribe of the Tongue River Reservation, ratified November 7, 1938.

¹¹⁴ Act of June 28, 1934, 48 Stat. 1209, 1270, 48 U. S. C. § 3160.
¹¹⁵ See 17, 48 Stat. 984, 989, 25 U. S. C. § 477.
¹¹⁶ 48 Stat. 984, 25 U. S. C. § 401, *et seq.*
¹¹⁷ 85 Mass. 129 (1863). The statute of incorporation was Mass. St. 1862, c. 181.

SECTION 5. CONTRACTUAL CAPACITY

That an Indian tribe has legal capacity to enter into binding contracts is clearly established.¹¹⁹ Except where federal or tribal law otherwise provides, such contracts are subject to the same rules of contract law that are applied to contracts of non-Indians.

Thus it is held that contractual relations between a tribe and the United States may confer vested rights upon tribal members, which rights are not subject to invasion by Congress or the states.¹²⁰ Likewise, it has been held that a convention or treaty between the Colony of New Jersey and the Delaware Tribe is a contract, constitutionally protected against impairment by the legislature of the State of New Jersey.¹²¹

In accordance with the usual rule, a tribe is not bound by a contract which is not made by a proper representative or agent of the tribe,¹²² although a tribe, like any other party, may be estopped from denying the authority of its agent by accepting the benefit of services for which he has contracted.¹²³ Again following the usual rule of contract law, the Supreme Court has held that a tribal representative is not personally liable on a contract signed in the name of the principal, or reasonably to be

construed as executed on behalf of such principal. This rule was laid down in *Parks v. Ross*,¹²⁴ a case arising out of the forced migration of Cherokee Indians, in 1838 and 1839, from Georgia to what is now Oklahoma. John Ross, the Principal Chief of the Cherokee Nation, was authorized to contract for the hire of wagons to transport the Cherokee Indians and as much of their belongings as they had managed to save from the whites who had overrun their lands. One of the wagon owners who entered into such a contract later brought suit against John Ross to recover extra compensation to which he deemed himself entitled. The Supreme Court held that there was no basis for a claim against Principal Chief Ross, since he had entered into the contract on behalf of the tribe. The Court declared, *per Grier, J.*

Now, it is an established rule of law, that an agent who contracts in the name of his principal is not liable to a suit on such contract, much less a public officer, acting for his government. As regards him the rule is, that he is not responsible on any contract he may make in that capacity, and wherever his contract or engagement is connected with a subject fairly within the scope of his authority, it shall be intended to have been made officially, and in his public character, unless the contrary appears by satisfactory evidence of an absolute and unqualified engagement to be personally liable.

The Cherokees are in many respects a foreign and independent nation. They are governed by their own laws and officers, chosen by themselves. And though in a state of priapage, and under the guardianship of the United States, this government has delegated no power to the courts of this District to arrest the public representatives or agents of Indian nations, who may be seized within their local jurisdiction, and compel them to pay the debts

¹¹⁹ The argument noted in *United States v. Boyd*, 89 Fed. 647 (C. C. A. 4, 1897): "That as said Indians are the wards of the nation, all contracts made by them are void, unless they are approved by the proper officials of the government," is not supported by any statute or judicial holding. As to contracts involving tribal property, see Chapter 15, sec. 24.

¹²⁰ *Choate v. Trapp*, 224 U. S. 655 (1912), *Board of Commissioners of Tulsa County v. United States*, 34 F. 2d 450 (C. C. A. 10, 1938), *aff'd* 39 F. Supp. 936 (D. C. N. D. Okla. 1937).

¹²¹ *New Jersey v. Wilson*, 7 Clanch 164 (1819).

¹²² *Public of Santa Rosa v. Fall*, 278 U. S. 515 (1927), *rev'd* 12 F. 2d 835 (App. D. C. 1929), discussed in Chapter 20, sec. 5.

¹²³ *Bohne and Prentiss v. United States*, 28 C. Cls 106 (1888).

¹²⁴ 11 How. 865 (1880).

of their nation either to an individual of their own nation or a citizen of the United States. (P. 174.)

The usual rules of contract law relating to the interpretation of contracts, the validity of releases, the statute of frauds, and various other matters have been affirmed in a considerable number of cases involving Indian tribes.¹² Congress, however, may, and frequently does, modify the usual rules of contract law with respect to particular tribal agreements. Thus for example, oral agreements may be given legal effect, by congressional legislation, in a case where such agreements would otherwise be deemed invalid. In the case of *Indian Tribe of Indians v. United States*,¹³ the Court of Claims noted that while ordinarily the terms of a transfer of land must be spelled out within the four corners of a written instrument, where Congress, at view of the disparity of intelligence and bargaining power involved in an agreement between an Indian tribe and the Federal Government, had expressly authorized the court to pass upon stipulations of agreements, whether written or oral.¹⁴ The Court was bound to give legal weight to oral assurances and explanations given to the Indians upon the execution of an agreement for land cession.

Where Congress has fixed the consideration for a tribal agreement releasing claims, the courts will not assume to reconsider the adequacy of the amount so fixed.¹⁵ The courts have likewise refused to review the propriety of congressional legislation which in effect nullifies an assignment of proceeds of a judgment made by an Indian tribe to an attorney.¹⁶

Certain special applications of general rules of contract law may be noted in the Indian cases. The usual rule that where disparity of bargaining power is found the contract will be interpreted in favor of the weaker party has particular application to agreements made between an Indian tribe and the United States.¹⁷ This rule, however, has no application to contracts or agreements made between two Indian tribes.¹⁸ The question of the effective date of an agreement between the United States and an Indian tribe arose in the case of *Beau v. United States and Sioux Indians*.¹⁹ It was held that such agreements become effective only upon ratification by Congress, and that such ratification does not relate back to the date of the agreement so as to legalize acts which amounted to trespass if the agreement for land cession) was not in effect.

There are few, if any, cases which give careful consideration to the question of what law is applicable to a contract made between an Indian tribe and third parties. In most cases the ordinary rules of the common law with respect to the execution and interpretation of contracts have been applied, by common consent of the parties. That (that law is applicable to a contract by which one tribe was incorporated into another was the holding in the case of *Delaware Indians v. Cherokee Nation*,²⁰ in which the court declared:

The common law did not prevail in the Cherokee country. . . . The agreement must be construed with

reference to the constitution and laws of the Cherokee Nation. (P. 271.)

It is by no means clear, however, that this rule would apply to an agreement between a tribe and the United States.

The question of whether the State law of contract applies to a contract made by the United States on behalf of an Indian tribe with a third party was expressly left open in the case of *Kyke v. United States*,²¹ in which the Supreme Court said:

Whether the State statute law penalties and liquidated damages could affect a contract made by the United States on behalf of Indian wards need not be considered. (P. 427.)

General doctrines of conflict of laws would justify the application of the law of the forum where the tribal law that is applicable is not shown. As was said by Caldwell, J. in *Dutton v. Gibson*:²²

It is very well settled that it will not be presumed that the English common law is in force in any State not settled by English colonists. (*Chilfney v. Railroad Co.*, 24 N. Y. 465; *Strang v. O'Neil*, 41 N. Y. 208; *Philo v. Maholtz*, 72 Mo. 522; *Master's v. Law*, 61 Cal. 622), and it has been expressly decided that it will not be presumed to be in force in the Creek nation (*De Val v. Marshall*, 36 Ark. 280), or in the Indian Territory. (*Phelan v. Ponder*, 24 C. & A. 305, 31 Fed. Rep. 532.)

If, therefore, the court had no means of ascertaining what the law or custom of the Creek nation was on this question it should have applied the law of the forum.

The interpretation of attorneys' contracts in connection with claims against the United States has been a source of considerable litigation.²³ No principles peculiar to Indian law appear to be involved in these cases.

The foregoing discussion of the validity and interpretation of contracts made by an Indian tribe assumes that the contract in question is not one forbidden by federal law. It must be recognized, however, that the Federal Government has severely restricted the contractual powers of an Indian tribe. Those restrictions which relate particularly to the disposition of real property will be considered in a subsequent chapter dealing with tribal property. A broader restriction upon the scope of tribal contracts was imposed in the Act of March 3, 1871,²⁴ as amended by the Act of May 31, 1872.²⁵ These provisions were embodied in the Revised Statutes as sections 2103 to 2106, and are now embodied in title 25 of the United States Code as sections 81 to 81. Section 81 contains this important provision:

No agreement shall be made by any person with any tribe of Indians, or individual Indians not citizens of the United States, for the payment or delivery of any money or other thing of value, in present or in prospective, or for the granting or procuring any privilege to him, or any other person in consideration of services, for said Indians relative to their lands, or to any claims growing out of, or in reference to, annuities, installments, or other moneys, claims, demands, or things, under laws or treaties with the United States, or official acts or any officers thereof, or in any way connected with or due from the United States, unless such contract or agreement be executed and approved as follows:

The section then sets forth detailed requirements as to form and manner of execution, the most important of which is the re-

¹² *Klamath and Modoc Tribes v. United States*, 290 U. S. 244 (1933), aff'd 81 C. Cl. 70 (1937); *Kyke v. United States*, 260 U. S. 428 (1922), aff'd 273 Fed. 391 (C. C. A. 9, 1924); *Sioux Tribe of Indians v. United States*, 84 C. Cl. 10 (1930), cert. den. 492 U. S. 740, *Grove v. Wren* (minority tribe of Indians) 40 C. Cl. 68 (1911), aff'd 228 U. S. 608 (1914), *Peel v. Cherokee Nation and United States*, 16 C. Cl. 194 (1910).

¹³ 68 C. Cl. 685 (1920).

¹⁴ Act of April 28, 1920, 41 Stat. 265, amended Joint Resolution of January 11, 1920, 45 Stat. 1073 (Iowa).

¹⁵ *Klamath Indians v. United States*, 290 U. S. 244 (1935).

¹⁶ *Kendall v. United States*, 1 C. Cl. 201 (1895), aff'd 7 Wall. 118 (1868).

¹⁷ *Isosie Tribe of Indians v. United States*, 68 C. Cl. 665 (1929).

¹⁸ See *Delaware Indians v. Cherokee Nation*, 36 C. Cl. 284, 249-260 (1908), aff'd 193 U. S. 137 (1904); *Cherokee Nation v. United States and Cherokee Nation*, 58 C. Cl. 104 (1895), cert. den. 267 U. S. 647.

¹⁹ 48 C. Cl. 81 (1907).

²⁰ 88 C. Cl. 284 (1908).

²¹ 260 U. S. 429 (1922), aff'd 273 Fed. 391 (C. C. A. 9, 1923).

²² 68 Fed. 444 (C. C. A. 8, 1898).

²³ *Garland's Heirs v. Cherokee Nation*, 258 U. S. 439 (1921), v. 272 U. S. 728 (1927); *Western Cherokees v. United States*, 225 U. S. 872 (1912); *Ogden v. DeWitt*, 217 U. S. 488 (1910); *Gifford v. McKee*, 179 U. S. 808 (1900); *In re Anderson*, 145 U. S. 222 (1905), and see *Contract with the Ojibwa Nation of Indians*, 17 Op. A. G. 445 (1889); *of Gordon v. Gwynn*, 84 App. D. C. 308 (1910); *United States v. Owsford*, 47 Fed. 501 (C. C. W. D. Ark. 1891); *Western Cherokees v. United States*, 290 U. S. 872 (1912).

²⁴ 16 Stat. 544, 571.

²⁵ 17 Stat. 188.

agreement that such an agreement must "be executed before a judge of a court of record, and bear the approval of the Secretary of the Interior and the Commissioner of Indian Affairs advised upon it."

The section further provides that, "all contracts or agreements made in violation of this section shall be null and void" and establishes a special procedure for suit to recover money improperly paid out by or on behalf of an Indian tribe under a prohibited contract.

Section 82 provides for departmental supervision of payments made "to any agent or attorney" under such contract or agreement. Section 83 provides for the prosecution of persons receiving money contrary to the provisions of sections 81 and 82, and provides that any district attorney who fails to prosecute such a case upon application shall be removed from office and that any person in the employ of the United States who shall assist in the making of such a contract shall be "dismissed from the service of the United States, and be forever disqualified from holding any office of profit or trust under the same."

Section 84 provides that no assignment of any contract entered by section 81 shall be valid unless approved by the Commissioner of Indian Affairs and the Secretary of the Interior.

A specific modification of the foregoing statutory provisions was made by the Act of June 26, 1938,¹² which applied only to contracts made and approved prior to that date and declared that as to such contracts the requirement of the original statute that the contract "have a fixed limited time to run, which shall be distinctly stated" and that the contract "shall fix 'the amount or rate per centum of the fee' should be considered satisfied by attorneys' contracts "in the prosecution of claims against the United States, which provide that such contracts or agreements shall run for a period of years therein specified, and as long thereafter as may be required to complete the business therein provided for, or words of like import, or which provide that compensation for services rendered shall be on a quantum-meruit basis not to exceed a specified percentage."

In the case of *McLurray v. Choctaw Nation*,¹³ the Court of Claims declared

Section 2108, Revised Statutes, is a most stringent and protective enactment. The section points out in precise terms the method of contracting with Indian tribes. . . . If this method is not followed, any proceeding contrary thereto is absolutely void. Any money paid upon contracts not executed according to its terms and approved by the Secretary of the Interior and Commissioner of Indian Affairs may be recovered back by the Indians. (p. 406)

The scope of the prohibitions imposed by the statutes in question was given careful consideration in two important Supreme Court cases. In the case of *Green v. Menominee Tribe*,¹⁴ it was held that this statute rendered invalid a contract between an Indian tribe and a licensed trader whereby the tribe undertook to compensate the trader for his services in making lumber equipment available to individual members of the tribe. The fact that a representative of the Interior Department participated in the making of the contract and was to participate in its performance was held not to remove the agreement from the prohibitions of the statute.

In *Pueblo of Santa Rosa v. Full*,¹⁵ the prohibitory statute was held applicable to an alleged contract by which an attorney sought to prosecute certain claims on behalf of an alleged Indian pueblo of Arizona.

While the foregoing cases leave some doubt as to the exact scope of the statute, it is at least clear that the statute applies only to contracts with Indians "relative to their lands, or to any claims" and does not apply to matters not comprised within these two categories.

Some light is thrown upon the intended scope of the statute by the extensive report of the House Committee on Indian Affairs on the lands which the statute was designed to circumvent, and the expected consequences of the legislation. In general the legislation was directed against the "golf-club lobby of those defenseless people" by attorneys and claim-agents.¹⁶

The statutory restrictions upon tribal contracts have been modified in sections 36 and 37 of the Act of June 18, 1934.¹⁷ By the former section each tribe adopting a constitution under this act became entitled to employ legal counsel, the choice of counsel and the fixing of fees to be subject to the approval of the Secretary of the Interior. The effect of this provision was thus stated in a memorandum of the Solicitor for the Interior Department:¹⁸

The Minnesota Chippewa Tribe has organized and adopted a constitution and bylaws pursuant to section 36 of the Indian Reorganization Act of June 18, 1934 (49 Stat. 1981). That section declares, among other things, that such an organized tribe shall have the power "to employ legal counsel, the choice of counsel and fees to be subject to the approval of the Secretary of the Interior." Your proposed letter raises the question of whether the provision in section 36 just quoted impeded, as to contracts to which section 81, Title 25, U. S. C., otherwise would be applicable, the applicable requirements set forth in said section 81. Section 81 is confined to a certain class of contracts, that is, contracts for services relating to Indian lands, or to any claims growing out of or in reference to annuities, ransoms, or other monies, claims, demands, or things under the laws or treaties with the United States, or official acts of any official thereof, or in any way connected with or done from the United States. Counsel is not calling for the performance of legal services connected with any of the matters or things mentioned in section 81 obviously are controlled by section 36 of the Reorganization Act and may be entered into without regard to the requirements of section 81.

The Minnesota Chippewa contract provides for the performance of legal services in relation to claims of the tribes against the United States Government. This is the sort of contract to which section 81 applies and the requirements of that section should be observed unless they are superseded by section 36 of the Reorganization Act. To the extent of any conflict or inconsistency, it is clear that section 36 is controlling and supersedes the prior law. Requirements of the prior law not directly inconsistent or conflicting may also be superadded as to the particular kind of contract to which section 36 applies if such was the intent of Congress. A consideration of the general background and purpose of the Indian Reorganization Act leaves no doubt that the purpose of the statutory provision in question was to increase the scope of responsibility and discretion afforded the tribe in its dealings with attorneys. Earlier drafts of legislation contained provisions limiting the fees that might be charged. After considerable discussion before the Senate Committee (Hearings before the Committee on Indian Affairs, United States Senate, 73rd Congress, 2d session, S. 2716 and S. 8045, part 2, pages 244-247), it was decided that the Secretary of the Interior should have the actual power to approve or veto the choice of counsel. This discussion would have been futile and the statutory provision would have been meaningless if the intention had

¹² 49 Stat. 1984, 26 U. S. C. 816.

¹³ 29 C. Cls. 453 (1928), not den. 275 U. S. 524 (1927).

¹⁴ 288 U. S. 558 (1914), aff'd 47 C. Cls. 261 (1912).

¹⁵ 278 U. S. 818 (1927), rev'd 12 F. 2d 882 (App. D. C. 1926).

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¹⁶ Investigation of Indian Frauds, H. Rept. No. 98, 42nd Cong., 2d sess., March 8, 1873, especially pp. 4-7.

¹⁷ 48 Stat. 981, 987-988, 25 U. S. C. 470, 477.

¹⁸ Memo. Sol. I. D., January 24, 1937. Also see 22 C. F. R. 14-14-17, relative to the recognition of attorneys and agents to represent claimants of culture and unenrolled tribes or individual claimants before the Indian Bureau and the Department of the Interior and 15-1-15-25, relative to attorneys' contracts with Indian tribes.

been to make those contracts subject to the provisions of section 81, Title 25 of the Code.

I am inclined to the view that provision as to contracts for the employment of legal counsel are concerned. Congress intended to empower the organized tribe to make such contracts, subject only to the limitations imposed by section 16 of the Reorganization Act. The matter is by no means free from difficulty, however, and it may be that the courts when called upon to consider the question, will hold that the two statutes should be treated as one and that the requirements of both in the absence of conflict or inconsistency must be observed. In this situation it is apparent that attorneys may desire for their own protection to have the contract executed in conformity with the requirements of both statutes. Such appears to be the position of the attorneys seeking employment by the Modoc and Chinook Tribe. Such a position is not unreasonable and I recommend that no objection be raised to approval of this or any other contract so executed.

Constitutions of Indian tribes adopted pursuant to the Act of June 18, 1934, generally contain some such provision as the following, in line with the statutory requirement on the point.¹⁴

ARTICLE V. POWERS OF THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL.

Section 1. *Enumerated powers.*—The council of the Fort Bidwap Community shall have the following powers, the exercise of which shall be subject to popular referendum as provided heretofore.

(b) To employ legal counsel for the protection and advancement of the rights of the community and its members, the charter of council and claims of fees to be subject to the approval of the Secretary of the Interior.

Apart from contracts involving a disposition of tribal property, the contracts made by chartered tribes are subject to the limitations imposed by the corporate charter. Typical of such limitations are the following, taken from the charter of the Corelo Indian Community of the Round Valley Indian Reservation, California.¹⁵

5. The Corelo Indian Community, subject to any restrictions contained in the Constitution and laws of the United States, or in the Constitution and By-laws of the Corelo Indian Community, shall have the following corporate powers:

(a) To borrow money from the Indian Credit Fund in accordance with the terms of section 10 of the Act of June 18, 1934 (48 Stat. 984), or from any other governmental agency, or from any member or association of members of the Corelo Indian Community, and to use such funds directly for productive Community enterprises, or to loan money thus borrowed to individual members or associations of members of the Community. *Provided*, That the amount of indebtedness to which the Corelo Indian Community may subject itself, aside from loans from the Indian Credit Fund, shall not exceed \$10,000 except with the express approval of the Secretary of the Interior.

(c) To engage in any business that will further the economic well-being of the members of the Corelo Indian Community or to undertake any activity of any nature whatever, not inconsistent with law or with any provisions of this Charter.

(f) To make and perform contracts and agreements of every description, not inconsistent with law or with any provisions of this Charter, with any person, partnership, association, or corporation, with any

municipality or any county, or with the United States or the State of California, including partnerships with the State of California for the rendition of public services. *Provided*, That any contract involving payment of money for the corporation in excess of \$2,000 in any one fiscal year other than a contract for the use of the revolving loan fund established under section 10 of the Act of June 18, 1934 (18 Stat. 984), shall be subject to the approval of the Secretary of the Interior or his duly authorized representative.

(g) To pledge or assign chattels or future Community income due or to be due to the Community under any notes, leases, or other contracts whether or not such notes, leases, or contracts are in existence at the time, or from any source. *Provided*, That such agreements of pledge or assignment except to the Federal Government shall not extend more than ten years from the date of execution and shall not cover more than one-half of the net Community income in any one year. *And provided further*, That any such agreement shall be subject to the approval of the Secretary of the Interior or his duly authorized representative.

(h) To deposit corporate funds, from whatever source derived, in any national or State bank to the extent that such funds are required by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, or secured by a surety bond, or other security, approved by the Secretary of the Interior, or to deposit such funds in the Postal Savings Bank or with a bonded discharging officer of the United States to the credit of the Corelo Indian Community.

The superlative provisions of sections 5 (d), 5 (e), 5 (f), 5 (g), and 5 (h), above set forth, are subject to termination under section 6 of the corporate charter, which reads:

6. Upon the request of the Corelo Indian Community Council for the termination of any supervisory powers reserved to the Secretary of the Interior under Sections 5 (d), 5 (e), 5 (f), 5 (g), 5 (h), and section 8 of this Charter, the Secretary of the Interior, if he shall approve such request, shall thereupon submit the question of such termination to the Corelo Indian Community for a referendum vote. The termination shall be effective upon ratification by a majority vote at an election in which at least 80 per cent of the adult members of the Corelo Indian Community residing on the reservation shall vote. If at any time after ten years from the effective date of this Charter, such request shall be made and the Secretary shall disapprove such request or fail to approve or disapprove it within 90 days after its receipt, the question of the termination of any such supervisory power may then be submitted by the Secretary of the Interior or by the Community Council to popular referendum of the adult members of the Corelo Indian Community actually living within the reservation and if the termination is approved by two-thirds of the eligible voters, it shall be effective.

By section 17 of the act quoted, each tribe receiving a charter of incorporation might be empowered thereby

to purchase, take by gift, or bequest, or otherwise, own, hold, manage, operate, and dispose of property of every description, real and personal, * * * and such further powers as may be incidental to the conduct of corporate business, not inconsistent with law, but no authority shall be granted to sell, mortgage, or lease for a period exceeding ten years any of the land included in the limits of the reservation.

This provision has been construed as granting to the incorporated Indian tribes very extensive powers to contract with respect to all matters of tribal concern, including tribal property. The extent to which this section legally agreements with respect to tribal property which were formerly prohibited is a matter which must be reserved for further discussion in connection with our analysis of tribal property rights.¹⁶

¹⁴ Constitution of the Fort Bidwap Indian Community, approved December 18, 1935.

¹⁵ Ratified November 6, 1937. Under the terms of this charter, the incorporated tribe handled all sales of Indian arts and crafts work at the San Francisco Fair in 1938.

¹⁶ See Chapter 15, sec. 22.

SECTION 6. CAPACITY TO SUE

That Indian tribes may, under certain circumstances, sue and be sued is clear from the large number of such suits which are analyzed in this chapter and other chapters of this work. Since, however, nearly all such suits have been expressly authorized in general or special statutes, the question of whether an Indian tribe may sue or be sued in the absence of such express statutory authorization is more difficult to answer.

A STATUTES AUTHORIZING SUITS BY TRIBES

Statutes authorizing suits by Indian tribes include: (a) jurisdictional acts authorizing suits against the United States, and sometimes against other tribes, in the Court of Claims; (b) statutes authorizing suits against third parties to determine questions of ownership; and (c) statutes authorizing suits against third parties to determine the measure of compensation due from third parties for property taken.

(a) Within the scope of this chapter it is not possible to include more than a simple reference to statutes conferring jurisdiction upon the Court of Claims to hear tribal claims;¹²⁰ cases in which these claims are adjudicated;¹²¹ and statutes comprising *ing* claims.¹²²

The language of special jurisdictional acts varies so fundamentally from act to act that it is impossible to list any common principles applicable to all Indian claims cases and not applicable to other cases. There are certain maxims which frequently occur, in these cases, such as the maxim that acts authorizing suit on claims against the Government are to be narrowly construed;¹²³ that such acts will ordinarily be construed as granting a forum rather than determining liability; and that such acts will not be construed, in the absence of clear language to the contrary, as empowering a court to consider the justice or injustice of a law, treaty, or agreement.¹²⁴ It may be doubted, however, whether these maxims show more than verbal uniformities, and they are certainly of little help in predicting the outcome of cases. Indian claims cases, like other Indian cases, involve questions with respect to tribal property rights, tribal powers, the powers of the Federal Government, and similar questions of substantive law, elsewhere considered,¹²⁵ and which have a greater bearing upon the actual decisions in claims cases than any rules which might be derived from considerations limited purely to these cases.

(b) Various statutes provide for suits by Indian tribes against third parties to determine land ownership. Perhaps the most important of these statutes is the Pueblo Lands Act,¹²⁶ which is discussed elsewhere.¹²⁷

(c) Tribal capacity to sue is implied in the various right-of-way statutes which permit appeals from administrative decisions on the amount of damages due for tribal property taken or damaged.¹²⁸

(d) As we have already noted, capacity to sue is not conferred by Article III, section 2, of the Federal Constitution,

providing for federal jurisdiction over controversies "between a State . . . and foreign States." The learned opinion of Chief Justice Marshall established the proposition, which has not since been questioned by any federal court, that an Indian tribe is not a foreign state within the meaning of this provision.¹²⁹

B STATUTES AUTHORIZING SUITS AGAINST TRIBES

Just as there are various statutes allowing suits by Indian tribes, so there are a number of statutes which authorize suits against Indian tribes.

We have already noted and need not here reconsider, the various depredation statutes which authorized suits against Indian tribes and allowed, in effect, the execution of judgment upon the tribal funds of the tribe in the United States Treasury, subject to the approval of the Secretary of the Interior.¹³⁰

Congress has from time to time authorized various other suits against Indian tribes by private citizens. Thus, for example, the Act of May 29, 1908,¹³¹ confers jurisdiction upon the Court of Claims to adjudicate a suit by designated traders against the Menominee tribe and members thereof, and requires that the Secretary of the Interior

shall thereupon, in case judgments be against the said Menominee tribe of Indians as a tribe, direct the payment of said judgments out of any funds in the Treasury of the United States to the credit of said tribe and who, in case judgments be against individual members of said Menominee tribe of Indians, shall, through the disbursing officers in charge of said Green Bay Agency, pay to or any annuity due or which may become due said Indian as an individual or as the head of a family from the United States or from the share of said Indian as an individual or as the head of a family in any distribution of tribal funds deposited in the Treasury of the United States, the amounts of such judgments to the claimants in whose favor such judgments have been rendered.

C JURISTIC CAPACITY IN THE ABSENCE OF SPECIFIC STATUTES

There remains the question of whether suit may be brought by or against an Indian tribe where Congress is silent.

The latter portion of this question is easier to answer than the former. We have noted that an Indian tribe is a municipality.¹³² As such it would appear to be exempt from suit unless it has consented thereto or been subjected thereto by a superior power.

The general attitude of Congress and the courts towards suits against Indian tribes is clarified in an opinion of Caldwell, J., in *Thibo v Choctaw Tribe of Indians*,¹³³ where it was held that a suit against an Indian tribe could not be maintained in the absence of clear congressional authorization.

The court declared:

It may be conceded that it would be competent for congress to authorize suit to be brought against the Choctaw Nation upon any and all the causes of action

¹²⁰ See Chapter 10, *note* 3.

¹²¹ See Chapter 10, *note* 3.

¹²² Joint Resolution of June 10, 1902, 32 Stat. 744, 745 (Utes), Act of February 9, 1925, 43 Stat. 529 (Cheyenne). See *Loyal Creek Claims—Attorneys' Fees*, 24 Op. A. G. 258 (1908).

¹²³ *Choctaw and Chickasaw Nations v United States*, 75 C. Cls. 491 (1912).

¹²⁴ *Oree and Missouia Indians v United States*, 52 C. Cls. 434 (1917).

¹²⁵ See, particularly, Chapters 6 and 15.

¹²⁶ Act of June 7, 1904, 43 Stat. 930, 937, 938, construed in *Pueblo de Taos v Gudioff*, 80 F.2d 721 (C. C. A. 10, 1931), *Pueblo of Pecos v Abernethy*, 80 F.2d 12 (C. C. A. 10, 1931).

¹²⁷ See Chapter 20, *note* 4.

¹²⁸ *Of. Choctaw Nation v Southern Kansas Ry Co*, 135 U.S. 641 (1890).

¹²⁹ *Choctaw Nation v Georgia*, 5 Pet. 1 (1831). See *note* 3 *supra*.

¹³⁰ See *notes* 1 and 2, *supra*. Suits for depredations were "forever barred" unless brought within 7 years of the enactment of the Indian Depredation Act of March 3, 1901. *United States v Kiova Indians v Harbors*, 135 U.S. 490 (1904).

¹³¹ 35 Stat. 444.

¹³² See 2. The same act authorizes suits in the Court of Claims against the Choctaw Nation (see 5, 35 Stat. 446), against the Creek Nation (see 50, 35 Stat. 437), and against the Mississippi Choctaw (see 37, 35 Stat. 437).

¹³³ See *note* 3, *supra*.

¹³⁴ 80 F.2d 372 (C. C. A. 8, 1935).

in any court it might designate. Acts of congress have been passed, specially conferring on the courts jurisdiction over all controversies arising between the railroad companies authorized to construct their roads through the Indian Territory and the Choctaw Nation and the other nations and tribes of Indians owning lands in the territory through which the railroads might be constructed. Other acts have been passed authorizing suits to be brought by or against these Indian Nations in the Indian Territory to settle controversies between them and the United States and between themselves. Among such acts are the following: "An act for the ascertainment of amount due the Choctaw Nation" 21 Stat 704 Act of July 1, 1884 (23 Stat 70), granting the right of way through the Indian Territory to the Southern Kansas Railway Company, 21 Stat 73. An act granting the right of way through Indian Territory to Kansas & Arkansas Valley Railway Company, 21 Stat 73. An act granting the right of way to the Deussen & Wehrlin Valley Railway Company through the Indian Territory 20 Stat 117. An act granting the right of way through the Indian Territory to the Kansas City, Ft. Scott & Gulf Railway Company, 12 Stat 121. An act granting the right of way through Indian Territory to Ft. Worth & Denver City Railway Company, 12 Stat 419. An act granting the right of way through Indian Territory to the Chicago, Kansas & Nebraska Railway Company, 12 Stat 446. An act granting right of way through the Indian Territory to the Choctaw Coal & Railway Company, 25 Stat 355. An act granting right of way to the Ft. Smith & El Paso Railway Company through the Indian Territory, 12 Stat 162. An act granting the right of way in Kansas City & Pacific Railway Company through the Indian Territory, 12 Stat 140. An act granting the right of way to Paris, Choctaw & Little Rock Railway Company through the Indian Territory, 12 Stat 205. An act granting right of way to Ft. Smith, Paris & Dardanelle Railway Company through Indian Territory, 12 Stat 745. An act to authorize the Kansas & Arkansas Valley Railway Company to construct an additional railroad through the Indian Territory, 20 Stat 793.

The constitutional competency of congress to pass such acts has not yet been questioned, but no court has ever presumed to take jurisdiction of a cause against any of the five civilized Nations in the Indian Territory in the absence of an act of congress expressly conferring the jurisdiction in the particular case. (Pp 375-374.)

* * * Being a domestic and dependent state, the United States may authorize suit to be brought against it. But, for obvious reasons, this power has been sparingly exercised. It has been the settled policy of the United States not to authorize suits except in a few cases, where the subject-matter of the controversy was particularly specified, and was of such a nature that the public interests, as well as the interests of the Nation, seemed to require the exercise of the jurisdiction. It has been the policy of the United States to place and maintain the Choctaw Nation and the other civilized Indian Nations in the Indian Territory, so far as relates to suits against them, on the plane of independent states. A state, without its consent, cannot be sued by an individual. "It is a well-established principle of jurisprudence in all civilized nations that the sovereign cannot be sued in its own courts or by any other without its consent and permission, but that if, in any, if it thinks proper, waive this privilege, and permit itself to be sued by a defendant in a suit by individuals or by another state." *Beers v. Arkansas*, 20 How 527. The United States has waived its privilege in this regard, and allowed suits to be brought against it in a few specified cases. Some of the states of the Union have at times claimed no immunity from suits, but experience soon demonstrated this to be an unwise and extremely injurious policy, and most, if not all, of the states after a brief experience, abandoned it, and refused to submit themselves to the coercive process of judicial tribunals. When the Supreme Court of the United States in *Chisholm v. Georgia*, 2 Dall. 419, decided that under the constitution that court had original jurisdiction of a suit by a citizen of one state against another state, the eleventh amendment to the constitution was straightway adopted, taking away this jurisdiction. Since the adoption of this amendment, the contract of a state "is

substantially without sanction, except that which arises out of the loans and good faith of the state itself, and these are not subject to coercion." *In re Ayres*, 123 U S 413, 505, 8 Sup Ct 161. One claiming to be creditor of a state is remitted to the justice of its legislature. It has been the settled policy of congress, not to sanction suits generally against these Indian Nations, or subject them to suits upon contracts or other causes of action at the instance of private parties. In respect to their liability to be sued by individuals, except in the few cases we have mentioned, they have been placed by the United States, substantially, on the plane occupied by the states under the eleventh amendment to the constitution. The civilized Nations in the Indian Territory are probably better guarded against oppression from this source than the states themselves, for the states may consent to be sued, but the United States has never given its permission that these Indian Nations might be sued generally, even with their consent. As such as the Choctaw Nation is said to be in lands and waters, it would soon be impoverished if it was subject to the jurisdiction of the courts, and required in respect to all the demands which private parties chose to prefer against it. The intention of congress to confer such a jurisdiction upon any court would have to be expressed in plain and unambiguous terms. (Pp 375-370.)

There is at least language supporting the rule that a tribe cannot be sued without its consent, in the Supreme Court opinion in *Tuam v. United States*.²⁴⁸ And in the case of *United States v. P. R. Vidity & Guar Co.*²⁴⁹ the Circuit Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit declared, citing the two cases above noted:

* * * the Indian tribes, like the United States, are sovereigns immune from civil suit except when expressly authorized. (P. 810.)

In line with the policy set forth in the *Thabo* case, it has been held that where the tribe itself is not subject to suit, tribal officers cannot be sued on the basis of tribal obligations.²⁵⁰

Although a tribe, as a municipality, is not subject to suit without its consent, it may be argued that a tribe has legal capacity to consent to such a suit. The power to consent to such suit must be regarded as cognate with the power to bring suit.

Some support for the view that an Indian tribe is capable of appearing in litigation as a plaintiff or voluntary defendant is found in the statement of the Supreme Court in *United States v. Candelaria*.²⁵¹

It was settled in *Lane v. Pueblo of Santa Rosa*, 240 U S 110, that under territorial laws enacted with congressional sanction each pueblo in New Mexico—meaning the Indians comprising the community—became a private person and entitled to sue and defend in respect of its lands. (Pp 442-443.)

This statement, standing by itself, could be given a limited scope on the ground that the Pueblos are statutory corporations. The fact remains, however, that the Supreme Court has authorized suits in which Indian tribes were parties litigant, without any question of legal capacity being raised. An outstanding case in point is the case of *Cherokee Nation v. Hitchcock*.²⁵² This was a suit brought by an Indian tribe against the Secretary of the Interior. Although judgment was rendered for the defendant, no question was raised, apparently, as to the capacity of the principal plaintiff (individual members were joined as parties plaintiff) to bring the suit.

The decision of the Supreme Court in the *Coronado* case,²⁵³ holding labor unions suable in view of the legislative recognition

²⁴⁸ 248 U S 354 (1919).

²⁴⁹ 108 F 2d 894 (C C A, 10, 1900).

²⁵⁰ *Adams v. Wapash*, 195 Fed 804 (C C A, 8, 1908) (suit by attorney on tribal attorney's contract).

²⁵¹ 271 U S, 482 (1926).

²⁵² 187 U S 294 (1902).

²⁵³ *United Mine Workers of America v. Coronado Coal Co.*, 250 U S 344 (1922). And of *P. S. Cohen, Transcendental Nonsense and the Functional Approach*, 35 Col L Rev 809, 812 (1928).

given them as subjects of rights and duties, and the extent to which such rights and duties have been recognized in Indian treaties,²⁰⁷ suggests that the courts may hold that even a tribe not expressly challenged as a corporation may bring and defend suits.²⁰⁸ There are, however, some *dicta contra*,²⁰⁹ and in the absence of any clear holding, judgment must be reserved.

²⁰⁷ See note 4, *supra*.

²⁰⁸ The right to sue the United States of course presents an independent question.

²⁰⁹ The reason the Indians could not bring the suits suggested in the present majority of the State and the United States Circuit in the *Chippewa* case is evident. (*United States v. Shoshone*, 270 U.S. 181, 192 (1946).)

²¹⁰ In *Juara v. United States and Yuma Indians*, 27 C. Cl. 278 (1892) for instance, the Court of Claims, holding that the Indian Department Act of March 3, 1891, 26 Stat. 581, in allowing suits to be brought against tribes, and execution to be made against tribal funds, did not require notice to the tribal defendants, *disallowed* (a) that

The civil rights incident to States and territories have been accorded by what may be called the "law of the land" have not been accorded either to Indian nations, tribes, or Indians. Whenever they have

What can be said is that even if a tribe lacks legal capacity to appear in courts of proper jurisdiction against third parties, the objects of such a suit can frequently be obtained by a representative suit brought by individual members of the tribe.²¹¹

assured a legal capacity in the maintenance of their rights, it has been an assumption at your state of the United States as to a fully convincing upon the civil rights of Indians. (P. 283.)

and (b) that the statute expressly required the service of notice upon the Attorney General, who was competent to protect the interests of the Indian tribe.

The first of these arguments is clearly unavailing as regards individual Indians, see Chapter 8, *supra*, and its soundness as applied to a tribal plaintiff at a tribe defending a suit to which it has consented may be seriously questioned.

²¹¹ *Long v. Wolf v. Hinchcock*, 187 U.S. 733 (1903), *Choate v. Trapp*, 224 U.S. 662 (1912), *Wheeler v. United States*, 27 C. Cl. 1 (1891). (*cf. Fleming v. McGowan*, 215 U.S. 66 (1909) (suit in equity by and on behalf of some 15,000 persons "all persons at Chickasaw or Chickasaw Indian land and descent and members of a designated class of persons for whose exclusive use and benefit a special grant was made").

SECTION 7. TRIBAL HUNTING AND FISHING RIGHTS

Rights of hunting and fishing guaranteed to Indian tribes by treaty²¹² or statute²¹³ are in some respects treated as property rights, and are so dealt with in the following chapter.²¹⁴

²¹² Treaty of January 6, 1789, with the Wyandots and others, 7 Stat. 28, Treaty of August 8, 1796, with the Wyandots and others, 7 Stat. 40, Treaty of October 2, 1798, with the Cheyennes, 7 Stat. 62, Treaty of August 19, 1801, with the Kickapoos, 7 Stat. 78, Treaty of November 8, 1801, with the Sacs and Foxes, 7 Stat. 81, Treaty of July 4, 1805, with the Wyandots and others, 7 Stat. 87, Treaty of December 30, 1805, with the Shawanese, 7 Stat. 100, Treaty of January 7, 1806, with the Chickasaws, 7 Stat. 100, Treaty of November 17, 1807, with the Ottomaw and others, 7 Stat. 105, Treaty of November 10, 1808, with the Ojibwa Nations, 7 Stat. 107, Treaty of November 20, 1808, with the Chippewas and others, 7 Stat. 112, Treaty of September 30, 1809, with the Delaware and others, 7 Stat. 114, Treaty of December 9, 1809, with the Kickapoos, 7 Stat. 117, Treaty of August 21, 1810, with the Ottomaw and others, 7 Stat. 120, Treaty of November 10, 1810, with the Wyandots and others, 7 Stat. 120, Treaty of August 21, 1810, with the Shawanese, 7 Stat. 120, Treaty of September 24, 1810, with the Chippewas, 7 Stat. 201, Treaty of June 18, 1820, with the Chippewas, 7 Stat. 200, Treaty of August 29, 1821, with the Ottawa Chippewas, and Ottomawones, 7 Stat. 218, Treaty of August 4, 1824, with the Sacs and Foxes, 7 Stat. 228, Treaty of November 15, 1824, with the Ojibwas, 7 Stat. 228, Treaty of August 10, 1825, with the Sacs and Foxes, 7 Stat. 228, Treaty of August 10, 1825, with the Chippewas, and others, 7 Stat. 272, Treaty of August 6, 1826, with the Chippewas, 7 Stat. 290, Treaty of October 10, 1820, with the Poia wamies 7 Stat. 296, Treaty of October 23, 1826, with the Mandan 7 Stat. 300, Treaty of July 20, 1830, with the Chippewas and others, 7 Stat. 320, Treaty of February 8, 1831, with the Menomonees, 7 Stat. 342, Treaty of September 15, 1832, with the Winnebagoes, 7 Stat. 370, Treaty of September 21, 1832, with the Sacs and Foxes 7 Stat. 374, Treaty of October 20, 1832, with the Potawatamies, 7 Stat. 378, Treaty of September 28, 1833, with the Chippewas, Ottawa and Potawatamie Nation, 7 Stat. 481, Treaty of October 9, 1838, with the Pawnees, 7 Stat. 448, Treaty of August 24, 1838, with the Comanches and Wichitaes, 7 Stat. 474, Treaty of March 29, 1838, with the Ottawa and Chippewas, 7 Stat. 491, Treaty of September 28, 1838, with the Sacs and Foxes, 7 Stat. 517, Treaty of July 29, 1837, with the Chippewas 7 Stat. 586, Treaty of November 1, 1837, with the Winnebagoes, 7 Stat. 584, Treaty of October 4, 1844, with the Chippewas, 7 Stat. 591, Treaty of September 15, 1847, with the Benekas 7 Stat. 601, Treaty of October 18, 1848, with the Winnebagoes, 9 Stat. 378, Treaty of September 20, 1854, with the Chippewas, 10 Stat. 1109, Treaty of July 8, 1855, with the Ottomaw and Chippewas, 11 Stat. 621, Treaty of August 2, 1855, with the Chippewas, 11 Stat. 631, Treaty of July 11, 1856, with New Perce, 12 Stat. 587, Treaty of October 7, 1858, with the Teton Squares, 13 Stat. 976, Treaty of October 21, 1867, with the Kiowas and Comanches, 15 Stat. 531, Treaty of October 28, 1867, with the Cheyennes and Arapahoes, 15 Stat. 508, Treaty of April 20, *ad seq.* 1868, with the Sacs 15 Stat. 438, Treaty of May 7, 1868, with the Crow 15 Stat. 649, Treaty of June 1, 1868, with the Nez Percés, 15 Stat. 687, Treaty of July 8, 1868, with the Shoshone and Benekas tribes, 15 Stat. 678, Treaty of October 14, 1864, with the Yahooskins, 16 Stat. 707, The Treaty of February 7, 1911,

These rights, however, differ in several respects from ordinary property rights, and therefore deserve brief mention in a discussion of the general legal status of Indian tribes.

Indian hunting and fishing rights are, in general, of two sorts, those pertaining to Indian reservation lands and those pertaining to nonreservation (generally ceded) lands.

The extent of Indian rights with respect to reservation lands is noted in an opinion of the Acting Solicitor²¹⁵ for the Interior Department, upholding the exclusive right of the Red Lake Chippewa Tribe to fish in the waters of Red Lake, and declaring

An examination of the various treaties between the United States and the Chippewa Indians discloses that while the right in the Indians to hunt and fish on ceded lands was reserved in some of the earlier treaties (see Article 5, Treaty of July 20, 1837, 7 Stat. 530, Article 2, Treaty of October 4, 1812, 7 Stat. 501, and Article 11, Treaty of September 30, 1809, 10 Stat. 1109), no reservation of the right to hunt and fish was made with respect to the unceded lands of the Red Lake Reservation. But such a reservation was not necessary to preserve the right on the lands reserved or retained in Indian ownership. The right to hunt and fish was part of the larger rights possessed by the Indians in the lands reserved and ceded to them. Such right, which was "not much less necessary to the existence of the Indians than the atmosphere they breathe" remained in them unless granted away. *United States v. Winans*, 198 U.S. 871. Speaking of a

between the United States and the United Kingdom, 87 Stat. 1838, and the Treaty of July 7, 1911, between the United States and Great Britain, Japan, and Russia, 87 Stat. 1612, restricting pelagic sealing in certain waters, specifically exempt from such restrictions the natives dwelling on the coasts of those waters.

²¹⁵ Act of April 20, 1874, 18 Stat. 88 (U.S. Act of May 9, 1924, 43 Stat. 117 (granting to Flat Head Indians reservation of an easement, in lands sold to United States, to use said lands for grazing, hunting, fishing, and gathering of wood "the same way as obtained prior to this enactment, inasmuch as such new shall not interfere with the new of said lands for reversion purposes"). The Act of June 30, 1894, 18 Stat. 824, authorized the President of the United States to negotiate with the "ceded" Indian Tribes of the Pacific Ocean.

* * * for the relinquishment of certain rights guaranteed to them by the first article of the treaty made with them April eighteenth, eighteen hundred and fifty-nine, by which they are permitted to hunt, gather roots and berries, and pasture stock, in common with citizens of the United States, upon the lands and waters of the United States outside their reservations.

and appropriated the sum of five thousand dollars to defray the expense of the treaty and pay the Indians for their relinquishment of such rights.

²¹⁶ See Chapter 15, especially sec. 21.

²¹⁷ Op. Acting Sol. I. D. M. 28107, June 30, 1900.

similar situation, the Supreme Court of Wisconsin in *State v. Jackson*, 249 N. W. 285, 288, said:

"While the treaty entered into did not specifically reserve to the Indians such hunting and fishing rights as they had therefore enjoyed we think it reasonably appears that there is no necessity for specifically mentioning such hunting and fishing rights with respect to the lands reserved to them. At the time the treaty of 1761 was entered into there was not a 'shadow of impediment upon the hunting rights of the Indians' on the lands retained by them. The treaty was not a grant of rights to the Indians, but a grant of rights from them—a reservation of those not granted." *United States v. Winans*, 198 U. S. 371, 25 S. Ct. 662, 664, 49 L. Ed. 1689. We entertain no doubt that the rights of the Indians to hunt and fish upon their own lands continued."

The court further recognized that as to patented lands inside the reservation, the fish and game laws of the State of Wisconsin were without force and effect.

By tradition and habit the Indians as a race are hunters and fishermen, depending largely upon these pursuits for their livelihood. Their mineral and immaterial right to follow these pursuits on the lands and in the waters of their reservations is universally recognized. The Indians of the Red Lake Reservation appear to have asserted and exercised an exclusive right of fishing in the waters of Upper and Lower Red Lakes from the beginning, subject only to Federal control and regulation. The right of the Indians to hunt and fish in the waters of the reservation of the State of Minnesota but has been recognized and acquiesced in.

Citizen-suites somewhat similar to these, coupled with the rule of liberal construction uniformly applied in determining the rights of Indians, were cited by the Supreme Court of the United States in support of its conclusion that the Metlakatla Indians had an exclusive right to fish in the waters adjacent to Annette Islands in Alaska notwithstanding the fact that the Act of Congress setting aside the islands as a reservation for the Indians made no mention of the surrounding waters or the fishing rights of the Indians therein. *Alaska Pacific Fisheries v. United States*, 248 U. S. 80.

In *United States v. Sturgeon* (27 Federal Cases, Case No. 101181), the court gave consideration to the rights of the Indians of the Pyramid Lake Indian Reservation in Nevada to fish in the waters of a lake inside the boundaries of their reservation and held:

"The president has set apart the reservation for the use of the Pah Utes and other Indians residing therein. He has done this by authority of law. We know that the lake was included in the reservation, but it might be a fishing ground for the Indians. The law of the reservation have been drawn around it for the purpose of excluding white people from fishing there except by proper authority. It is plain that nothing of value to the Indians will be left of their reservation if all the whites who choose may resort there to fish. In our judgment, those who thus encroach on the reservation and fishing ground violate the order setting it apart for the use of the Indians, and consequently do so contrary to law."

In an opinion dated May 14, 1928 (24 MS358), the Solicitor for this Department ruled that the State of Washington was without right to regulate or control the use of boats on navigable bodies of water within the Quinalt Reservation in that State. The Solicitor said, and his remarks apply with equal force here:

"Manifestly, unless the Indians of the Quinalt Reservation are protected in the exclusive use and occupancy of their reservation including the waters therein, navigable or nonnavigable, then their rights may become subject to serious interference, if not jeopardy, by outsiders. If we admit the right of the State to invade the reservation for the purpose of regulating or controlling the use of boats on the Quinalt or any other body of navigable water therein it

would be tantamount to recognizing the right of the State to regulate other activities there, including fishing. This we cannot afford to do."

Muncie was admitted into the Union in 1833. The Indian title was subsequently recognized by treaty and Act of Congress, then extended to all of the lands surrounding Upper and Lower Red Lakes. The Indian title was that of occupancy only, the ultimate fee being in the United States, but the right of occupancy extended to and included the right to fish in the waters of the Lakes. *United States v. Winans*, *supra*. These rights insofar as the diminished reservation is concerned have been surrendered or relinquished by the Indians not have been taken away by any Act of Congress of which I am aware. In these circumstances, it is not unreasonable to hold that the State upon its admission into the Union took title to the submerged lands subject to the occupancy rights of the Indians in virtue of which the Indians possess an exclusive right of fishing in the waters of the Lakes. *Beecher v. Wehrby*, *supra*, *United States v. Thomas*, *supra*. It thus be the correct view, and I think it is, the exercise by the Indians of the right of fishing is subject to Federal and not State regulation and control. *United States v. Kagawa*, 318 U. S. 875, 16 S. Ct. 1462, 110 Fed. 130, *Peters v. Martin*, 111 Fed. 244, 10 S. Ct. 1040, 129 Fed. 246, *United States v. Hamilton*, 278 Fed. 185, 12 S. Ct. 1040, 63 Minn. 354, 51 N. W. 533.

In expressing the foregoing view, I am mindful of the statement of the Supreme Court in *United States v. Holt Bank*, *supra*, that while the Indians of the Red Lake Reservation were to have access to the navigable waters therein and were to be entitled to be taken in navigation, "these were common rights, common to all, whether Indian or white." But when this statement is read, as it should be, in the light of the decisions cited in its support, it becomes apparent that the court had in mind rights of navigation of a public nature and not private rights of ownership such as the Indian right of fishing. The latter right was not involved and was neither considered nor discussed.

Accordingly, since the Indians' exclusive rights to fish in the waters of Lower Red Lake and that part of Upper Red Lake inside the Indian reservation is supported by all of the decided cases touching on the subject, it is my opinion that continued administrative recognition of such rights as exclusive in the Indians is fully justified.

Such rights of hunting and fishing as the Indian tribes may enjoy are subject, in the first instance, to Federal regulation. Thus it has been held that Congress may restrict tribal rights by conferring on a state powers inconsistent with such rights, through an enabling act.²²

Likewise, the United States may limit Indian hunting and fishing rights by international treaty.²³ The extent and constitutional limits of such regulatory powers of State and Federal Governments are questions more fully considered in other chapters of this volume.²⁴ Within the limits suggested tribal rights of hunting and fishing have received judicial recognition and protection against state and private interference,²⁵ and even against interference by Federal administrative officials.²⁶

²² *Ward v. Race Horse*, 143 U. S. 804 (1895). But cf. *Reefert Bros. Co. v. United States*, 249 U. S. 104 (1919).

²³ *See Op. Sol. I. D.*, 277000, June 15, 1924, 54 I. D. 517 (holding Migratory Bird Treaty Act of July 8, 1918, 40 Stat. 755, applicable to Swinomish Indian Reservation).

²⁴ *See* Chapters 5, 6.

²⁵ *Reefert Bros. Co. v. United States*, 249 U. S. 104 (1919); *United States v. Winans*, 198 U. S. 371. 16 S. Ct. 1462, 110 Fed. 130 (D. C. W. D. Wis. 1901). And *see Hart v. United States*, 283 U. S. 753, 756 (1931); *Hay-Weaver-Miller v. Smith*, 164 U. S. 401, 410 (1904); *Spalding v. Chandler*, 100 U. S. 701 (1880); *Paulsen v. United States*, 44 F. 2d 581, 875-588 (C. C. A. 9 1930), cert. den. 288 U. S. 820.

²⁶ *Maroon v. Bams*, 5 F. 2d 235 (D. C. W. D. Wash. 1928), discussed in Chapter 9, sec. 5C.

CHAPTER 15

TRIBAL PROPERTY

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SECTION 1. DEFINITION OF TRIBAL PROPERTY

Tribal property may be formally defined as property in which an Indian tribe has a legally enforceable interest. The exact nature of this interest it will be the purpose of this chapter to delineate. It will, however, clarify the scope and purpose of the chapter to note certain implications of the formal definition of tribal property here presented.

If tribal property is property in which a tribe has a legally enforceable interest, it must be distinguished, on the one hand, from property of individual Indians, and, on the other hand, from public property of the United States. Actually, we find that tribal property partakes of some of the incidents of both individual private property and public property of the United States. The distinctions on both sides, however, are as significant as the similarities. It may be noted that historically, conceptions of tribal property have oscillated between the two limits of individual private property and public property. When, for instance, Pueblo property was treated like any other private

corporate property in the Territory of New Mexico,¹ no special problems of Indian law were presented. Likewise, where lands, although set aside for Indian purposes, have not been the subject of any legally enforceable Indian rights, as in the case perhaps with public lands set aside for the establishment of an Indian hospital or school not restricted to any particular tribe, the lands remain public property of the United States and no question of tribal property is presented.²

¹ See Chapter 20, sec. 8.

² See Chapter 1, sec. 8, in 78. Even in the Indian school situation, tribal property rights may be created. In Alaska, for instance, reservations for native education have come to be treated, for most purposes, as Indian reservations. See Chapter 21, sec. 7. Similarly, we may note that the Joint Resolution of January 30, 1907, 29 Stat. 608, authorizing the use of the Fort Bidwell abandoned military reservation, "for the purpose of an Indian training school," has been construed as establishing an Indian reservation. The Act of January 27, 1913, 37 Stat. 602, refers to "Indians having rights on said reservation."

The distinction between the *fact* of use and enjoyment and the *right* of possession is essential in the understanding of Indian tribal property. The area of land reserved in the Washington Zoo for the exclusive use and occupancy of a herd of bunnies does not, by the fact of such reservation, cease to be the public property of the United States. The bunnies have no legally enforceable interest, no possessory right, in the land. It is true that they are allowed to occupy an area from which other animals and, except for certain Government employees, human beings, may be lawfully excluded. The bunnies, however, cannot bring an action of ejection and no other party can bring such an action on behalf of the bunnies.

From time to time, disinterested advocates have upheld what may be called the "narrative theory" of tribal property under which the rights, whatever they are, vested in the Indian tribe. In every case, however, in which this theory has been presented to the Supreme Court of the United States, it has been rejected.¹

A TRIBAL OWNERSHIP AND TENANCY IN COMMON

The distinction between tribal property and property owned in common by a group of Indians appears most clearly in connection with the claims repeatedly put forward by descendants of tribal members who are not themselves tribal members and who, under a theory of tenancy in common, would be entitled to share in the common property. But, if the property is indeed tribal, have no valid claim thereon. The Supreme Court has made it clear in such cases, *Pleming v. McCurtain*,² and *Chippewa Indians of Minnesota v. United States*,³ that where the Federal Government has dealt with Indians as a tribe no tenancy in common is created, and no descendible or alienable right accrues to the individual members of the tribe in being at the time the property vests. The fact that the plural form is used in describing the grantee does not show an intent to create a tenancy in common,⁴ nor does a limitation (to the tribe and their descendants) establish any basis for declaring a trust for descendants of individual members.⁵

A second distinction between tribal ownership and tenancy in common relates to the method of transfer. As the Attorney General declared, in the early case of the Christian Indians,⁶

The gravest of your questions remains to be answered. Can these Christian Indians sell the lands thus acquired? The right of alienation is incident to an absolute title. If the patent is not to a nation, tribe, or band, called by the name of the Christian Indians, but to the individual persons included within that designation, then all those persons are patentees, and all hold as tenants in common. No conveyance can be made into by the lawful deed of all. If any one refuses or is unable to consent, he cannot be deprived of his interest by an act of the others. Some of

these persons being children, and some, perhaps, being under other legal disabilities, it will be impossible for any purchaser to get a good title if they are tenants in common.

But I think the patent will vest the title in the tribe. You have mentioned no fact to make me believe that there is action on tribal land-act was ever lost or merged into that of the Delaware. They are treated as a separate people, wholly distinct and different from the Delaware. The land, therefore, belongs to the nation or band, and can be disposed of only by treaty. (17-40-27)

A third distinction lies in the fact that debts of individuals may be set off against claims of tenants in common but not against claims of tribes. Thus in the case of *Shoshone Tribe of Indians v. United States*,⁷ the Government sought to offset, against allowed tribal claims, debts due from individual allottees to the United States for migration construction costs. This contention was rejected on the ground that debts of individual allottees were not debts of the Indian tribe.

The essential differences between tribal ownership and tenancy in common are thus analyzed by the Court of Claims in the case of *Southern v. Cheyenne Nation and the United States*,⁸ in an opinion quoted and affirmed by the Supreme Court.

The distinctive characteristics of communal property is that every member of the community is an owner of it as such. He does not take as heir, or purchaser, or grantee, if he does his right of property does not descend, if he renounces from the community if he expires, if he wishes to dispose of it he has nothing which he can convey, and yet he has a right of property in the land as perfect as that of any other person, and his children after him will enjoy all that he enjoyed, not as heirs but as communal owners. (P. 302.)

Perhaps all of these differences can be summed up in the conception of tribal property as *corporate* property.⁹

B TRIBAL OWNERSHIP AND INDIVIDUAL OCCUPANCY

Congress has consistently distinguished between the tribal interest in land and the complementary interest of the individual Indian in improvements thereon.¹⁰ Thus, a long series of congressional acts granting right-of-way across Indian reservations to various railroad companies contain the specification that damages shall be payable not only to the tribe but to individuals, wherever lands are "held by individual occupants according to the laws, customs, and usages" of the tribe in question.¹¹ Other right-of-way statutes provide in slightly different

¹ 183 U.S. 213 (1902), reversed on other grounds in 260 U.S. 470 (1922). It should be noted that the tribe was not in fact, for the value of timber and hay unimproved and from tribal property and sold by members of the tribe. This contention was rejected by the court on the ground that the tribe was not damaged while the entire membership was permitted to utilize or sell tribal property.

² 28 C. Cl. 281 (1857), aff'd sub nom. *Cheyenne Nation v. Journey*, 105 U.S. 8 (1881).

³ On the concept of Indian tribes as membership corporations, see Chapter 14, see 4.

⁴ See Chapter 9, see 63.

⁵ Act of August 2, 1882, 22 Stat. 181, Act of July 4, 1884, 23 Stat. 69, Act of July 4, 1884, 23 Stat. 78, Act of June 1, 1886, 24 Stat. 78, Act of July 1, 1889, 24 Stat. 117, Act of July 1, 1889, 24 Stat. 124, Act of February 24, 1887, 24 Stat. 419, Act of March 2, 1887, 24 Stat. 416, Act of February 15, 1888, 25 Stat. 35, Act of May 14, 1888, 25 Stat. 140, Act of May 20, 1888, 25 Stat. 102, Act of January 20, 1889, 25 Stat. 617, Act of May 8, 1890, 26 Stat. 102, Act of June 21, 1890, 26 Stat. 170, Act of June 30, 1890, 26 Stat. 184, Act of September 26, 1890, 26 Stat. 485, Act of October 1, 1890, 26 Stat. 682, Act of February 24, 1891, 26 Stat. 795, Act of March 3, 1891, 26 Stat. 864, Act of July 6, 1892, 27 Stat. 83, Act of July 8, 1892, 27 Stat. 836, Act of February 20, 1893, 27 Stat. 408, Act of March 2, 1896, see 29 Stat. 10, Act of March 14, 1896, see 2, 29 Stat. 69, Act of March 30, 1896, see 2, 29 Stat. 80, 81, Act of April 9, 1896, 29 Stat. 87, Act of January 29, 1897, 29 Stat. 609, Act of February 14, 1898, 29 Stat. 241, Act of March 30, 1898, 29 Stat. 847.

⁶ Thus, Attorney General Cushing, in his opinion in the *Patent Case* (see 8 Op. A. 275 (1855)), declared that the making of treaties with Indians and the references in such treaties to "their lands" were intended on the part of the United States.

Today a basic issue of policy in the administration of tribal property is whether the tribe that "owns" land will be allowed to exercise the powers of a landlord, i.e., to secure rentals and fees, to regulate land use and to withdraw land and privileges from those who flout the tribal regulations, or whether the Federal Government will administer "tribal" lands for the benefit of the Indians as it administers National Monuments, for instance, for the benefit of posterity, with the Indians having perhaps, as much actual voice in the former case as poverty has in the latter. ⁷ P. S. Cohen, *How Long Will Indian Constitutions Last?* (1960), 6 Indians at Work, No. 10, pp. 40, 41.

⁸ See sec. 40-20, infra.

⁹ 215 U.S. 83 (1909). Accord *Ligon v. Johnston*, 164 Fed. 670 (C. C. A. 8, 1908), aff'd mem., 225 U.S. 741 (1910). *United States v. Chaffee*, 28 F. Supp. 340 (D. C. D. N. Y. 1939).

¹⁰ 307 U.S. 1 (1939).

¹¹ See *Pleming v. McCurtain*, 215 U.S. 38, 59 (1909).

¹² *Id.*, p. 60.

¹³ Op. A. 24, 26, 27 (1857).

terms for damages to individual occupants caused by the granting of such rights-of-way.¹¹ Under such statutes, it has been said,

Where one has a base fee, it has been held that he should receive the full value of the land, as the interest of the grantor is too remote to be treated as property.

The fee of the territory of the Cherokee Nation is in the Nation, but the occupants of the land have so complete a right of enjoyment that, when a right of way is condemned, they are entitled to the compensation.¹²

Where Congress has provided for the sale of tribal lands, special provision has frequently been made for the payment of damages to individual occupants.¹³

While the Indian occupant of tribal land has such an interest as will entitle him to compensation when a right-of-way is granted across the land he occupies, it has been held administratively that such payments made to individual Indian occupants cannot satisfy the tribal right to compensation.¹⁴

C TRIBAL LANDS AND PUBLIC LANDS OF THE UNITED STATES

Although Indian tribal lands have been distinguished from public lands in various ways, there are certain situations in which tribal lands have been treated as public lands. For example it has been held that tribal lands, even though held by the tribe in fee, may be considered public lands of the United States for the purpose of erecting federal buildings thereon, at least where Congress has directed such action, or where the tribe itself has consented to the action.¹⁵

Again, it has been held that Indian lands are "public lands" within the meaning of a statute granting a right-of-way to a railroad company across "public lands," where the United States specifically undertakes to extinguish Indian title on the lands

affected and where the statute is interpreted to cover Indian lands by the Executive Department charged with the administration of the act.¹⁶

Likewise, it has been held that land acquired by the United States in trust for an Indian tribe is immune from state zoning regulations which, in terms, do not apply to lands "belonging to and occupied by the United States."¹⁷

As already noted, the fact that Indian lands may be classified as "public lands" for certain purposes, does not negate their character as tribal property. Thus, surplus Indian lands although denominated "public lands of the United States" for purposes of disposition, are subject to restoration as tribal lands under section 3 of the Act of June 1, 1934.¹⁸

And where "public lands" are granted to a state or railroad, Indian lands will not be deemed to be covered in the grant in the absence of clear evidence of a congressional intent to include such lands.¹⁹

Similarly, it has been held that Indian tribal lands are not covered by statutes opening "public lands" to settlement,²⁰ nor are they comprised within the mineral laws affecting the public domain.²¹

D THE COMPOSITION OF THE TRIBE AS PROPRIETOR

To mark out the tribe in which any form of tribal property is vested is ordinarily a simple enough matter. There are, however, a number of cases in which, because of tribal amalgamation, dissolution, modification of membership rules, or uncertainties, and ambiguities in treaty or statutory designations, serious questions arise as to the composition of the tribe in which particular rights of property are vested. Insofar as these questions involve the issue of the tribal status, they have already received our consideration in Chapter 14. For present purposes it is enough to designate briefly the chief complications that have arisen in designating the tribe in which given property rights are vested.

One of these complications arises out of the practice in numerous early statutes and treaties, of dividing a tribal estate between those Indians desiring to maintain tribal relationships and communal property and those desiring to separate themselves from the tribe and hold their shares of tribal property in individual ownership. Typical of this arrangement is the Act of February 9, 1871.²² Under this statute the tribal estate was divided be-

¹¹ Act of May 30, 1888, 25 Stat. 160, Act of June 4, 1889, 25 Stat. 107, Act of June 26, 1888, 25 Stat. 205, Act of July 26, 1888, 25 Stat. 347, Act of July 23, 1888, 25 Stat. 149, Act of October 17, 1888, 25 Stat. 558, Act of February 21, 1889, 25 Stat. 854 (Dikotai), Act of February 20, 1889, 25 Stat. 715 (Knapack), Act of May 8, 1890, 26 Stat. 194, Act of October 1, 1890, 26 Stat. 691, Act of December 21, 1891, 28 Stat. 22, Act of August 4, 1894, 28 Stat. 229, Act of February 28, 1899, sec. 3, 30 Stat. 906, Act of March 2, 1899, sec. 3, 30 Stat. 900.

¹² *Handolph, Plaintiff Defendant* (1894), see 161, citing *Payne v Kansas*.

¹³ *United States v. G. W. D. Aik*, 1883.

¹⁴ Act of May 28, 1880, 46 Stat. 411 (providing that where tribal lands were exchanged for lands west of the Mississippi, by tribal consent, the individual members of the tribe shall be paid the value of improvements on the lands by the United States), Act of February 9, 1871, sec. 1, 10 Stat. 404 (ownership of improvements on land offered for sale to be certified by the chiefs and councilors of said (Stockbridge and Miamie tribe)), Act of March 3, 1885, 28 Stat. 461 (Sac and Fox), Act of February 20, 1889, 25 Stat. 677 (Southern Ute), Act of June 28, 1894, 26 Stat. 405 (Indian Territory).

¹⁵ *Memo Sol. I. D.*, August 11, 1937.

¹⁶ In a decision dated June 26, 1900, 8 Comp. Dec. 987, the Comptroller of the Treasury considered the question of the construction of a school on the Pipestone Indian reservation owned by the Yankton Sioux Tribe in the simple. The Comptroller held that neither sec. 363 of the Revised Statutes, 48 U. S. C. 783, nor the general policy exemplified by that section against the expenditure of public funds on private property had any application, stating:

"* * * The same acts which make the appropriations for new buildings make large appropriations for the support of the school on the reservation, and as the funds provided for the support of the school are a gift from the United States, no more show of intention that it was the intention of Congress that the provisions for new buildings should be construed as a gift, and that the money should be expended on the land known to belong to the Indians in fee" (P. 980).

A subsequent decision dated February 28, 1918, 94 Comp. Dec. 477, subscribes to the same doctrine. There the Comptroller ruled that public moneys could not be expended in erecting school buildings on Indian reservation lands the title to which was in the State. But he said:

"If the legal title to the land upon which it is contemplated to erect the building is in the State, the Government is not to be understood to use Government appropriations for the construction of the required buildings" * * * (P. 479).

¹⁷ *United v. United People*, 2 R. Co., 225 U. S. 582, 590 (1912), aff'g 108 Fed. 945 (C. A. 8, 1905). The doctrine of this case is stretched to cover a case where no administrative construction supported the decision and where the land had been promised to a given tribe of Indians "as their land and home forever" (Treaty of June 5 and 17, 1840, with the Fortwaucombe, 6 Mo. 857, 861), in the case of *Nadeau v. F. M. P. Co.* (225 U. S. 422 (1912)) (construing the Act of July 3, 1862, 12 Stat. 480, as amended by the Act of July 1, 1880, 14 Stat. 79) *Of*, however, *Leavenworth, etc. R. R. Co. v. United States*, 92 U. S. 788, 748 (1875), holding that a congressional grant of Indian lands is not to be presumed "the absence of words of unmistakable import." *Second Minnesota, East & Tow. Ry. Co. v. United States*, 225 U. S. 87 (1911) *Of* also *Becker v. Withers*, 96 U. S. 617 (1877) (holding that a grant of "public lands" may convey the fee to an Indian reservation subject to the Indians' right of occupancy, if such congressional intention is shown). And see Fed. 213, 217, *infra*.

¹⁸ *Memo Sol. I. D.*, October 6, 1938.

¹⁹ 48 Stat. 984, 25 U. S. C. 408. *See Sol. I. D.* M. 29708, June 15, 1938. *See also* *Wichita v. Hitchcock*, 187 U. S. 373 (1902). And see *Leavenworth, etc. R. R. Co. v. United States*, 92 U. S. 738, 741 (1875). *See also* *Wichita, Kansas v. Texas Ry. P. & O. R. R.*, 162 U. S. 114, 119 (1896), *Dubuque, etc. Railroad v. D. M. V. Railroad*, 108 U. S. 320, 384 (1881), but *of* *Shoup v. Northwestern Life Ins. Co.*, 40 Fed. 341, 348 (C. C. B. D. Mich., 1888). And *of* 22, 20, *supra*.

²⁰ *United States v. McIntire*, 101 P. 241 (C. C. A. 8, 1939), *rev'd* *McIntire v. United States*, 22 F. Supp. 816 (D. C. Mont. 1937).

²¹ *See* sec. 7 and 14, *infra*.

²² 16 Stat. 404 (Stockbridge and Miamie).

between a "citizen party" and an "Indian party," the former to receive per capita shares of the tribal funds, and the latter to enjoy exclusive rights in the remaining tribal fund. Members of the "citizen party" were deemed to have made "full surrender and relinquishment" of all claims "to be thereafter known and considered as members of said tribe, or in any manner interested in any provision hereafter or hereafter to be made by any treaty or law of the United States for the benefit of said tribes." (See, § 1.)

A similar procedure was employed in certain cases where tribes were induced to migrate westward and those individuals remaining behind covered Indian covenants and thus lost any rights in the tribal property of the migrant tribe.¹

The problem of proportionate common ownership by two tribes is raised by the Act of March 2, 1890.²

A related problem is raised by the existence of separate treaty rights enjoyed by the Gros Ventre and the Assiniboin tribes of the Fort Belknap Reservation, which tribes, as a result of not occupying a single reservation,³ holding land in common, and acting through a single tribal council, have come to be amalgamated as a single tribe.⁴

The position of lands held by different Chippewa bands under the Act of January 14, 1884,⁵ has raised a number of complex questions which can hardly be noted within the confines of this

discussion.⁶ While it is impossible to lay down a simple rule to determine when title to reservation lands is located in a tribe and when it is located in a component band, the opinion of the Supreme Court in *Chippewa Indians v. United States*⁷ indicates the factors that will be considered in such a determination. Among such factors particular importance attaches to the attitudes of other bands towards the claim of the band in question, the nature of the treaties made, whether with individual lands or with the entire tribe or nation, and the administrative practice of the Interior Department with respect to the use of lands and the disposition of proceeds therefrom.

The clarification of ambiguities in the designation of the Indian group for which a reservation has been set aside is exemplified in the case of the Colorado River Reservation. This reservation was originally set aside "for the Indians of the said river and its tributaries."⁸ It was held by the Secretary of the Interior Department that the Indians located on the reservation over a long period of years and recognized as a single tribe came to enjoy rights in the reservation which administrative officers could not thereafter diminish by location, on the reservation, Indians of other tribes residing within the Colorado River watershed.⁹

¹For an account of these proceedings, see *United States v. Mille Lac Band of Chippewa Indians*, 220 U. S. 468 (1913), *Chippewa Indians of Minnesota v. United States*, 301 U. S. 838 (1937), aff'd 30 C. Cls. 410 (1913), *United States v. Minnesota*, 270 U. S. 181 (1926), Op. Sol. I. D., M. 200510, February 10, 1938.

²See, for example, *United States v. Chippewa Indians of Minnesota v. United States*, 307 U. S. 1 (1938).

³Act of March 3, 1890, 23 Stat. 511, 550.

⁴Memo Sol. I. D., September 15, 1938; Memo Sol. I. D. October 20, 1939. Accord, *United States v. Choctaw Nation*, 170 U. S. 484, 548 (1900).

¹ Accord, Act of February 20, 1895, 28 Stat. 677 (Drs.)
² 17 Op. A. G. 110 (1882) (Maine tribes). See Chapter 3, sec. 3 and 4.

³ 25 Stat. 1019.

⁴ Act of May 1, 1885, 23 Stat. 118, 124.

⁵ Memo Sol. I. D., March 20, 1939.

⁶ 23 Stat. 612.

SECTION 2. FORMS OF TRIBAL PROPERTY

In the whole range of ownership forms known to our legal system, from simple ownership of money or chattels and fee simple title in real estate, through the many varieties of restricted and conditioned titles, trust titles and future interests, to the shadowy rights of perennities and contingent remainders, there is probably no form of property right that has not been lodged in an Indian tribe. The term *tribal property*, therefore, does not designate a single and definite legal institution, but rather a broad range within which important variations exist. These variations occur in every aspect of property law: in the duration of the possessory right, whether perpetual or limited, in the extent of that right, with respect, e. g., to timber, minerals, water, and improvements on tribal land, in the measure of supervision which the Federal Government reserves over the tribal property, and in the types of use and disposition which may be made of the property by the tribal "ownes." In view of these diversities, generalizations about "tribal property" should be scrutinized as critically as assertions about "property" in general.

A brief and incomplete list of the various tenures by which tribal property is held may serve to indicate the need for caution in dealing with generalizations about "Indian title" and "tribal ownership." (1) fee simple ownership of land; (2) equitable ownership of land;¹ (3) leasehold interest in land;² (4) rights of reverter established by statutes granting to various railroads rights-of-way across Indian reservations with a provision that

the land shall revert to the tribe in the event that the grantee ceases to use it for the designated purpose,³ and similar rights of reverter established by various other types of legislation;⁴ (5) easements,⁵ (6) ownership of minerals underlying allotted

¹ Act of July 4, 1884, 23 Stat. 60; Act of July 4, 1881, 23 Stat. 78, Act of June 1, 1890, 24 Stat. 75; Act of July 1, 1890, 24 Stat. 117, Act of July 6, 1890, 24 Stat. 124, Act of February 21, 1897, 24 Stat. 419, Act of March 2, 1897, 24 Stat. 440, Act of February 19, 1898, 25 Stat. 851; Act of May 14, 1898, 25 Stat. 140; Act of February 18, 1898, 25 Stat. 102, Act of June 20, 1898, 26 Stat. 303; Act of September 1, 1898, 25 Stat. 523; Act of January 10, 1899, 25 Stat. 617, Act of February 20, 1899, 25 Stat. 745, Act of May 8, 1900, 26 Stat. 103; Act of June 21, 1900, 26 Stat. 170, Act of June 30, 1900, 26 Stat. 184, Act of September 26, 1900, 26 Stat. 485; Act of October 1, 1900, 26 Stat. 532; Act of February 21, 1901, 26 Stat. 783, Act of March 8, 1901, 26 Stat. 844, Act of July 8, 1902, 27 Stat. 82, Act of July 8, 1902, 27 Stat. 326; Act of February 20, 1903, 27 Stat. 406, Act of December 21, 1903, 28 Stat. 22, Act of August 4, 1904, 28 Stat. 229; Act of March 2, 1906, 29 Stat. 40, Act of March 18, 1906, 29 Stat. 60, Act of March 30, 1906, 29 Stat. 80, Act of April 6, 1906, 29 Stat. 87, Act of January 20, 1907, 29 Stat. 502, Act of February 14, 1908, 30 Stat. 241; Act of March 30, 1908, 30 Stat. 817, Act of February 28, 1909, 30 Stat. 906.

² See, for example, *United States v. Board of Nat. Monuments of Presbyterian Church*, 37 F. 2d 272 (C. C. A. 10, 1939). Compare sec. 2, paragraph 12, of the Act of June 28, 1908, 81 Stat. 589, providing for the conveyance of Omate lands to a cemetery association with a right of reverter to "the use and benefit of the individual members of the Omate tribe, according to the roll herein provided, or to their heirs."

³ See, for example, the Act of May 9, 1924, 43 Stat. 117, providing that lands withdrawn from the Fort, Hall Indian reservation for reservoir purposes shall be subject to a reservation of an easement to the Fort and Hall Indians to use the said lands for grazing, hunting, fishing, and gathering of wood, and so forth, the same way as obtained prior to this enactment, insofar as such uses shall not interfere with the use of said lands for reservoir purposes. Compare the Act of February 20, 1910, 40 Stat. 1175, conferring upon the Havasupai tribe rights of "use and occupancy" in lands within the Grand Canyon National Park.

¹ See sec. 6 of this Chapter.

² See sec. 6 of this Chapter.

³ See, for example, the Act of February 28, 1909, 30 Stat. 927 conferring a 50-year leasehold upon the Alabama and the Wyandott tribes, subject to termination upon abandonment.

lands," (7) water rights," (8) rights of interest," (9) tribal trust funds," (10) accounts payable to tribe."

¹⁴ Act of June 4, 1920, sec. 6, 11 Stat. 773, 774 (Crow), Act of June 28, 1898, sec. 11, 30 Stat. 195, 497 (Indian Territory), Act of June 24, 1906, 34 Stat. 530 (Osage), Act of March 3, 1921, sec. 4, 41 Stat. 1367 (Fort Belknap). See sec. 11, *infra*.

¹⁵ See, for example, Act of June 6, 1900, 31 Stat. 672 (Fort Hall), reserving water rights by agreement where surplus lands were sold on Fort Hall Reservation, Act of March 8, 1907, 31 Stat. 1016 (authorizing the use of tribal funds to purchase water rights for Indian lands on the Wind River Reservation in accordance with the statutes of Wyoming), and see sec. 16 of this Chapter.

¹⁶ Act of March 1, 1883, 23 Stat. 112 (rights of interest reserved for Indians of Allotment Indian Reservations when lands are transferred to cemetery association), Act of January 27, 1912, 37 Stat. 672 (Fort Hall Indian Reservation Re-vestigation).

¹⁷ Act of June 4, 1938, sec. 2, 11 Stat. 312, Act of March 3, 1863, sec. 4, 6, 12 Stat. 819, Act of April 29, 1974, sec. 2, 38 Stat. 36, 37, Act of

Various other types of property rights "vested in Indian tribes might be noted, but the foregoing list should serve to convey a fair idea of the complexity of the subject matter and the danger of overgeneralization.

March 4, 1881, sec. 1, 21 Stat. 190, Act of March 4, 1883, 23 Stat. 471 (Pine and Fox, and Fort), Act of September 1, 1888, sec. 6, 25 Stat. 152, Act of February 20, 1894, 27 Stat. 460 (White Mountain Apache), Act of March 2, 1901, 11 Stat. 972, Act of April 23, 1904, 31 Stat. 302 (Flathead), Act of December 21, 1904, 34 Stat. 592 (Yakima), Act of June 5, 1906, 34 Stat. 511, Act of February 20, 1912, 37 Stat. 64 (Mekong), Act of February 21, 1913, 37 Stat. 675 (Shoshone and Snake), Act of March 4, 1921, 41 Stat. 1201. See sec. 22, *infra*.

¹⁸ See, for example, Act of March 3, 1921, sec. 7, 11 Stat. 1367. See, for example, Act of August 1, 1898, 30 Stat. 53 (claims), Fort Belknap Act of January 28, 1914, 37 Stat. 731, Act of February 14, 1917, 37 Stat. 665 (rights of inheritance), Act of February 9, 1921, 41 Stat. 820 (claims).

SECTION 3. SOURCES OF TRIBAL RIGHTS IN REAL PROPERTY

The definition of tribal property rights in every decided case and in every actual situation involves some document or course of action which defines those rights. An analysis of the different ways in which tribal rights over property come into being is therefore prerequisite to a proper definition of those rights.

Interests in real property have been acquired by Indian tribes in at least six ways:

- 1 By aboriginal possession
- 2 By treaty
- 3 By act of Congress
- 4 By Executive action
- 5 By purchase
- 6 By action of a colony, state, or foreign nation

In sections 4 to 9 of this chapter, these six sources of tribal right will be dealt with.

A word of caution, however, must be offered against the assumption that the foregoing six methods are clearly distinguished from each other. In fact, there is an interconnection of all

methods. Aboriginal possession may be confirmed by treaty or statute, a treaty may carry out objectives laid down in a statute, and vice versa, either may be implemented by Executive order or purchase. Action of the United States alone on any of these lines may parallel or confirm acts of prior sovereignty. But with all these qualifications, the six-fold division above proposed does offer a convenient method of arranging in workable compass the material pertaining to the creation of tribal property rights in land.

By way of corrective to any illusion of certainty that this division of material may stimulate, it is well to quote the words of the Supreme Court in *Minnesota v. Littlechild*:

"Now, in order to create a reservation it is not necessary that there should be a formal cession or a formal act setting apart a particular tract. It is enough that from what has been done there should be a certain defined tract appropriated to certain purposes."

* 185 U. S. 378, 380-380 (1902)

SECTION 4. ABORIGINAL POSSESSION

The derivation of Indian property rights from aboriginal possession "is not only the first source of tribal property rights in a historical sense, but is of first importance in that this source of property has greatly influenced tribal tenures established in other ways. Except in the light of this influence, it is difficult to understand why peculiar incidents should attach to property which has been purchased outright by an Indian tribe from a private person, or has been patented to the tribe by the United States in the same way that other public lands are patented to private individuals. That there are peculiar incidents attached even to fee-simple tenure by an Indian tribe is an undoubted fact, and the explanation of this fact is probably to be found in the conclusion that has emanated from the concept of aboriginal possession.

The problem of recognizing or denying possessory rights claimed by the aborigines in the soil of America engaged the

attention of jurists and publicists from the discovery of America. A clear expression of the classical view, which influenced Chief Justice Marshall and other founders of American legal doctrine in this field, was given by Vattel.¹ The conflicting claims of European powers to unpopulated areas in the new world were to be resolved, according to Vattel, in accordance with the precept of natural law (or, as we should say today, the precept of international morality) that no nation can

"... exclusively appropriate to themselves more land than they have occasion for, or more than they are able to settle and cultivate." We do not, therefore, deviate from the views of nature in confining the Indians within narrow limits. However, we cannot help praising the moderation of the English puritans who first settled in New England, who, notwithstanding their being furnished with a charter from their sovereign, purchased of the Indians the land of which they intended to take possession. This laudable example was followed by William Penn, and the colony of Quakers that he conducted to Pennsylvania.

The basic issues in the field of aboriginal possessory right were first presented to the United States Supreme Court in the case of *Johnson v. McIntosh*.² Of the opinion of Chief Justice Marshall in that case, a leading writer on American consti-

¹ The significance of this concept is summarized in these words from the opinion in *Deer v. State of New York*, 22 F. 2d 851, 854 (D. C. N. D. N. Y., 1927):

"The source of title here is not letters patent or other form of grant by the federal government. Title the Indians claim in the land, arising from their white occupation, and recognized and protected by treaties between Great Britain and the United States and between the United States and the Indians. By the treaty of 1763 between the United States and the Six Nations of Indians, and the treaty of 1790 between the United States, the state of New York, and the Seven Nations of Canada, the right of occupation of the lands in question by the Six Nations Indians, was not granted, but recognized and confirmed."

² Vattel's *Law of Nations* (1758), Book I, c. XVIII. The passage quoted is from the edition of Chitty published in 1829.

³ 8 Wheat. 518 (1823).

tional law remarks: "the principles there laid down have ever since been accepted as correct . . . in this case the plaintiffs claimed land under a grant by the chiefs of the Iroquois and Seneca Nations, and in the words of the opinion, 'the question is, whether this title can be recognized in the courts of the United States.'" In reaching the conclusion that the Indian titles did not enjoy and could not convey complete title to the soil, the Court analyzed in some detail the extent and origin of the Indians' possessory right. From this opinion the following pertinent excerpts are taken:

On the discovery of this immense continent, the great nations of Europe were eager to appropriate to themselves so much of it as they could respectively acquire. Its vast extent offered an ample field to the ambition and enterprise of all, and the character and reborn of its inhabitants afforded an apology for considering them as a people over whom the superior genius of Europe might claim an ascendancy. The pretensions of the old world found no difficulty in convincing themselves that they made ample compensation to the inhabitants of the new, by bestowing on them civilization and Christianity, in exchange for untamed independence. That, as they were all in pursuit of nearly the same object, it was necessary, in order to avoid conflicting settlements, and consequent war with each other, to establish a principle, which all should acknowledge as the law by which the right of acquisition, which they all rested, should be regulated as between themselves. This principle was that discovery gave title to the government by whose subjects, or by whose authority, it was made, against all other European governments, which title might be transmitted by possession.

The exclusion of all other Europeans, necessarily gave to the nation making the discovery the sole right of acquiring the soil from the natives, and establishing settlements upon it. It was a right with which no Europeans could interfere. It was a right which all asserted for themselves, and to the assertion of which, by others, all assented.

Those relations which were to exist between the discoverer and the natives, were to be regulated by themselves. The rights thus acquired being exclusive, no other power could interpose between them.

In the establishment of these relations, the rights of the original inhabitants were, in no instance, entirely disregarded, but were necessarily, to a considerable extent, impaired. They were admitted to be the rightful occupants of the soil, with a legal as well as just claim to retain possession of it, and to use it according to their own discretion; but their rights to complete sovereignty, as independent nations, were necessarily diminished, and their power to dispose of the soil at their own will to whomsoever they pleased, was denied by the original fundamental principle, that discovery gave exclusive title to those who made it.

While the different nations of Europe respected the right of the natives, as occupants, they asserted the ultimate dominion to be in themselves; and claimed and exercised, as a consequence of this ultimate dominion, a power to grant the soil, while yet in possession of the natives. These grants have been understood by all to convey a title to the grantees, subject only to the Indian right of occupancy.

The history of America, from its discovery to the present day, proves, we think, the universal recognition of these principles. (Pp 572-571.)

The United States, then, have unequivocally needed to that great and broad right by which its civilized inhabitants now hold this country. They hold, and assert in themselves, the title by which it was acquired. They maintain, as all others have maintained, that discovery gave an exclusive right to extinguish the Indian title of occupancy, either by purchase or by conquest; and gave also a right to such a degree of sovereignty as the circumstances of the people would allow them to exercise.

The power now possessed by the government of the United States to grant lands, reserved, while we were colonies, in the crown, to its grantees. The validity of the titles given by either has never been questioned in our courts. It has been exercised uniformly over territory in possession of the Indians. The existence of this power must necessarily the existence of any right which may conflict with and control it. An absolute title to lands cannot exist, at the same time, in different persons, or in different governments. An absolute, must be an exclusive title, or at least a title which excludes all others not compatible with it. All our institutions recognize the absolute title of the crown, subject only to the Indian right of occupancy, and recognize the absolute title of the crown to extinguish that right. This is incompatible with an absolute and complete title in the Indians.

We will not enter into the controversy, whether agriculturists, merchants, and manufacturers, have a right, on abstract principles, to expel hunters from the territory they possess, or to contract their limits. Compulsory gave a title which the courts of the country cannot deny, whatever the private and speculative opinions of individuals may be, respecting the original justice of the claim which has been successfully asserted. The British government, which was then our government, and whose rights have passed to the United States, asserted a title to all the lands occupied by Indians, within the chartered limits of the British colonies. It asserted also a limited sovereignty over them, and the exclusive right of extinguishing the title which occupancy gave to them. These claims have been maintained and established as far west as the River Mississippi, by the sword. The title to a vast portion of the lands we now hold, originates in them. It is not for the courts of this country to question the validity of this title, or to sustain one which is incompatible with it. (Pp 587-580.)

However extravagant the pretension of converting the discovery of an inhabited country into conquest may appear, if the principle has been asserted in the first instance, and afterwards maintained, if a country has been acquired and held under it, if the property of the great mass of the community originates in it, it becomes the law of the land, and cannot be questioned. So, too, with respect to the paramount principle, that the Indian inhabitants are to be considered merely as occupants, to be protected, indeed, while in peace, in the possession of their lands, but to be deemed menial of transferring the absolute title to others. However this restriction may be opposed to natural right, and to the usages of civilized nations; yet, if it be indispensable to that system under which the country has been settled, and he adapted to the actual condition of the two people, it may, perhaps, be supported by reason, and certainly cannot be rejected by courts of justice. (Pp 591-592.)

The limitations upon Indian rights emphasized by Chief Justice Marshall in his opinion in the *McIntosh* case were supplemented a few years later by a second notable opinion of the Chief Justice emphasizing the positive content of the Indian possessory right. In the case of *Worcester v. Georgia*,¹ which dealt with the constitutionality of action by the State of Georgia leading to the imprisonment of individuals admitted to residence in the Cherokee Reservation by the authorities of that nation and by the United States, the Supreme Court took occasion again to analyze in detail the extent of the Indian right in the soil of the Cherokee Nation. "It is difficult," the Chief Justice ironically noted

" . . . to comprehend the proposition, that the inhabitants of either quarter of the globe could have rightful original claims of dominion over the inhabitants of the other, or over the lands they occupied, or that the discovery of either by the other should give the discoverer rights in the country discovered, which annulled the pre-existing rights of its ancient possessors."

¹ 6 C K Burdick, *The Law of the American Constitution, Its Origin and Development* (1922) sec 197

² 6 Pet 515 (1823)

But power, war, conquest, gave rights which, after possession, are conceded by the world, and which can never be controverted by those on whom they descend" (P 343.)

"The great maritime powers of Europe," the Chief Justice observed, agreed upon the mutually advantageous rule, formulated in the *Meinush* case "that discovery gave title to the government by whose subjects or by whose authority it was made, against all other European governments, which title might be consummated by possession." 8 Wheat 333 (P 343-4.)

Such a rule, however, bound the European governments, but not the Indian tribes.

This principle, acknowledged by all Europeans, because it was the interest of all to acknowledge it, gave to the nation making the discovery, as its inevitable consequence, the sole right of acquiring the soil and of making settlements on it. It was an exclusive principle which shut out the right of competition among those who had agreed to it, not one which could annul the previous rights of those who had not agreed to it. It regulated the right given by discovery among the European discoverers, but could not affect the rights of those already in possession, either as aboriginal occupants, or as occupants in virtue of a discovery made before the memory of man. It gave the exclusive right to purchase, but did not found that right on a denial of the right of the possessor to sell.

The relation between the Europeans and the natives was determined in each case by the particular government which issued and could maintain this preemptive privilege in the particular place. The United States have conceded to all the claims of Great Britain, both territorial and political, but no attempt, so far as is known, has been made to evict them. So far as they existed merely in theory, or were in then native only exclusive of the claims of other European nations, they still remain their original character, and remain dominant. So far as they have been practically evicted, they exist in fact, are understood by both parties, are asserted by the one, and admitted by the other.

Soon after Great Britain determined on planting colonies in America, the king granted charters to companies of his subjects, who associated for the purpose of carrying the views of the crown into effect, and of enriching themselves. The first of these charters was made before possession was taken of any part of the country. They purport, generally, to convey the soil, from the Atlantic to the South Sea. This soil was occupied by numerous and warlike nations, equally willing and able to defend their possessions. The extravagant and absurd idea, that the feeble settlements made on the sea-coast, or the companies under whom they were made, acquired legitimate power by them to govern the people, to occupy the lands from sea to sea, did not enter the mind of any man. They were well understood to convey the title which, according to the common law of European sovereigns respecting America, they might rightfully convey, and no more. This was the exclusive right of purchasing such lands as the natives were willing to sell. The crown could not be understood to grant what the crown did not affect to claim, nor was it so understood. (P 344-545.)

Viewing the problem in these terms, the Supreme Court had no difficulty in reaching the conclusion that a possessory right to the area concerned was vested in the Cherokee Nation and that the State of Georgia had no authority to enter upon the Cherokee lands without the consent of the Cherokee Nation. These views were confirmed by the Supreme Court, *per* Chief Justice, in the subsequent case of *Worcester v. Georgia*.

Enough has already been remarked to show that the lands conveyed to the United States by the treaty were held by the Cherokees under their original title, acquired by immemorial possession, commencing ages before the New World was known to civilized man. Unmistakably their title was absolute, subject only to the pre-emption

right of purchase acquired by the United States as the successors of Great Britain, and the right also on their part as such successors of the discoverer to prohibit the sale of the land to any other governments or their subjects, and to exclude all other governments from any interference in their affairs.*

**Mitchell et al. v. United States* 9 Peters, 748.

A similar view of the aboriginal Indian title was taken by the Attorney General in answering the question whether a certain Mr. Ogden, owner of the reservation land in Seneca Indian lands, might lawfully enter these lands for the purpose of making a survey. In answering this question in the negative, Attorney General Wirt declared:

The answer to this question depends on the character of the title which the Indians retain in these lands. The practical admission of the European conquerors of this country renders it unnecessary for us to speculate on the extent of that right which they might have asserted from conquest, and from the barbarous habits and hostile state of its aboriginal occupants. (See the authorities cited in Fletcher and Rock, 6 Cranch, 121.) The conquerors have never claimed more than the exclusive right of purchase from the Indians, and the right of succession to a title which shall have remained voluntarily, or become extinguished by death, so long as a tribe exists and remains in possession of its lands, its title and possession are sovereign and exclusive, and there exists no authority to enter upon their lands, for any purpose whatever, without their consent. * * * Although the Indian title continues only during their possession, yet that possession has been always held sacred, and is never to be disturbed but by their consent. They do not hold under the States, nor under the United States, their title is original, sovereign, and exclusive. We treat with them as separate sovereignties, and while an Indian Nation continues to exist without its acknowledged limits, we have no more right to enter upon their territory, without their consent, than we have to enter upon the territory of a foreign prince.

It is said that the act of ownership proposed to be exercised by the grantee, under the State of Massachusetts will not injure the Indians, nor disturb them in the usual enjoyment of these lands, but of this the Indians, whose title, while it continues, is sovereign and exclusive, are the proper and the only judges.

I am of opinion that it is inconsistent, both with the character of the Indian title and the stipulations of their treaty, to enter upon these lands, for the purpose of making the proposed survey, without the consent of the Indians, freely rendered, and on a full understanding of the case. * (P 490-491.)

Cases and opinions subsequent to the *Meinush* case oscillate between a stress on the content of the Indian possessory right and stress on the limitations of that right. These opinions and cases might perhaps be classified according to whether they refer to the Indian right of occupancy as a "mere" right of occupancy or as a "sacred" right of occupancy. All the cases, however, agree in saying that the aboriginal Indian title involves an exclusive right of occupancy and does not involve an ultimate fee. The cases dealing with Indian lands in the territory of the original colonies locate the ultimate fee in the state wherein the lands are situated.* Outside of the territory of the original

* *The Seneca Lands*, 1 Op. A. G. 467 (1821).

* *Clark v. Smith*, 18 Pet. 196 (1850); *Lattimore v. Pender*, 14 Pet. 4 (1840); *Seneca Nation v. Olney*, 182 U. S. 283 (1906); *The Cherokees and their Lands*, 2 Op. A. G. 821 (1830) (holding that Cherokee lands became the property of Georgia upon the migration of the occupants); *Tennessee Land Title*, 49 Op. A. G. 264 (1914) (holding that any such lands within the boundaries of the State of Tennessee became the property of that state upon the migration of the Cherokees); *Spaulding v. Chandler*, 180 U. S. 894 (1900); and see *Fletcher v. Peck*, 6 Cranch 87 (1810); *Johnson v. McIntosh*, 8 Wheat 548, 660 (1823); *Onyiah v. Jones*, 5 Pet. 1, 38 (1831); *United States v. Joseph*, 94 U. S. 814, 818 (1876), aff'd 1 N. M. 293 (1864); 5 U. S. Memo 286 (New York Indians).

colonies, the ultimate fee is located in the United States and may be granted to individuals subject to the Indian right of occupancy.⁸

The question of what evidentiary facts must be shown to establish the aboriginal possession described in the foregoing opinions would carry us beyond the limits of this volume, but certain elementary principles are readily established. It has been held that title by aboriginal possession is not established by proof that an area was used for hunting purposes where other tribes also hunted on the lands in question.⁹

Where exclusive occupancy over a considerable period is shown,

⁸ *Missouri v. Forman*, 7 How. 541 (1850), *Payson City Case*, 8 Op. A. G. 255 (1856). ⁹ Act of June 7, 1870, § 841, 11 (granting state jurisdiction over given territory), to take effect when Indian title to the country was extinguished.

¹⁰ *Islandian Indian Tribe v. United States*, 77 C. Cls. 317 (1932), app. there 292 U. S. 905.

rights of possession are not lost by forced abandonment.¹⁰ In the words of the Court of Claims,

The Supreme Court has repeatedly held that the Indians' claim of right of occupancy of lands is dependent upon actual and exclusive possession. *Mitchell v. United States*, 5 U. S. 471 711. *Williams v. Chicago*, 242 U. S. 834. *Cherokee Nation v. United States*, 34 C. Cls. 17. Beyond doubt, abandonment of claimed Indian territory by the Indians will extinguish Indian title. In this case the Government interposes the doctrine of abandonment, asserting that the facts sustain the contention. It is of course conceded that the issue of abandonment is one of intention to relinquish, surrender, and unreservedly give up all claims to title to the lands described in the treaty, and the source from which it arose at such an intention is the facts and circumstances of the transaction involved. Forcible ejection from the premises, or nonuser under certain circumstances, as well as lapse of time, are not standing alone sufficient to warrant an abandonment. *Wish v. Taylor*, 38 L. R. A. 535 (*Harrell v. Noyes*, 44 Quebec 659, *Mitchell v. Corder*, 21 W. Va. 277 (1881)).

¹¹ *Fort Belknap Indians v. United States*, 71 C. Cls. 308 (1908).

SECTION 5. TREATY RESERVATIONS

The various ways in which treaty reservations have been established and the different forms of language used in defining the terms by which such reservations are held, together with the judicial and administrative interpretations placed upon these phrases, have been noted in some detail in Chapter 3, and need not be repeated here. It is enough for our present purposes merely to list (a) the principal ways in which treaty reservations have been established; (b) the principal forms of language used in defining tribal tenure; and (c) the more important rules of interpretation placed upon such phraseology.

A. METHODS OF ESTABLISHING TREATY RESERVATIONS

In general, three methods of establishing tribal ownership of lands by treaty were in common use: (1) the recognition of aboriginal title; (2) the exchange of lands; and (3) the purchase of lands.

(1) Usually the first treaty made by the United States with a given tribe recognizes the aboriginal possession of the tribe and defines its geographical extent. When this geographical extent has been defined by treaty with another sovereign, the treaty with the United States may simply confirm such prior definition. Thus, the first published Indian treaty, that of September 17, 1778, with the Delaware Nation,¹¹ provides:

Whereas the enemies of the United States have endeavored, by every artifice in their power, to possess the Indians in general with an opinion, that it is the design of the States aforesaid, to expatriate the Indians and take possession of their country: to obviate such false suggestion, the United States do engage to guarantee to the aforesaid nation of Delawares, and their heirs, all their territorial rights in the fullest and most ample manner, as it hath been bounded by former treaties; * * * as long as they the said Delawares nation shall abide by, and hold fast the chain of friendship now entered into

A typical treaty fixed a "boundary line between the United States, and the Wamundet and Delaware nations."¹²

In many treaties the recognition of aboriginal title was coupled with a cession of portions of the aboriginal domain.¹³ Thus, Article 6 of the Treaty of January 31, 1780, with the Shawanoe Nation,¹⁴ provides:

The United States do allot to the Shawanoe nation, lands within their territory to live and hunt upon, beginning at * * *, beyond which line none of the citizens of the United States shall settle, nor disturb the Shawanoe in their settlement and possessions; and the Shawanoe do relinquish to the United States, all title, or pretence of title, they ever had to the lands east, west, and south, of the east, west and south lines before described.

In some of those treaties the tribe was given a right at a future date to select from the ceded portions additional land for reservation purposes.¹⁵

(2) A second method of establishing tribal land ownership by treaty was through the exchange of lands held in aboriginal possession for other lands, which the United States promised to grant to the tribe.¹⁶ A typical treaty of this type is that of

¹¹ Art. 3 of Treaty of January 21, 1783, with the Wamundet, Delaware, Chippewa, and Ottawa Nations, 7 Stat. 10. Art. 3 of Treaty of January 31, 1780, with the Cherokee Nation, 7 Stat. 21. ("The boundary of the lands hereby allotted to the Cherokee nation to live and hunt on * * *, is and shall be the following * * *"), Art. 4 of Treaty of August 7, 1790, with the Creek Nation, 7 Stat. 85. ("The boundary between the citizens of the United States and the Creek Nation is, and shall be, * * *").

¹² Treaty of August 3, 1765, with the Wyandotte, Delaware, Shawanoe, Ottawa, Chippewa, Potawatomi, Miami, Red River, Weas, Kickapoo, Piankeshaw, and Kaskaskia, 7 Stat. 49; Treaty of May 31, 1790, with the Seven Nations of Canada, 7 Stat. 55; Treaty of July 2, 1791, with the Cherokee Nation, 7 Stat. 80, 84; ("The United States solemnly guarantee to the Cherokee nation all their lands not hereby ceded"); Treaty of October 17, 1802, with the Choctaw Nation, 7 Stat. 78; Treaty of December 30, 1805, with the Chickasaw, 7 Stat. 100; Treaty of November 17, 1807, with the Ottawa, Chippewa, Wyandotte and Potawatomi Nations, 7 Stat. 105; Treaty of August 24, 1818, with the Quapaw Tribe, 7 Stat. 170; Treaty of September 24, 1819, with the Chippewa Nation, 7 Stat. 203; Treaty of September 18, 1823, with the Florida Tribes, 7 Stat. 224; Treaty of June 4, 1825, with the Great and Little Osage Tribes, 7 Stat. 240; Treaty of June 3, 1825, with the Kansas Nation, 7 Stat. 244; Treaty of October 28, 1826, with the Miami Tribe, 7 Stat. 800.

¹³ Treaty of August 27, 1790, with the Shawanoe Nation, 7 Stat. 87.

¹⁴ Art. 6, 7 Stat. 18.

¹⁵ The "fourth feature" referred to in this article were treaties with the British Crown and with the Colonies. A similar reference is made in the Treaty of December 17, 1801, with the Choctaw Nation, Art. 8, 7 Stat. 60. ("The two contracting parties covenant and agree that the old line of demarcation heretofore established by and between the officers of his Britannic Majesty and the Choctaw nation * * * shall be retraced and plainly marked, * * * and that the line shall be the boundary between the settlements of the Mississippi Territory and the Choctaw nation.")

¹⁶ Treaty of September 20, 1817, with the Wyandotte, Seneca, Delaware, Shawanoe, Potawatomi, Ottawa, and Chippewa Tribes, 7 Stat. 180;

October 3, 1818, with the Delaware Nation.¹⁶ The first two articles of this treaty provided

ART. 1 The Delaware nation of Indians cede to the United States all their claim to land in the state of Indiana.

ART. 2 In consideration of the aforesaid cession, the United States agree to provide for the Delaware a country to reside in, upon the west side of the Mississippi, and to guarantee to them the peaceful possession of the same.

This type of exchange is characteristic of the "removal" treaties whereby many of the eastern and central tribes were induced to move westward.¹⁷

Another type of treaty wherein an aboriginal domain is ceded to the United States in exchange for other lands, uses where a particular tribe combines with another and cedes to the United States its land in exchange for the privilege of participating in the reservation privileges accorded the other tribe.¹⁸ Yet another variation combines the two foregoing basic methods. A typical treaty of this type is that of July 8, 1817, with the Cherokee Nation,¹⁹ wherein it was provided that a portion of the aboriginal lands be ceded in exchange for lands west of the Mississippi but that a portion be retained for those Indians not desirous of migrating west.²⁰

(3) A third type of treaty provision for the establishing of reservations, frequently connected with the above two methods, directed the purchase of lands on behalf of the tribe. Generally tribal funds were utilized for such purchase and the purchase was made either from the United States or from another tribe. A typical provision of this type is the following, taken from the Treaty of March 21, 1800, with the Seminoles

" * * * The United States having obtained by grant of the Creek Indians the twenty half of their lands, hereby grant to the Seminoles nation the portion thereof hereafter described. * * * In consideration of said cession of two hundred thousand acres of land described above, the Seminole nation agrees to pay therefor the price of fifty cents per acre, amounting to the sum of one hundred thousand dollars, which amount shall be deducted from the sum paid by the United States for Seminoles lands under the stipulations above written."²¹

Treaty of July 30, 1810, and July 10, 1820, with the Kickapoo Tribe, 7 Stat. 200, 208; Treaty of November 7, 1825, with the Shawnee Nation, 7 Stat. 284; Treaty of September 27, 1826, with the Choctaw Nation, 7 Stat. 433; Treaty of February 28, 1831, with the Seneca Tribe, 7 Stat. 948; Treaty of July 20, 1831, with the Mixed Band of Seneca and Shawnee Indians, 7 Stat. 861; Treaty of August 8, 1831, with the Shawnee Tribe, 7 Stat. 355; Treaty of August 30, 1831, with the Ottawa Indians, 7 Stat. 800; Treaty of September 15, 1832, with the Winnebago Nation, 7 Stat. 870; Treaty of October 24, 1832, with the Kickapoo Tribe, 7 Stat. 861; Treaty of November 6, 1838, with the Miami Tribe, 7 Stat. 509; Treaty of October 11, 1842, with the Confederated Tribes of Sac and Fox, 7 Stat. 596; Treaty of March 17, 1842, with the Wyandott Nation, 11 Stat. 581.

¹⁶ 7 Stat. 188.

¹⁷ See Chapter 8, see A-6.

¹⁸ Treaty of September 25, 1818, with the Ponca, Kaskaska, Millechamma, Cahokia and Tamarac Tribes of the Illinois Nation, 7 Stat. 181; Treaty of November 15, 1824, with the Quapaw Nation, 7 Stat. 282.

¹⁹ 7 Stat. 156.

²⁰ Treaty of January 24, 1826, with the Creek Nation, 7 Stat. 216. See also Treaty of October 18, 1820, with the Choctaw Nation, 7 Stat. 280 ("Whereas it is an important object with the President of the United States, to promote the civilization of the Choctaw Indians, by the establishment of schools amongst them, and to perpetuate them as a nation, by exchanging, for a small part of their land here, a country beyond the Mississippi River, where all, who live by hunting and will not work, may be collected and settled together. * * *").

²¹ Art. 4, 14 Stat. 755. See also Treaty of December 29, 1835, with the Cherokee Tribe, 7 Stat. 478, 480 (" * * * the United States in consideration of the sum of five hundred thousand dollars therefore hereby covenant and agree to convey to the said Indians * * * the following additional tract of land")

B TREATY DEFINITIONS OF TRIBAL PROPERTY RIGHTS

The language used to define the character of the estate guaranteed to an Indian tribe varies so considerably that any detailed classification is likely to be nearly useless. It is possible, however, to distinguish five general types of language commonly utilized.

(1) In a number of treaties the United States undertakes to grant to the tribe concerned a patent in fee simple.²² In some cases reference is made to the tribe "and their descendants,"²³ in a few cases the terms "patent" and "fee simple" are coupled with language indicating that if the tribe ceases to exist as an entity the land will revert or escheat to the United States.²⁴ In some cases express provision is made restricting alienation.²⁵ Occasionally the language of the ordinary patent or deed in fee simple is embellished with guarantees preserving the permanent character of the tenure, as in the following language, taken from the Treaty of May 6, 1828, with the Cherokee Nation.²⁶

" * * * a permanent home and which shall, under the most solemn guarantee of the United States, be, and remain, theirs forever—a home that shall never, in all future time, be embroiled by having extended around it the lines, or placed over it the jurisdiction of a Territory or State, nor be passed upon by the extension, in any way, of any of the limits of any existing Territory or State."

(2) Other treaties guaranteed ownership or possession, or permanent possession, without using the technical language of the typical patent or grant in fee simple.²⁷ Thus, for instance,

"Treaty of March 17, 1842, with the Wyandott Nation, 11 Stat. 581 ("both of these covenants to be made in fee simple to the Wyandott, and to their heirs forever"). And see Chapter 9, see 4.

"Treaty of December 29, 1835, with the Cherokee Tribe, 7 Stat. 478 ("The United States * * * hereby covenant and agree to convey to the said Indians, and their descendants by patent, in fee simple * * *").

"Treaty of September 20, 1816, with the Chickasaw Nation, 7 Stat. 150; Treaty of September 27, 1810, with the Choctaw Nation, 7 Stat. 353 ("in fee simple to them and their descendants, to assure to them while they shall exist, is a nation and live on it"), Treaty of February 28, 1831, with the Seneca Tribe, 7 Stat. 948; Treaty of July 20, 1831, with the Mixed Band of Seneca and Shawnee Indians, 7 Stat. 861; Treaty of August 8, 1831, with the Shawnee Tribe, 7 Stat. 355; Treaty of August 30, 1831, with the Ottawa Indians, 7 Stat. 800; Treaty of February 24, 1831, with the Creek Nation, Art. 4, 7 Stat. 417 ("The United States will grant a patent in fee simple, to the Creek nation of Indians * * * and the right thus guaranteed by the United States shall be continued to said tribe of Indians, so long as they shall exist as a nation, and continue to occupy the country hereby assigned them").

"Treaty of December 29, 1835, with the United Nation of Seneca and Shawnee Indians, 7 Stat. 411, 412 ("The said patents shall be granted in fee simple, but the lands shall not be sold or ceded without the consent of the United States"), of Treaty of July 30, 1810, and July 10, 1820, with the Kickapoo Tribe, 7 Stat. 800, 808 ("to them, and their heirs for ever * * * *Provided, nevertheless, that the said tribe shall never sell the said land without the consent of the President of the United States*").

²² 7 Stat. 811.

²³ Treaty of September 24, 1820, with the Delaware Indians, 7 Stat. 327 ("And the United States hereby pledges the faith of the government to guarantee to the said Delaware Nation forever, the quiet and peaceable possession and undisturbed enjoyment of the same, against the claims and assaults of all and every other people whatsoever"). Treaty of October 11, 1842, with the Confederated Tribes of Sac and Fox, 7 Stat. 596 ("to the Sac and Foxes for a permanent and perpetual residence for them and their descendants * * *"). Treaty of August 8, 1831, with the Wyandott, Delaware, Shawnee, Ottawa, Chickasaw, Potawatomi, Miami, Seneca, Winnebago, Kickapoo, Pottawatomie, and Kaskaskia Tribes, 7 Stat. 40, 52 ("The Indian tribes who have a right to those lands, are quietly to enjoy them, hunting, planting, and dwelling thereon so long as they please * * *"). Treaty of October 24, 1832, with the Kickapoo Tribe, 7 Stat. 861 ("and secured by the United States, to the said Kickapoo tribe, as their permanent residence").

Article 4 of the Treaty of August 18, 1803, with the Delaware Nation "recognized the Delawares "as the rightful owners of all the country which is bounded

(3) Various other treaties used language which it literally restricted restrict the Indian possession to a particular form of land inheritance, but which may be construed as an outright grant in nontribal language. Philosophy of this sort was analyzed by Marshall, *C. J.*, in *Worcester v. Georgia*, where he noted that the use of the term "inherent rights" in describing the country guaranteed to the Choctawes did not mean that the land could not be used for the establishment of villages or the planting of cornfields.

(4) Particularly in the later treaties, phrases such as "use and occupancy" are increasingly utilized.⁸⁴

(5) Finally a number of treaties dodge the problem of defining the Indian estate by providing that specified lands shall be held "as Indian lands are held,"⁸⁵ or as an Indian reservation,⁸⁶ thus removing the fact that considerable differences may exist with respect to the tenures by which various tribes hold their land.

C PRINCIPLES OF TREATY INTERPRETATION

Apart from general principles of treaty interpretation discussed in Chapter 3, certain holdings with respect to the interpretation of treaty provisions establishing tribal land ownership deserve special note at this position against the notion that all Indian treaty reservations are held under a single form of ownership, one may note the comment of the Court of Claims in the case of *Crow Nation v. United States*:⁸⁷

⁸⁴ 7 Stat. 81.

⁸⁵ See Treaty of January 7, 1800, with the Cherokee Nation 7 Stat. 101, 104 ("and will secure to the Cherokees the title to the said reserve land").

⁸⁶ 17 Stat. 515, 553 (1852).

⁸⁷ Treaty of May 31, 1790, with the Seven Nations of Canada 7 Stat. 85 ("to be applied to the use of the Indians of . . . St. Regis"), *cf.* Treaty of January 9, 1789, with the Wyandot, Delaware, Ottawa, Chippewa, Potawatomi, and Seneca Nations, 7 Stat. 25, 29 ("to live and hunt upon, and otherwise to occupy as they shall see fit").

⁸⁸ Treaty of May 14, 1864, with the Menominee, 10 Stat. 1064. *Of Art. 2, Treaty of September 26, 1814, with the United Nation of Chippewas, Potawatomi, and Ottawa 7 Stat. 481.*

⁸⁹ Treaty of October 2, 1818, with the Wya Tribe, 7 Stat. 180 ("to be held by the said tribe as Indian reservations are usually held"). *Of Treaty of September 17, 1818, with the Wyandot, Seneca, Shawnee, and Ottawa Tribes, 7 Stat. 178 ("and held by them in the same manner as Indian reservations have been heretofore held. That [it] is further agreed, that the facts thus involved shall be reserved for the use of the Indians named . . . and held by them and their heirs forever, unless ceded to the United States"). Treaty of September 20, 1817, with the Wyandot, Seneca, Delaware, Shawnee, Potawatomi, Ottawa, and Chippewa Tribes 7 Stat. 100 ("Grant, by intent, to the chiefs . . . in the use of the said tribe, . . . which tracts, thus granted, shall be held by the said tribe, upon the usual conditions of Indian reservations as though no patent were issued").*

⁹⁰ 81 C. Cls. 238, 276 (1906).

* * * the title derived by an Indian tribe, through the setting apart of a reservation, depends entirely upon the terms of the treaty which is entered into between the parties and that, where there is simply a reservation set apart for the Indian Nation, no fee simple or lease fee is granted to the tribe, but only a right of occupancy.

(2) The question whether a treaty incorporates a grant in *present*, or in *executory* promise, was considered in the case of the *New York Indians v. United States*.⁸⁸ Although the treaty used the words "agreed to set apart," the court held that the context and circumstances showed that the treaty was understood to effectuate a grant in *present*.⁸⁹

(3) It has been held that the mere use of the term "grant" in Indian treaties does not indicate an intent to establish fee simple tenure.⁹⁰

(4) Likewise, it has been held that the language of a "grant" does not necessarily evidence a desire to grant new property rights but may constitute simply a method of defining and reserving aboriginal rights.⁹¹

(5) Where the United States has made a treaty promise that certain land "shall be confirmed by patent to the said Christian Indians, subject to such restrictions as Congress may provide,"⁹² and Congress has not provided any restrictions, the tribe is entitled to receive an ordinary patent granting title in fee simple, rather than "the usual Indian title."⁹³

Other questions of the interpretation of treaty clauses are considered in later portions of this chapter, particularly in sections 12 to 16, and in Chapter 3, section 2.

It is doubtful whether any broad principles of interpretation that would be at all useful can be derived from the cases in this field, but in subsequent sections of this chapter we shall be concerned to analyze specific questions concerning the nature of the estate granted by the various phrases classified in the foregoing sections.

⁹¹ 170 U. S. 1 (1908), followed in *United States v. New York Indians*, 173 U. S. 404 (1899).

⁹² Treaty of January 15, 1838, with New York Indians, 7 Stat. 550. See also *Godfrey v. Brantley*, 10 Fed. Cls. No. 3497 (C. Cl. Ind. 1841), holding that a treaty can operate as a grant of title to lands. Accord *Johnson v. Michigan*, 176 U. S. 1 (1899).

⁹³ Title of the Brightwaters, under the Menominee Treaty 5 Op. A. G. 122 (1874). (The Indian title, under the policy of the government in its natural capacity, cannot hold the absolute title to lands occupied by them, except when specially provided for by treaty, . . . * * *), *Goodfellow v. Mackay* 10 Fed. Cls. No. 6537 (C. Cl. Kan. 1881), holding that unless there is a clear and explicit provision in the treaty allowing that the government intended to make the grant in fee simple the court will presume that the treaty granted but a right of occupancy to the Indians.

⁹⁴ See *United States v. Hummer*, 253 Fed. 283, 286 (C. Cl. A. 9, 1910) (interpreting Treaty of January 24, 1855, with various tribes of Oregon Territory 12 Stat. 927), *Green v. Nicholson* 9 How. 306, 314 (1850), *United States v. Illinois*, 104 U. S. 371 (1905), 1079 73 Fed. 72 (1st C. Wash. 1908).

⁹⁵ Treaty of May 9, 1854 with the Delaware Indians, 10 Stat. 1018. ⁹⁶ 9 Op. A. G. 24 (1877).

SECTION 6. STATUTORY RESERVATIONS

Spontaneously during the treaty-making period and regularly since its expiration, tribal property rights in land have been established by specific acts of Congress. These acts vary from specific grants of fee simple rights to broad designations that a given area shall be used for the benefit of Indians, or that Indian occupancy of designated areas shall be respected by third parties. Legislation establishing Indian reservations follows various patterns.

(1) Perhaps the most common type of such legislation today

is that which reserves a portion of the public domain from entry or sale and dedicates the reserved area to Indian use. The designated area is "set aside" or "reserved" for a given tribe, band, or group of Indians.⁹⁷ Frequently the statute uses the

⁹⁷ *Id.*, Act of March 4, 1888, 12 Stat. 319 ("assign to and set apart for the Shoshone, Wahpaton, Meenawanton, and Wapakoota bands of Sioux Indians"), Act of May 21, 1928, 44 Stat. 614 (Makah and Quileute Indians), Act of March 8, 1928, 45 Stat. 162 (Indians of Indian Ranch, Inyo County, California).

phrase "reserved for the sole use and occupancy"¹⁰ or some similar phrase.¹¹ Other statutes of this type provide that designated lands shall be "reserved as additions to" named reservations,¹² or, that the boundaries of a de-designated reservation are extended to include "specified lands."¹³ Occasionally the public lands so set aside are lands which have previously been used for another purpose and the prior purpose may be mentioned in the statute.¹⁴ In some of the statutes the designation of the Indian beneficiaries of the reservation is established or delegated to administrative discretion. These statutes typically provide that given lands shall be reserved for the use and occupancy of certain named bands of tribes "and such other Indians as the Secretary of the Interior may see fit to settle thereon."¹⁵

(2) Another and distinct type of statute authorizes the purchase either by voluntary sale or in condemnation¹⁶ of private lands for Indian use, and allocates the cost funds in the United States Treasury not otherwise appropriated,¹⁷ or, in the altered

native, tribal funds of the tribe benefited.¹⁸ Some of these statutes authorize the purchase of land for Indians without using the word "reservation."¹⁹ Since the decision of the Supreme Court in *United States v. Alchotta*,²⁰ it has been clear that there is no name in the word "reservation" and that land purchased for Indian use and occupancy is a "reservation," at least within the meaning of the Indian liquor laws, whether or not the statute uses the term. Although the issue presented in the *Alchotta* case was one of criminal jurisdiction rather than of property right, the views therein expressed appear to be pertinent to the denotation of tribal property as to the delimitation of federal jurisdiction. The Court declared, *per* Black, J. "It is immaterial whether Congress designates a settlement as a 'reservation' or 'colony'" (p. 538, 539). The Court, quoting from its earlier opinion in *United States v. Peltier*,²¹ indicated that the important issue was whether the land had "been validly set apart for the use of the Indians as such, under the superintendence of the Government" (p. 539). The determination of this question requires an ascertainment of the purposes underlying the particular legislation, to which end consideration may be given to committee hearings and reports (p. 537).

(3) In addition to the two major methods of establishing Indian reservations by statute, public land withdrawal and purchase of private land, a third method, the surrender of private lands in exchange for public lands, is followed in a number of statutes. A typical statute is that of June 14, 1884,²² commonly known as the Arizona Navajo Homestead Act, which authorizes the Secretary of the Interior in his discretion to accept relinquishments and reconveyances to the United States of such privately owned lands as in his opinion are desirable for, and should be reserved for the use and benefit of, a particular tribe of Indians, "so that the lands retained for Indian purposes may be consolidated and held in a solid area in far as may be possible."²³ Upon conveyance to the United States of a good and sufficient title to such privately owned land, the owners thereof, or their assigns, are authorized under regulations of the Secretary of the Interior, to select lands approximately equal in value to the lands thus conveyed. Similar in effect are statutes authorizing the grant of public lands to a state in exchange for the relinquishment of state lands to Indian use.²⁴

¹⁰ Act of February 12, 1827, 41 Stat. 1009 (Jicarilla Reservation), Act of March 29, 1928, 45 Stat. 962 (Fort Apache Reservation), Act of April 14, 1936, 49 Stat. 218 (Wind River Reservation), Act of March 4, 1811, 46 Stat. 1317 (Fort Apache Indian Reservation), "Title thereof to be taken in the name of the United States in trust for said [Fort Apache] Indians", Act of March 4, 1881, 40 Stat. 1522 (Gambella Reservation).

¹¹ Act of July 1, 1922, 37 Stat. 187 (Wichewon Wapigwagons), Act of September 21, 1922, 42 Stat. 992 (Apache Indians of Oklahoma), Act of March 2, 1925, 44 Stat. 1606 ("For the use and occupancy of a small band of the Pute Indians now residing thereon. Provided, That the title to said lands is to be held in the United States for the benefit of said Indians"), Act of May 10, 1926, 44 Stat. 400 ("added to and become a part of the site for the Reno Indian colony"), Act of June 27, 1840, 48 Stat. 820 (lands occupied by "Indian colony" to be purchased. That the title to be held in the name of the United States Government, for the use of the Indians").

¹² 502 U. S. 943 (1903), *rev'd* 89 F. 2d 201 (C. C. A. 9, 1917), *aff'd* sub nom. *United States v. One Cherokee Indian*, 16 F. Supp. 468 (D. C. Nev. 1950).

¹³ 228 U. S. 442, 446 (1914).

¹⁴ 48 Stat. 900.

¹⁵ Act of March 3, 1926, 45 Stat. 1117. See also Act of May 23, 1930, 46 Stat. 378, as amended by Act of February 21, 1931, 46 Stat. 1304 (Western Navajo Indian Reservation), Act of March 1, 1883, 47 Stat. 1418 (Navajo Reservation in Utah), Act of May 24, 1884, 48 Stat. 786 (Fort Mojave).

¹⁶ Act of February 11, 1903, 33 Stat. 822 (disputed lands confirmed to Tonos Band of Mission Indians and new public domain lands transferred to state), Act of March 1, 1921, 41 Stat. 1108, Act of June 14,

¹⁶ Act of March 1, 1928, 47 Stat. 102 (Kochin Band of Indians in Utah), Act of May 25, 1928, 47 Stat. 717 (Indians of the Arona Pueblo), Act of February 11, 1929, 45 Stat. 1161 (Kochin Band of Indians in Utah), Act of June 20, 1935, 49 Stat. 891 (Kamosh Pand of Indians of Utah).

¹⁷ Act of March 7, 1907, 2 Stat. 448 ("reserved for the use of the said [Delaware] tribe and their descendants so long as they continue to reside thereon, and cultivate the same"), Act of April 12, 1921, 42 Stat. 92 (Zia Pueblo), Act of March 3, 1925, 41 Stat. 1115 ("Navajo Indians residing in that immediate vicinity"), Act of May 10, 1926, 44 Stat. 400 (Mesa Grande Reservation), Act of June 1, 1930, 44 Stat. 679 (Mojave Indian Reservation), Act of March 3, 1925, 45 Stat. 1160 (Indians of the Walker River Reservation), Act of February 21, 1931, 45 Stat. 1181 (San Ildefonso Pueblo), Act of January 17, 1936, 49 Stat. 1094 (Indians of the Indian Fort McPherson Military Reservation, Nev.).

¹⁸ Act of February 21, 1931, 45 Stat. 1201 (Poncha in Twibang Indian Reservation), Act of February 12, 1932, 47 Stat. 60 (Hill Valley Indian Reservation), Act of May 14, 1935, 49 Stat. 217 (Rocky Boy Indian Reservation), Act of June 22, 1935, 49 Stat. 2406 (Walker River Indian Reservation), and *cf.* Act of April 22, 1917, 40 Stat. 72 ("set aside as an addition to the Barona Ranch, a tract of land purchased by the Captain Grande Band of Mission Indians under authority contained in the Act of May 4, 1912, 47 Stat. 1, 346").

¹⁹ Act of May 28, 1887, 50 Stat. 241 (Kochin Indian Reservation in Utah).

²⁰ Act of June 7, 1937, 49 Stat. 352 (Veterans' Administration lands to be held by the United States in trust for the Yavapai Indians), Act of June 40, 1935, 49 Stat. 891 (National Forest Lands "eliminated from the Public National Forest and withdrawn as an addition to the Zuni Indian Reservation").

²¹ Act of April 17, 1871, 18 Stat. 28 ("use and occupation of the Gros Ventre, Arapago, Blood, Blackfoot, Piegan, Crow, and such other Indians as the President may in time see fit to settle thereon"), Act of September 7, 1910, 36 Stat. 739 ("and apart as a reservation for Rocky Boy's Band of Chippewas and such other homeless Indians in the State of Montana as the Secretary of the Interior may see fit to locate thereon"), Act of May 31, 1924, 48 Stat. 216 ("vacant lands of Pute Indians, and such other Indians of this tribe as the Secretary of the Interior may see fit to settle thereon"), Act of March 8, 1928, 45 Stat. 180 (Pante and Shoshone), Act of April 18, 1938, 52 Stat. 216 (Goshute), *cf.* Act of April 8, 1894, sec. 2, 18 Stat. 40 ("lands of the . . . to be retained by the United States for the purposes of Indian reservations, which shall be of suitable extent for the accommodation of the Indians of said state [California]"), Act of May 7, 1884, sec. 2, 18 Stat. 68 ("set apart for the permanent settlement and ultimate occupation of such of the different tribes of Indians of said territory [Utah] as may be induced to inhabit the same").

On the interpretation of this language, see *supra*, sec. 1D, *supra*, and *see* T. infra.

²² Act of June 28, 1928, 44 Stat. 768, applied in *United States v. 4,400 lbs. Arrows of Lead*, 27 F. Supp. 157 (1 C. M. 1980).

²³ Act of June 7, 1904, 34 Stat. 580 ("to purchase a tract of land, with sufficient water right attached, for the use and occupancy of the Yemok Band of Homeless Indians, located at Ruby Valley, Nevada. Provided, That the title to said land is to be held in the United States for the benefit of said Indians"), Act of April 14, 1936, 44 Stat. 252 (Cahuilla), Act of June 8, 1920, 44 Stat. 600 (Santa Ysabel Indian Reservation), Act of January 31, 1924, 48 Stat. 1046 ("purchase of a village site for the Indians now living near Elko, Nevada"), Act of April 17, 1887, 50 Stat. 89 (Santa Rosa Band of Mission Indians).

Various combinations,¹⁰ as well as minor variations,¹¹ of the foregoing three basic methods have been used in other statutes.

(4) District mention should be made of "reservation removal" statutes which authorize the sale of reservation lands and the removal of the proceeds of such sale in the acquisition of new lands for the benefit of the tribe concerned.¹² Generally such statute provide for the consent of the Indians.¹³

(5) A fifth type of statute establishing tribal property in reservation lands involves the restoration to a tribe of lands previously removed from tribal ownership.¹⁴

(6) A sixth source of tribal title is congressional legislation approving voluntary transfers of lands by another tribe,¹⁵ State,¹⁶ or individual.¹⁷

(7) Finally, it should be noted that tribal ownership is frequently confirmed, if not created in allotment and cession acts with respect to lands withheld from allotment or cession.¹⁸

1915, 49 Stat. 119 ("Upon conveyance to the United States by the State of Florida of a suballotment of the lands to be acquired for the use of Seminole Indians, the Secretary of the Interior is authorized to issue a patent . . . to the State of Florida . . .").

¹⁰ Act of June 24, 1926, 44 Stat. 761 (Chippewa), Act of February 21, 1931, sec. 1, 46 Stat. 1205 (public lands reserved for the use and occupancy of the Pigeon Indians is in addition to the Pigeon Indian Reservation. Among the lands so added are certain lands owned and occupied within said addition have been purchased and acquired as hereinafter authorized), Act of April 15, 1918, 52 Stat. 216 (Cheleuk). The last named statute provides for the use of condemnation powers to take private-owned lands of a reservation and authorizes the use of tribal funds to pay for lands acquired.

¹¹ Act of May 28, 1917, 41 Stat. 112 (Minimally National Park Service lands transferred to Chippewa tribe upon payment of substantially paid fee for such lands), Act of August 28, 1917, 40 Stat. 484 (interests in Blackfoot lands acquired for federal reclamation purposes result to tribe) (cf. Act of February 26, 1927, 43 Stat. 1018 (Kiowa, Comanche, and Apache)).

¹² Act of June 9, 1872, 17 Stat. 228, 229 ("upon application and consent is then (Ojibwa) . . . Act of April 10, 1879, 19 Stat. 24 (purchase of a suitable reservation in the Indian Territory to the Pawnee tribe in Indian), Act of February 10, 1919, 40 Stat. 1206 (purchase of additional lands for the Captain Grande Band of Indians . . . to properly establish these Indians permanently on the lands purchased for them").

¹³ Act of March 3, 1889, sec. 5, 21 Stat. 751 (Iowa and Fox and Iowa), Act of March 3, 1889, sec. 5, 21 Stat. 850, 881 (That the Secretary of the Interior may, with the consent of the [Iowa and Mississippi] Indians, expressed in open council, secure other reservation lands upon which to locate said Indians . . . and expend such sum . . . to be drawn from the fund arising from the sale of their reservation lands").

¹⁴ Act of May 24, 1934, 48 Stat. 1234 (trust patents canceled and lands reversion to the status of tribal property). Accord, Act of May 24, 1924, 45 Stat. 148 (Winnebago), Act of February 13, 1920, 45 Stat. 1167 (certain lands reserved in Yankton Sioux Tribe), Act of March 9, 1927, 44 Stat. 1461 (Fort Peck, payments for agency land retained to Federal Government), see also the Indian Reorganization Act, June 18, 1934, 48 Stat. 981, which in sec. 3 provides that, "The Secretary of the Interior, if he shall find it to be in the public interest, is hereby authorized to restore to tribal ownership the remaining surplus lands at any Indian reservation heretofore opened, or authorized to be opened, to sale, or any other form of disposal by Presidential proclamation, or by any of the public-land laws of the United States. . . . For a more detailed discussion see section 7 of this chapter.

¹⁵ Joint Resolution of July 27, 1848, 9 Stat. 837 (cession by Dine to Tribe in Wyandott), Act of February 28, 1850, 26 Stat. 677 (agreement for the settlement of Lemhi Indians to Fort Hill Reservation).

¹⁶ Act of February 15, 1924, 45 Stat. 1280 (Alabama and Coushatta Indians of Texas).

¹⁷ Act of August 24, 1870, 16 Stat. 229 (lands to be accepted in the Commission of Indian Affairs "and conveyed to the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians in fee simple").

¹⁸ . . . Act . . . shall be held as common property of the respective tribes." Act of March 2, 1889, sec. 1, 25 Stat. 1013 (United Pigeon and Miamis), Act of June 28, 1898, sec. 11, 30 Stat. 405, 407 (Indian Territory), Act of June 6, 1900, sec. 6, 31 Stat. 672, 677 (see note on the use in common by said Indian tribes [Kiowa, Comanche, and Apache] 400,000 acres of grazing land), Joint Resolution of June 10, 1902, 32 Stat. 744 (Walker River, Dine), Act of December 21, 1904, 45 Stat. 895

Similar are statutes which divide up a single reservation among various component tribes or bands,¹⁹ such division being based upon the race of the Indians concerned.

A LEGISLATIVE DEFINITIONS OF TRIBAL PROPERTY RIGHTS

The foregoing statutes, except as otherwise noted, generally provide for the establishment of tribal lands, or reservations, without defining the precise character of the tribal interest therein. Certain statutes, however, seek to define precisely the extent of such tribal interest.

A number of these statutes, for instance, specify that a fee-simple title shall be vested in the Indian tribe.²⁰ Of particular importance in this category are the statutes authorizing the patenting of land to the Pueblos of New Mexico and to the Mission Bands of California Indians. The former of these statutes²¹ is analyzed in Chapter 20, section 6, of this volume. The latter statute²² directed the Secretary of the Interior to appoint three commissioners (see 1) for the purpose of selecting

. . . a reservation for each band or village of the Mission Indians residing within said State, which reservation shall include, as far as practicable, the lands and interests which have been or may be the actual occupation and possession of said Indians, and which shall be sufficient in extent to meet their just requirements, which selection shall be made when approved by the President and Secretary of the Interior. (Sec. 2)

The Secretary of the Interior was directed to issue a patent in each of the reservations,

. . . which patents shall be of the legal effect, and declare that the United States doth and will hold the land thus patented, subject to the provisions of section 204 of this Act, for the period of twenty-five years, in trust, for the sole use and benefit of the band or village to which it is issued and that at the expiration of said period the United States will convey the same or the remaining portion not previously patented in severally by patent to said land or village, discharged of said trust, and free of all charge or incumbrance whatsoever . . . (Sec. 3)

The Secretary of the Interior was further authorized to cause allotments to be made out of such reservation land to any Indian residing upon such patented land who shall be so advanced in civilization as to be capable of owning and managing land in severally (see 4). Individual patents were to "override" the group patent (see 5). The Attorney General was directed to

[Yakima], Act of June 4, 1926, 44 Stat. 731 (Crow), Act of May 19, 1923, 43 Stat. 132 (Lar du Plambean Band of Chippewa), Act of February 13, 1920, 45 Stat. 1167 (Yankton Sioux).

²⁰ Act of April 20, 1888, 25 Stat. 94 (Houma), Act of May 1, 1888, 25 Stat. 113 (Fort Peck, Fort Belknap, Blackfeet).

²¹ Act of August 14, 1870, 16 Stat. 109 (Eastern Cherokees), Act of March 9, 1886, sec. 7, 25 Stat. 1001, 552 (Soc and Fox and Iowa), Act of May 17, 1926, 44 Stat. 661 (Pueblo to . . . is hereby confirmed to the Soc and Fox Nation of the Indian unconditionally).

²² Act of June 6, 1900, 31 Stat. 107 (Secretary of the Interior authorized to "convey by deed" abandoned Indian school lands to the Lar du Band of Lake Superior Indians for community meetings and other like purposes. . . . Provided, That said conveyance shall be made to three members of the band duly elected by said Indians as trustees for the band and their successors in office"), Act of February 13, 1920, 45 Stat. 1167 ("all claim, right, title, and interest in and to agency lands reserved in Yankton Sioux Tribe). Cf. Act of June 6, 1900, 44 Stat. 660 (declaring executive order reservation land set apart for "permanent use and occupancy" to be "the property of said Indians, subject to such control and management of said property as the Congress of the United States may direct").

²³ Act of December 22, 1858, 11 Stat. 374 ("a patent to issue therefore as in ordinary cases to private individuals"), extended to Zuni Pueblo by Act of March 3, 1881, 46 Stat. 1609.

²⁴ Act of January 12, 1901, 26 Stat. 712.

defend the rights of Indian groups "secured to them in the original grants from the Mexican Government" (see 6).

The provisions of this legislation have been modified in certain respects by later enactments¹⁴ and have been incorporated by reference in a number of subsequent acts dealing with the Mexican Indians of California.¹⁵

While the foregoing statutes may be construed to grant an estate greater than the ordinary tribal title, there are other statutes which signify continue the interest of the Indians in a given tract by specifying the particular purpose for which the tract is to be used.¹⁶ Other statutes specify that the land is

¹⁴The Act of March 2, 1917, 40 Stat. 909, 970, provided that the President might extend the 25-year time period. Such power to extend must be exercised before the expiration of the period in all cases. Op. and I. J., 3779, April 9, 1917. After expiration, the period may be extended in Congress. Act of February 11, 1918, 40 Stat. 1100 (Pala Band of Mission Indians). Other acts extending these time periods include Act of February 8, 1927, 44 Stat. 1001.

¹⁵Act of February 21, 1911, 40 Stat. 1201 (Commodore of Pechanga Mission), Act of March 4, 1904, 36 Stat. 1222 (Chualar Mission).

¹⁶Act of February 20, 1897, 28 Stat. 677 (Southern Ute) ("That for the sole and exclusive use and occupancy of such said Indians as may not elect or be deemed qualified to take allotments of land in severalty, as provided in the preceding section, the shall be, and is hereby, set apart and reserved all that portion of their present reservation lying . . . subject, however, to the right of the Government to erect and maintain agency buildings thereon and to grant rights of way

established for Indian use under the supervision of the Secretary of the Interior or under rules and regulations to be prescribed by him," so that the land shall not be subject to allotment.¹⁷

through the same for railroads, irrigation ditches, highways, and other necessary purposes, and the Government shall maintain an agency at some suitable place on said lands as reserved") (Act of June 30, 1901, sec. 2, 11 Stat. 423 (Navajo and Apache)). John Revolution of January 30, 1897, 20 Stat. 699 (Pala Band), lands to be used by the Secretary of the Interior "for the purposes of an Indian training school"; Act of May 14, 1898, sec. 10, 30 Stat. 109, 111, Act of May 27, 1910, 36 Stat. 440 (The Rodos). Act of May 30, 1910, 36 Stat. 440 (Hoskins) (Secretary of the Interior authorized to reserve "such lands as he may deem necessary for agency, school and religious purposes, to remain reserved as long as needed and as long as agency schools, or all other institutions all maintained thereon for the benefit of said Indians"). Act of May 21, 1915, 43 Stat. 246 ("Reserved for and as a school site for the Pie Indian"). Act of June 21, 1926, 44 Stat. 701, Act of June 21, 1920, 41 Stat. 708 (for the use of the Salina Indians and conflicts with title as a national game). Act of June 28, 1926, 44 Stat. 775 ("agency reserve of the Pechanga Indian Reservation"), Act of March 8, 1917, 44 Stat. 1499 (addition to United States Indian school fund), Act of May 23, 1924, 45 Stat. 644 (public lands "permanently reserved for said village as set apart (Chippewa) Indians"), Act of March 28, 1912 47 Stat. 71 (ten century purposes).

¹⁷Act of March 4, 1904, sec. 15, 36 Stat. 1205 (Metlakatla Indians), Act of June 24, 1904, 44 Stat. 708 (Chippewa Indians of Minnesota), Act of March 8, 1891, sec. 15, 26 Stat. 1095 (Metlakatla Indians), Act of February 13, 1928, 45 Stat. 1107 (Yankton Sioux).

SECTION 7. EXECUTIVE ORDER RESERVATIONS

Although the practice of establishing Indian reservations by Executive order goes back at least to May 18, 1815,¹⁸ the practice rested on an uncertain legislative foundation prior to the General Allotment Act.¹⁹ In fact, so uncertain was the legislative foundation for the exercising of the power by the Executive that the Attorney General in upholding its legality in an opinion rendered in 1882, did so chiefly on the basis that the practice had been followed for many years and Congress had never objected.²⁰

Questions as to the validity of already established Executive order reservations were settled²¹ by the language of the General Allotment Act which referred to "any reservation created for them use, either by treaty stipulation or by virtue of an Act of Congress or Executive order setting apart the same for their use . . ." (see 1). The view that Executive order reservations have exactly the same validity and status as any other type of reservation is expressed in a carefully documented opinion of Attorney General Stone, rendered with respect to the validity of attempts by Secretary of the Interior Paul to dispose of minerals within Executive order Indian reservations under the laws governing minerals within the public domain. In holding the proposed practice to be illegal, the Attorney General declared:

That the President had authority at the date of the orders to withdraw public lands and set them apart for the benefit of the Indians, or for other public purposes, is now settled beyond the possibility of controversy. *United States v. Mescalito Oil Co.*, 238 U. S. 459, *Mason v. United States*, 280 U. S. 545. And aside from this, the General Indian Allotment Act of February 8, 1887 (21 Stat. 358, Sec. 1), clearly recognizes and by necessary implication

confirms Indian reservations "herebefore" or "hereafter" established by executive order.

Whether the President might legally abolish, in whole or in part, Indian reservations once created by him, has been seriously questioned (12 L. D. 205, 18 L. D. 628) and not without strong reason, for the Indian rights attach when the lands are first set aside, and moreover, the lands then at once become subject to allotment under the General Allotment Act. Nevertheless, the President has in fact, and in a number of instances, changed the boundaries of executive order Indian reservations by excluding lands therefrom, and the question of his authority to do so has not apparently come before the courts.

When, by an executive order, public lands are set aside, either as a new Indian reservation or in addition to an old one without further language indicating that the action is a mere temporary expedient, such lands are thereafter properly known and designated as an "Indian reservation," and so long, at least, as the order continues in force, the Indians have the title in fee and occupancy and use and the United States has the title in fee. *Spaulding v. Chandler*, 160 U. S. 84, *In re Crow*, 140 U. S. 870.

But a right of "occupancy" or "possession and use" in the Indians with the fee title in the sovereign (the Crown, the original States, the United States) in the same condition of title which has prevailed in this country from the beginning, except in a few instances like those of the Choctaws and Chickasaws, who received patents for their new tribal lands on removing to the West. And the Indian right of occupancy is as sacred as the fee title of the sovereign.

The courts have applied this legal theory indiscriminately to lands subject to the original Indian occupancy, to reservations resulting from the cession by Indians of part of their original lands, and the retention of the remainder, to reservations established in the West in exchange for lands in the East, and to reservations created by treaty, Act of Congress, or executive order, out of "public lands." The rights of the Indians were always those of occupancy and use and the fee was in the United States. *Johnson v. McIntosh*, 8 Wheat. 543, *Mitchell v. United States*, 9 Pet. 711, 745, *United States v. Cook*, 10 Wall. 592, *Leavenworth, etc. R. R. Co. v. United States*, 92 U. S. 733, 742, *Somerset National Bank v. United States*, 92 U. S. 733, 742, *Brother v. Wehring*, 95 U. S. 571, 523, *Minnesota v. Hitchcock*, 185 U. S. 875, 888 et seq., *Lone Wolf v. Hitchcock*, 187 U. S. 555, *Jones v. Meehan*, 175 U. S. 1,

¹⁸44 Op. A. G. 181, 180-180 (1924).

¹⁹Act of February 8, 1887, 24 Stat. 858.

²⁰Indian Reservations, 17 Op. A. G. 268 (1882). In 1887 the Attorney General ruled that an act of Congress would be necessary in order to establish a reservation in Alaska for Indians emigrating from Canada since the President's "power to declare permanent reservation for Indians to the exclusion of others on the public domain does not extend to Indians not born or resident in the United States." 18 Op. A. G. 697, 699 (1887).

²¹See 29 Op. A. G. 239, 241 (1911), and see *In re Wilson*, 140 U. S. 575, 577 (1891).

Spalding v. Chandler, 100 U.S. 8, 334, 11 F. Cas. 101 (1873); *Gibson v. Anderson*, 131 Fed. 2d 39.

In *Spalding v. Chandler*, *supra*, which involved an executive order Indian reservation, the Supreme Court said (pp. 402, 403):

"It has been settled by repeated adjudications of this court that the fee of the land in this country is the original acquisition of the Indian tribes, was from the time of the formation of this government vested in the United States. The Indian title as against the United States was merely a title and right to the perpetual occupancy of the land with the privilege of using it in such manner as they saw fit and such right of occupation had been surrendered to the government. When Indian reservations were created, either by treaty or executive order, the Indians held the land by the same character of title, in fact, the right to possess and occupy the lands for the uses and purposes designated."

In *U'Fadden v. Mountain View M. & M. Co., supra*, the Circuit Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit said (p. 673):

"On the 9th day of April, 1872, an executive order was issued by President Grant, by which was set apart as a reservation for certain specified Indians, and for such other Indians as the department of the interior should see fit to locate thereon, a certain scope of country bounded on the east and south by the Columbia River, on the west by the Okanum river, and on the north by the British possessions, theretofore known as the 'Koville Indian Reservation.' There can be no doubt of the power of the president to reserve those lands of the United States for the use of the Indians. The effect of that executive order was the same as would have been a treaty with the Indians for the same purpose, and was to exclude all intruders upon the territory thus reserved by any and every person, other than the Indians for whose benefit the reservation was made, for mining as well as other purposes."

The latter decision was reversed by the Supreme Court and an entirely different ground (180 U.S. 8, 331) "The views expressed in the *U'Fadden* case were reaffirmed by the same court in *Gibson v. Anderson, supra*, involving a reservation created by executive order for the Muskane Indians."

The General Indian Allotment Act of February 8, 1887 (24 Stat. 888, Sec. 1), is based upon the same legal theory as the decisions of the courts; for it is expressly made applicable to "any reservation created by treaty or by treaty stipulation or by virtue of an Act of Congress or executive order setting apart the same for their use."

A few years after the foregoing opinion was rendered, the question raised by Attorney General Stone as to the propriety of modifying Executive order reservations by new Executive orders received its legislative answer in section 4 of the Act of March 8, 1927,¹³ which declared:

"That hereafter changes in the boundaries of reservations created by Executive order, proclamation, or otherwise for the use and occupancy of Indians shall not be made except by Act of Congress. *Provided*, That this shall not apply to temporary withdrawals by the Secretary of the Interior."

Some years earlier, a general prohibition against the creation of new Executive order reservations or new additions to existing reservations had been enacted, in these terms:

"That hereafter no public lands of the United States shall be withdrawn by Executive Order, proclamation, or otherwise, for or as an Indian reservation except by act of Congress."¹⁴

The foregoing statute, which terminates the practice of establishing Indian reservations by Executive order, remains in force to this day, except with respect to the Territory of Alaska, where it has been substantially repealed by section 2 of the Act of May 1, 1946.¹⁵ It may be argued that the procedure of establishing reservations by Executive order is authorized, *pro tanto*, by section 3 of the Act of June 18, 1834,¹⁶ which authorized the Secretary of the Interior to add to existing reservations by restoring to Indian ownership "the remaining surplus lands of any Indian reservation heretofore opened, or authorized to be opened, to sale, or any other land at disposal by the President's proclamation, or by any of the public laws and laws of the United States." Under this provision, it has been administratively held that the restoration of land must be for the benefit of the entire tribe that would, according to the terms of the cession, be entitled to receipts from the sale thereof, rather than to a fraction of the tribe to which the land formerly belonged.¹⁷

Executive orders setting apart public lands for Indian reservations or Indian use are by no means uniform. Perhaps the most common type of order is that which presumes to set apart a designated area for the use,¹⁸ or use and occupancy,¹⁹ or as a reservation.²⁰ For a particular tribe or tribes of Indians. Frequently the order uses the term "permanent use and occupancy."²¹ Other orders of this type provide that designated

¹³ 19 Stat. 1250. See Chapter 21, sec. 8.

¹⁴ 48 Stat. 184, 25 U.S.C. 403.

¹⁵ 1, 32 Stat. February 10, 1946 (Hopper), 49 Stat. 1, 31 Stat. 1911 August 1, 1938 (Red Lake Chippewa) Where there is a proceeding then stated land restored to tribal ownership, it has been administratively decided that such land remains unaffected by the restoration and may be entered by judicial process.

¹⁶ Executive order, March 12, 1875 (Moose River), Executive order, November 1, 1873 (Leech Lake), Executive order, November 4, 1873 (Gummit), Executive order, February 25, 1874 (Kokomak), Executive order, May 28, 1874 (Leech Lake), Executive order, May 20, 1874 (Winnemah-shah), Executive order, November 11, 1907 (Gila River), Executive order, June 2, 1911 (Hualapai), Executive order, May 28, 1912 (Hualapai), Executive order, March 11, 1912 (Smith River), Executive order, April 24, 1912 (Chukchee-shah Band), Executive order, February 16, 1913 (Navajo), Executive order, May 6, 1913 (Navajo), Executive order, February 12, 1876 (Lamb), ("for the exclusive use"), Executive order, December 10, 1906 (Jemez Pueblo) ("for the use and benefit of"), amended by Executive order, September 1, 1911 (Jemez Pueblo), Executive order, March 23, 1911 (Goshute), Executive order, November 10, 1914 (Gold Springs), Executive order, October 1, 1915 (Jemez Pueblo), Executive order, February 19, 1917 (Winnemah), Executive order, February 8, 1918 (Winnemah).

¹⁷ Executive order, November 22, 1878 (Lanum), Executive order, March 20, 1877 (Zuni Pueblo), amended by Executive order, May 1, 1888 (Zuni Pueblo), Executive order, June 8, 1890 (Supai), Executive order, November 28, 1890 (Supai), Executive order, January 28, 1881 (Spokane), Executive order, March 31, 1882 (Supai), Executive order, December 16, 1882 (Mogul), Executive order, January 4, 1889 (Hualapai), Executive order, November 20, 1884 (Northern Cheyenne), Executive order, February 13, 1887 (Hualapai Apache), Executive order, March 14, 1887 (Atlaton), Executive order, June 18, 1902 (San Felipe Pueblo), Executive order, September 4, 1902 (Naabe Pueblo), Executive order, July 29, 1903 (Santa Clara Pueblo), Executive order, May 6, 1913 (Colony or Nevada) ("for the Nevada or Colony Tribe"), Executive order, September 27, 1917 (Cocopah).

¹⁸ Executive order, November 8, 1873 (Coeur D'Alene), Executive order, July 1, 1875 (Moose River), Executive order, May 10, 1877 (Carlin Farms), Executive order, April 18, 1877 (Duck Valley), Executive order, February 7, 1879 (Southern Ute), Executive order, March 18, 1879 (White Earth), Executive order, June 27, 1879 (Dilling Goose), Executive order, September 21, 1880 (Jualilla Apache), Executive order, December 20, 1881 (Vermillion Lake), Executive order, January 5, 1882 (Hucumpeah), Executive order, September 11, 1888 (Lith), Executive order, May 6, 1889 (Mojave), Executive order, April 12, 1888 (Casta), Executive order, June 28, 1911 (Bannock), Executive order, March 28, 1914 (Kalispel), Executive order, January 14, 1916 (Papago).

¹⁹ Executive order, December 27, 1876 (Mojave), Executive order, May 15, 1878 (Mojave), Executive order, April 19, 1878 (Columbia or Mowee), Executive order, March 6, 1880 (Columbia or Mowee), Executive order, March 2, 1881 (Mojave), Executive order, June 10, 1888 (Mia-

¹³ 34 Op. A. G. 181, 189-190 (1924).

¹⁴ 44 Stat. 1847.

¹⁵ Act of June 30, 1910, sec. 27, 41 Stat. 8, 24; Of Chapter 20, 39

lands shall be 'set apart as additions to' named reservations,¹⁰ or, that the boundaries of a designated reservation are 'extended to include'¹¹ specified lands. Occasionally an order merely recites the boundary of the reservation if it appears to establish.¹² Another type of order restores theretofore reserved lands to the public domain and withdraws in lieu thereof certain designated land to be set apart for an Indian reservation,¹³ or

as an addition to an established reservation.¹⁴ Various combinations of the foregoing types may be found in other orders.¹⁵

In some of the orders the designation of additional Indian beneficiaries of the reservation to be established is delegated to administrative discretion. These orders, typically, provide that given lands shall be set apart for the use and occupancy of certain named bands or tribes, and "such Indians as the Secretary of the Interior may see fit to locate therein."¹⁶ Under another type of order the land is withdrawn and set apart for an indefinite period, the duration of which is conditioned upon the happening of a named event. For example, the Executive order of November 14, 1901, provides that designated land be 'withdrawn from sale and settlement until such time as the [Navajo] Indians residing thereon shall have been settled permanently under the provisions of the homestead laws or the general allotment act.'¹⁷ Yet another type of order, merely provides that designated land be set apart for Indian purposes.¹⁸ In some cases a particular purpose is designated.¹⁹

¹⁰ Executive order, June 30, 1883 (Dora Creek), Executive order, August 15, 1884 (Iowa), Executive order, August 15, 1884 (Kishapoo), Executive order, March 29, 1887 (Alfonsen), Executive order, February 10, 1889 (Quilchotte), Executive order, March 10, 1890 (Northern Cheyenne), Executive order, August 2, 1905 (Pawnee).

¹¹ Executive order, October 26, 1872 (Akahak), Executive order, October 29, 1873 (Winnagochehish), Executive order, November 23, 1873 (Colorado River), Executive order, April 6, 1874 (Manki-shoot), Executive order, November 10, 1874 (Colorado River), Executive order, January 11, 1875 (Blinding Rock), Executive order, January 11, 1875 (Cheyenne River), Executive order, January 11, 1875 (Crow Creek), Executive order, January 11, 1875 (Laiwei Butte), Executive order, January 11, 1875 (Hochland), Executive order, March 16, 1875 (Blinding Rock), Executive order, April 14, 1875 (Blackfoot), Executive order, October 20, 1875 (Crow), Executive order, April 14, 1876 (Fort Belknap), Executive order, April 14, 1875 (Fort Peck), Executive order, May 15, 1876 (Malheur), Executive order, May 20, 1877 (Tule Creek), Executive order, May 19, 1878 (Humboldt), Executive order, November 22, 1878 (Uncompagnated Ute), Executive order, May 15, 1879 (Colorado River), Executive order, August 31, 1879 (Pima and Maricopa), Executive order, November 24, 1876 (Blinding Rock), Executive order, October 20, 1878 (Navajo), Executive order, January 10, 1879 (Pima and Maricopa), Executive order, January 10, 1879 (Navajo), Executive order, January 24, 1892 (Great Smoky), Executive order, November 29, 1912 (Blue Ridge), Executive order, May 5, 1893 (Pima and Maricopa), Executive order, November 18, 1881 (Pima and Maricopa), Executive order, May 1, 1890 (Duck Valley), Executive order, November 21, 1892 (Red Lake), Executive order, July 21, 1903 (Moose River), Executive order, March 10, 1903 (Navajo), Executive order, November 9, 1907 (Navajo), Executive order, July 1, 1910 (Duck Valley), Executive order, October 20, 1910 (Salt River), Executive order, December 1, 1910 (Fort Mojave), Executive order, July 21, 1911 (Pima and Maricopa), Executive order, October 28, 1912 (Moose River), Executive order, November 29, 1912 (Moose River), Executive order, June 2, 1917 (Salt River), Executive order, April 16, 1914 (Los Coyotes), Executive order, November 12, 1915 (Ute), Executive order, April 20, 1916 (Camp of Fort Independence), Executive order, September 4, 1902 (Moose River) ("Provided further, that if at any time the lands covered by any valid claim be relinquished to the United States, or the claim in part or the entry be canceled * * *, such lands shall be added to * * * the reservation hereby set apart * * *"). Accord Executive order, June 18, 1902 (San Felipe Pueblo), Executive order, July 20, 1905 (San Chua Pueblo).

¹² Executive order, October 18, 1871 (Hoopa), Executive order, July 20, 1876 (Round Valley) ("as an extension thereof"), Executive order, August 17, 1876 (Confederated Ute) ("set aside as a part of"). Accord Executive order, August 8, 1917 (Fort Belknap).

¹³ Executive order, September 9, 1878 (Bureau Reservation-Puget Island), Executive order, December 28, 1878 (Tulsa or Shoohome).

¹⁴ Executive order, November 6, 1865 (Biller), Executive order, February 21, 1868 (Red Cliff), Executive order, January 20, 1867 (Mink-shoot), Executive order, January 20, 1867 (Nasqually), Executive order, January 20, 1867 (Puyallup), Executive order, June 10, 1867 (Grand Ronde), Executive order, October 8, 1861 (Utah Valley), Executive order, January 16, 1864 (Boque Rodondo), Executive order, July 8, 1864 (Chehalis), Executive order, October 21, 1864 (Fort Madison), Executive order, March 30, 1867 (Santee), Executive order, August 10, 1869 (Cheyenne and Arapaho), Executive order, April 12, 1870 (Fort Belknap), Executive order, March 14, 1871 (Malheur), Executive order, April 6, 1872 (Colville), Executive order, July 2, 1872 (Colville), Executive order, September 12, 1872 (Malheur), Executive order, January 8, 1873 (Akahak), Executive order, July 20, 1878 (Fort Stanton or Mesquero Apache), Executive order, September 6, 1878 (Puyallup), Executive order, October 3, 1878 (Tule River), Executive order, October 21, 1878 (Akahak), Executive order, February 2, 1874 (Fort Stanton or Mesquero Apache), Executive order, February 12, 1874 (Mojave River), Executive order, March 10, 1874 (Walker River), Executive order, March 28, 1874 (Pyramid Lake or Truckee), Executive order, October 20, 1875 (Fort Stanton or Mesquero Apache), Executive order, December 21, 1875 (Hot Springs), Executive order, June 14, 1876 (Pima and Maricopa), Executive order, March 18, 1876 (Santee), Executive order, May 18, 1882 (Fort Stanton or Mesquero Apache), Executive order, January 9, 1884 (Yuma), Executive order, June 8, 1884 (Tule Mountain), Executive order, October 1, 1886 (Chinleah), Executive order, December 1, 1886 (Chinleah), Executive order, February 17, 1912 (Navajo), Executive order, December 1, 1912 (Navajo), Executive order, February 1, 1917 (Pajuna), Executive order, February 1, 1917 (Fort Mohave), Executive order, May 15, 1905 (Navajo).

¹⁵ Executive order, October 1, 1886 (Chinleah), Executive order, December 4, 1886 (Chinleah), Executive order, July 12, 1895 (Cheyenne and Arapaho), Executive order, February 17, 1912 (Navajo), Executive order, December 1, 1912 (Pajuna), Executive order, February 1, 1917 (Pajuna), Executive order, February 1, 1917 (Fort Mohave), Executive order, May 15, 1905 (Navajo).

¹⁶ Executive order, December 14, 1872 (Chinleah and White Mountain) ("It is hereby ordered that the following tract of country be * * * set apart * * * for certain Apache Indians * * * to be known as the 'Chinleah Indian Reservation' * * *"). It is also herein ordered that the reservation heretofore set apart for certain Ute Indians * * * known as the 'Camp Giant Indian Reservation' be * * * added to the public domain. It is also ordered that the following tract of country be * * * added to the White Mountain Indian Reservation * * *").

¹⁷ Executive order, April 6, 1874 (Fort Springs), Executive order, July 1, 1874 (Pajuna), Executive order, December 13, 1882 (Gila Bend), Executive order, December 21, 1882 (Tule Mountain), Executive order, July 6, 1883 (Yuma), Executive order, August 18, 1883 (Crow), Executive order, January 8, 1884 (Yuma), Executive order, September 15, 1903 (Camp Mohave), Executive order, December 1, 1910 (Fort Mojave), Executive order, February 2, 1911 (Fort Mojave), Executive order, March 22, 1911 (Salt River), Executive order, September 28, 1911 (Salt River), Executive order, May 8, 1911 (Pima and Maricopa), Executive order, May 28, 1912 (Pajuna), Executive order, January 14, 1911 (Pajuna and Shoshone), Executive order, March 4, 1915 (Pond Du Lac), Executive order, August 2, 1915 (Pajuna), Executive order, April 21, 1915 (Shoshone and Shoshone), Executive order, May 16, 1916 (Navajo), Executive order, March 21, 1917 (Logans Valley), Executive order, July 17, 1917 (Kashah), Executive order, February 15, 1918 (Shoshone Valley), Executive order, March 28, 1918 (Western Shoshone).

¹⁸ Similar in effect is the Executive order of May 7, 1917 (Navajo) which provides that designated land be "set aside temporarily until allotments in severalty can be made to the Navajo Indians living thereon, or until some other provision can be made for their welfare." Accord Executive order, January 10, 1918 (Navajo). See also Executive order, May 9, 1912 (Pajuna) ("until such provisions for allotment purposes * * * may be fully investigated"); Executive order, December 18, 1910 ('Loan d'Alour) ("as an addition to the Indian school and agency area * * * until such time as it shall be no longer needed and need for this purpose").

¹⁹ Executive order, September 22, 1869 (Shoshone), Executive order, June 28, 1876 (Hoopa), Executive order, August 23, 1877 (Mission), Executive order, September 20, 1877 (Mission), Executive order, March 9, 1881 (Mission), Executive order, June 27, 1882 (Mission), Executive order, November 19, 1892 (Navajo), Executive order, May 24, 1911 (Navajo), Executive order, August 24, 1914 (Chiricahua) ("for Indian use"), Presidential proclamation, August 31, 1915 (Cleveland National Forest—Mesquero Indians).

²⁰ Executive order, July 12, 1884 (Chinleah School Reservation) ("for the settlement of such friendly Indians * * * as have been or who may hereafter be educated at the Chiricahua Indian Industrial School"), Executive order, October 8, 1884 (Pueblo Industrial School Reservation), Executive order, July 9, 1896 (Cheyenne and Arapaho), Executive order, December 22, 1898 (Hualapai) ("for Indian school purposes"). Accord Executive order, May 14, 1900 (Hualapai), Executive order, November 28, 1902 (Grosvenor Indian School), Executive order, February 5, 1906 (Utah) ("be * * * temporarily set apart to the Protestant

It will be noted that the foregoing types of order are all similar in certain respects. In each it is decreed that certain designated land be set apart in a designated manner for a named purpose. In contrast to these is the type of Executive order which though it effects the same purpose, namely, the setting apart of designated land for a particular purpose, may more accurately be termed Executive approval than Executive order. The typical situation wherein this Executive approval is found arises where agents of the War or Interior Departments in their own discretion set aside designated lands and notify the Executive department of such action. In confirmation thereof the Executive may indicate his approval either by affixing his signature to the official notification or by issuing an order containing same.¹¹⁷ Needless to say this type of Executive order is of equal validity with the orders heretofore mentioned.¹¹⁸

Comparatively few questions have arisen as to the interpretation of Executive orders establishing Indian reservations. One such question was raised before the Court of Claims in the case of *Crow Valley v. United States*.¹¹⁹ According to that court, the phrase in controversy reserving an area to the Crow tribe "and such other Indians as the President may, from time to time, locate therein"¹²⁰ gave to the Crow tribe

only the right to reside upon the reservation, so set apart by Executive order, and did not confer upon them any definite title or particular interest in the land. It was in the nature of a remedy by silence or residential title.¹²¹ The Executive order reserves to the President the right to put other Indians on the reservation and this could not be done if a statutory title, as tenements in common, was given to these five tribes alone. (Pp. 278, 280.)

Where an Executive order establishes an Indian reservation in an area previously reserved for reservoir purposes, it has been held that the later Executive order supercedes the earlier order.¹²²

It has been held that a reservation in the name of an Executive order reservation may be established without a formal Executive order if a course of administrative action is shown which had for its purpose the inducing of an Indian tribe to settle in a given area and if the area has thereafter been referred to and dealt with as an Indian reservation by the Executive branch of the Government.¹²³

Likewise it has been held that an Executive reservation may be created by administrative action prior to the formal issuance of an Executive order, the effect of such order being simply to give "formal sanction to what had been done before."¹²⁴

Occasionally a treaty leaves a good deal of discretion to administrative authorities in establishing a reservation, and the courts must look to administrative correspondence, maps, and other records to determine the date, extent, and character of the reservation. Here we are on the borderline between treaty and Executive order reservations.¹²⁵ In fact, the connection between treaty and Executive order is characteristic of many, if not most, of the early Executive orders and provides a legal basis of unquestioned validity for such Executive orders.¹²⁶

¹¹⁷ See *Id.* 12, M 28580, August 24, 1893.

¹¹⁸ *Old Winnieago and Crow Creek Reservation*, 18 Op. A. G. 141 (1885).

¹¹⁹ *Northern Pacific Ry. Co. v. Walker*, 248 U. S. 288 (1918), aff'd 230 Fed. 591 (C. C. A. 9, 1918).

¹²⁰ *Spaulding v. Chandler*, 104 U. S. 304 (1880).

¹²¹ In the present instance, the orders of May 20, 1873, February 2, 1874, and October 20, 1876, not only confirmed Indian rights of use and occupancy (34 Op. Atty. Gen. 181, 187), but were issued in pursuance of obligations toward the Apache Indians undertaken by the United States in the Treaty of July 1, 1853, 10 Stat. 970, in which the Government agreed "at its earliest convenience" to "designate, settle, and adjust their territorial boundaries." *Memo Sol. I. D.*, June 28, 1860 (*McIntire Apache*).

Residual Church for missionary and cemetery purposes for the benefit of the Five Indians as here provided for; Executive order, July 6, 1912 (*Bandol*); *Id.* Executive order, June 16, 1911 (*Epaves*) ("for school, agency, and other necessary uses"); Executive order, January 17, 1912 (*Skull Valley Band*); Executive order, May 24, 1912 (*Deep Creek Band*); Executive order, July 22, 1916 (*County*) ("for use as a cemetery and camping ground"); Executive order, March 15, 1914 (*Walker River*) ("as a grazing reservation").

¹²² Executive order, May 14, 1855 (*Isabella*); Executive order, August 9, 1855 (*Ottawa and Chippewa*); Executive order, September 25, 1855 (*Ontonagon*); Executive order, May 22, 1850 (*Mendocino*); Executive order, December 21, 1858 (*Band La Lac*); Executive order, April 16, 1864 (*Tallie Travese*); Executive order, February 27, 1866 (*Nuburn on San Jose Mesa*); Executive order, July 20, 1866 (*Shoshone or Snake River*); Executive order, June 14, 1867 (*Port Hall*); Executive order, June 11, 1867 (*Comer Tal-Alejo*); Executive order, November 16, 1867 (*Niobrara or Snake River*); Executive order, January 10, 1868 (*Cherokee and Javalito Unaffiliated*); Executive order, July 30, 1860 (*Port Hall*); Executive order, January 31, 1870 (*McDon*); Executive order, March 30, 1870 (*Hound Valley*); Executive order, November 9, 1871 (*Fort Apache*); Executive order, November 9, 1871 (*White Mountain*); Executive order, January 9, 1873 (*Pule River*); Executive order, July 5, 1873 (*Blackfoot*); Executive order, July 5, 1873 (*Fort Belknap*); Executive order, July 5, 1874 (*Fort Tuck*); Executive order, March 20, 1871 (*Walker River*); Executive order, September 10, 1880 (*Fort Mojave*); Executive order, November 10, 1888 (*Klamath River*).

¹²³ *Id.* *United States v. Walker River Irr. Dist.*, 104 F. 2d 884 (C. C. A. 9, 1935).

¹²⁴ 31 C. Cls. 248 (1935).

¹²⁵ *Id.* 31 C. Cls. 248, 249a.

SECTION 8. TRIBAL LAND PURCHASE

That a tribe may acquire land in its own name as a consequence of its general contractual capacity, discussed in Chapter 14 of this volume. In the exercise of this capacity various tribes have, from time to time, purchased lands (using the term "purchase" in its technical sense to include acquisition through gift and devise as well as bargain and sale), and the validity of such purchases has been recognized legislatively¹²⁷ and judicially.¹²⁸

A notable instance of land acquisition is found in the history of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians of North Carolina. The individual members of the band had the foresight to provide

that land purchased with individual funds should be held under a single title, first by a private trustee, then by the incorporated band, and finally (by cession from the band)¹²⁹ by the United States in trust for the band. Always resisting allotment, the band has maintained its lands intact, in sharp contrast to the fate of its fellow tribesmen in Oklahoma.¹³⁰

From time to time, the Secretary of the Interior has been authorized to purchase lands for Indian tribes. Such legislation, where specific, has been dealt with under the heading "Statutory Reservations." Where the legislation creates a general authority, the process of establishing reservations by purchase resembles the process whereby the tribe itself undertakes to acquire lands.

The acquisition of land by the Secretary of the Interior for

¹²⁷ *Public Lands Act* of June 7, 1924, 43 Stat. 650, Act of March 8, 1875, 18 Stat. 420, 447 (*Eastern Cherokee*); Act of August 4, 1863, 27 Stat. 748 (*Eastern Cherokee*); Act of March 8, 1925, 43 Stat. 1141, 1146-1150 (*Choctaw*).

¹²⁸ *Grosvenor v. United States*, 43 F. 2d 875 (C. C. A. 10, 1930); *Pueblo De Taos v. Ashcroft*, 64 F. 2d 807 (C. C. A. 10, 1933); *United States v. 7,962 Acres of Land*, 97 F. 2d 417 (C. C. A. 4, 1938).

¹²⁹ See Act of June 4, 1924, 43 Stat. 378.

¹³⁰ See *United States v. 7,962 Acres*, 97 F. 2d 417.

an Indian tribe, through purchase, gift, exchange or assignment or through relinquishment of land by individual Indians, is authorized by section 5 of the Act of June 18, 1904.¹²⁴ It has been held that the purpose of "providing land for Indians" is served by an exchange transaction whereby an individual Indian transfers allotted land to the tribe in exchange for an assignment of occupancy rights in the same or in another tract, since the tribe through this transaction acquires a definite interest in the land over and above the transferor's retained occupancy right.¹²⁵ Where a tribe exchanges land with a non-Indian, under this section, the value of the land acquired must be equal to, or greater than, the value of the land ceded, since the purpose of section 5 is to increase the tribal estate rather than to open the way to its alienation.¹²⁶

Relinquishment of individual timber and mineral rights to the tribe have been made in consideration of other similar relinquishments by other members of the tribe.¹²⁷ The result of such a transaction is that each member of the tribe has an undivided interest in the entire mineral and timber wealth of the reservation, instead of a particular interest in the possible timber and mineral wealth of his own allotment.

It has been held that a tribe may purchase allotted lands in leasehold status where such lands are offered for sale by the Secretary of the Interior.¹²⁸ The mechanism of such a transaction is elsewhere discussed.¹²⁹

The acquisition of land by one tribe from another was at one time a common method of acquiring tribal property. The distinction between such a transfer and a transaction whereby one tribe is dissolved and its members incorporated in another tribe, is carefully analyzed by the Supreme Court in the case of *Cherokee Nation v. Georgia*.¹³⁰

For some time it was doubted whether land conveyed to an Indian tribe by private parties was within the protection of the Federal Government. These doubts were largely dispelled by the case of *United States v. 1,055 Acres of Land*,¹³¹ in which it was held that lands of the Eastern Cherokees of North Carolina were not subject to a claim of adverse possession. In an opinion which illuminates the subject, the court declared, *per Parker, J.*

As we were at pains to point out in the *Wright Case*, it makes no difference that title to the land in controversy was originally obtained by grant from the state of North Carolina, or that the Indians are citizens of that state and subject to its laws. The determinative fact is that

the federal government has assumed towards them the same sort of guardianship that it exercises over other tribes of Indians, from which it results that their property becomes an instrumentality of that government for the accomplishment of a proper governmental purpose and may not be taken from them by contract, adverse possession, or otherwise, without its consent. *United States v. Goudnow*, 271 U. S. 482, 440, 46 S. Ct. 561, 563, 70 L. Ed. 1022; *United States v. Almonaco*, 270 U. S. 181, 196, 46 S. Ct. 298, 301, 70 L. Ed. 589; *United States v. Bandolan*, 281 U. S. 28, 34, 84 Ct. 1, 58 L. Ed. 107; *Arceboan v. United States*, 281 U. S. 413, 485, 50 S. Ct. 453, 456, 70 L. Ed. 809. Indeed a statute of the United States, expressly forbidding the acquisition of lands of any Indian tribe by purchase, grant, lease or other conveyance, except by treaty or convention and subjects to penalty anyone not being employed under the authority of the United States who attempts to negotiate such treaty. H. R. § 2110, 25 U. S. C. § 177. This statute protects Indians such as these as well as the nomadic tribes. *United States v. Goudnow*, *supra*. And the protection is not affected by section of the fact that the land has been incorporated under a state charter and attempts to take action thereunder. *United States v. Bond*, *supra*, 4 Ct. 93 F. 547, 63. Certainly if the land was not alienable by the Indians, title could not be obtained as against them by adverse possession. *Nichols v. Barker*, 183 U. S. 206, 295, 32 S. Ct. 107, 40 L. Ed. 203; *Garcia v. United States*, 30 Ct. 48 F. 2d 873. (Pp. 422-423).

If adverse possession will not give title under a state statute of limitation acquired by such parties to individual Indians, a fortiori such possession cannot give title to lands held in trust for the common benefit of the tribe over which the United States exercises guardianship. It is beyond the power of the state, either through its acts of limitation or adverse possession, to affect the interest of the United States, and the United States manifestly has an interest in preserving the property of these wards of the government for their use and benefit. As and in the *Hickman Case*, *supra* (32 S. Ct. page 481), "If these Indians may be divested of their lands they will be thrown back upon the Nation a pauperized, disoriented . . . people." The lands held for them are thus an instrumentality of the discharge of the duty which the government has assumed toward them. Title to it can no more be acquired by adverse possession under state statute, than to land held for other governmental purposes. (P. 423.)

A further step in accumulating the status of lands purchased for Indians to the status of treaty, Executive order, and statutory reservations was taken in the Act of February 14, 1923,¹³² which extended the provisions of the General Allotment Act¹³³ as amended, which in turn covered only reservations created "either by treaty stipulation or by virtue of an act of Congress or executive order setting apart the same for their use," to "all lands, heretofore purchased or which may hereafter be purchased by authority of Congress for the use or benefit of any individual Indian or band or tribe of Indians."

¹²⁴ 42 Stat. 1246.

¹²⁵ Act of February 8, 1887, 24 Stat. 388.

¹²⁶ 48 Stat. 684, 26 U. S. C. 405.

¹²⁷ Memo Sol. I. D., April 4, 1908.

¹²⁸ Memo Sol. I. D., February 8, 1907.

¹²⁹ Memo Sol. I. D., October 7, 1937 (Juchilla Apache).

¹³⁰ Memo Sol. I. D., August 14, 1907.

¹³¹ See Chapter 11, sec. 6C. On the disposition of reimbursable debts chargeable to the estate, see Memo Sol. I. D., January 2, 1910.

¹³² 155 U. S. 196 (1894), aff'g *Jouanvaka v. Cherokee Nation*, 28 C. Cls. 281 (1892). Accord *Cherokee Nation v. Blackfeather*, 155 U. S. 218 (1894).

¹³³ 27 F. 2d 417 (C. U. A. 4, 1898).

SECTION 9. TRIBAL TITLE DERIVED FROM OTHER SOVEREIGNTIES

The analysis of tribal rights in land is complicated by the fact that all of the territory of the United States (with the possible exception of Oregon territory) was at one time subject to some other sovereignty, and it has been the consistent policy of the United States to respect rights in real property recognized under such prior sovereignty. This policy, based upon international law,¹³⁴ has been affirmed in our various treaties with Spain,

France, Great Britain, Mexico, and Russia. It would take us far beyond the limits of this volume to analyze in any detail the principles of Spanish, French, British, Mexican, and Russian law governing aboriginal title. It is necessary, however, to refer to the statutes and judicial decisions of this country which interpret the applicable principles of foreign law and mark out the authority which the courts of this Nation will accord to such principles.

In some measure the Spanish and Mexican law relating to the Pueblo of New Mexico and the Russian law relating to the

¹³⁴ See *Baker v. Hawley*, 181 U. S. 481 (1901) (discussing Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo).

natives of Alaska are dealt with in separate chapters²² and need not be discussed at this point. The relevance of Spanish and Mexican law is not, however, limited to the problems of the Pueblos of New Mexico. The cession of Florida and the land claims of unadmitted Indians in the later Mexican cessions often involve difficult questions of Spanish law.

The California *Proyecto de Ley* (June 1st of March 3, 1851),²³ provided a means for determining land titles established under Mexican law in Indian rights of permanent occupancy vested in Indian tribes. It has been held that claims not presented to the Commission established under this act have been waived, even though such claims emanate from Indian tribes not placed finally in a position to present them at the time when the commission was functioning.²⁴

The effect of Spanish and British law upon Indian rights within the Florida cession was analyzed by the Supreme Court in the case of *Mitchell v. United States*,²⁵ from which the following excerpts are taken:

We now come to consider the nature and extent of the Indian title to these lands.

As Florida was for 20 years under the dominion of Great Britain, the laws of that country were in force, the rule by which lands were held and sold, it will be necessary to examine what they were as applicable to the British provinces before the acquisition of the Florida by the treaty of peace in 1763. They were, in general, the same laws that existed among their first settlers, as appears in their laws. But typically Indians were protected in the possession of the lands they occupied, and were considered as owning them by a perpetual right of occupancy, the title or nation inhabiting them is then common property from generation to generation, not in the right of the individuals located on particular spots.

Subject to this right of possession, the ultimate fee was in the crown and its agents, which could be granted by the crown or colonial legislatures, while the lands remained in possession of the Indians, though possession could not be taken without their consent.

Individuals could not purchase Indian lands without permission or license from the crown, colonial governors, or according to the rules prescribed by colonial laws, but such purchases were valid with such license, or in conformity with the local laws, and by this means of the perpetual right of occupancy with the ultimate fee which passed from the crown by the license, the title of the purchaser became complete.

Indian possession or occupation was considered with reference to their habits and mode of life, their hunting-grounds were much in their actual possession as the cleared fields of the whites, and their rights in its exclusive enjoyment were their own property for their own purposes, were as much respected, until they abandoned them, made a cession to the government, or an authorized sale to individuals. In either case their right became extinct, the lands could be granted dismembered of the right of occupancy, or enjoyed in full dominion by the purchasers from the Indians. Such was the tenor of Indian laws by the laws of Massachusetts Indian Laws, 9, 10, 13, 14, 17, 18, 19, 21, in Connecticut, 40, 41, 42, Rhode Island, 22, 23, New Hampshire, 60, New York, 62, 64, 71, 85, 102; New Jersey, 183, Pennsylvania, 138, Maryland, 141, 143, 144, 145, Virginia, 147, 148, 169, 163, 164, North Carolina, 163, 4, 58, South Carolina, 178, 179, Georgia, 188, 187, by Congress, Appendix, 16, by their respective laws, and the decisions of courts in their construction. See cases collected in 2 Johnson's Dig. 16, 17, Indians and Wharrior's Dig. tit. Land, &c. 468. See, too, the view taken by the Court of Indian rights in the case of *Johann v. McIntosh*, 8 Wheat. 571, 604, which has received universal assent.

The merits of this case do not make it necessary to inquire whether the Indians within the United States held any other rights of soil or jurisdiction, it is enough to

consider it as a settled principle, that they right of occupancy is considered as secured as the fee simple of the whites. 5 Fed. 48. The principles which had been established in the colonies were adopted by the king in the proclamation of October 1763, and applied to the provinces acquired by the treaty of peace and the lower limits in the several provinces, now composing the United States, as the law which should govern the enjoyment and transmission of Indian and vacant lands. After providing for the government of the acquired provinces, 7 Laws U. S. 13, 14, it authorizes the governors of Quebec, East and West Florida, to make grants of such lands as the king had power to dispose of upon such terms as have been used in other colonies, and such other conditions as the crown might deem necessary and expedient, without any other restriction. It also authorized warrants to be issued by the governors for military and naval services rendered in the then late war. It reserved to the Indians the possession of their lands and hunting-grounds, and prohibited the granting any warrant of survey, or patent for any lands west of the heads of the Atlantic waters, in which, not having been ceded or purchased by the crown, were reserved to the Indians, and prohibited all purchases from them without its special license. The warrants issued pursuant to this proclamation for lands then within the Indian boundary before the treaty of Pitts Newbeck's in 1763, have been held to pass the title to the lands conveyed on them, in opposition to a subsequent patent afterwards issued. *Ross v. Linn*, 3 Dallas, 427-430. And all titles held before the charter of license of the crown to purchase from the Indians have been held good, and the power has never been held to be given to the crown to grant being complete, this proclamation had the effect of a law in relation to such purchases, so it has been considered by this court in *Whit v. Whit*, 305-304. (Pp. 745-747.)²⁶

A classic historical account of the extent to which Indian rights were recognized under British and colonial rule is given by Chief Justice Marshall in his concurring opinion in *Worcester v. Georgia*.²⁷ After analyzing the claims of the European nations on the subject of aboriginal right,²⁸ the Chief Justice offered these comments on the colonial charters issued by the European powers and the recognition of Indian rights implicit in the language of these charters:

The power of making war is conferred by these charters on the colonies, but derivative war alone seems to have been contemplated. In the first charter to the first and second colonies, they are empowered, "for that several defenses, to encounter, engage, repel, and resist all persons who shall without license attempt to invade" "within the said precincts and limits of the said several colonies, or that shall enterprise or attempt at any time hereafter the best detriment or annoyance of the said several colonies, or plantations."²⁹

After analyzing various colonial charters, the court concluded:

These motives for planting the new colony are incompatible with the lofty ideas of granting the soil, and all its inhabitants from sea to sea. They demonstrate the truth that these grants asserted a title against Europeans only, and were considered as blank paper so far as the rights of the natives were concerned. The power of war is given only for defense, not for conquest.

The charters contain passages showing one of their objects to be the civilization of the Indians, and their conversion to Christianity, to be accomplished by "conducting a candid and good example, not by extermination."

The actual state of things, and the practice of European nations, on so much of the American continent as lies

²² Chapter 20 (Indians of New Mexico), Chapter 21 (Alaskan Natives).

²³ 9 Stat. 681.

²⁴ *Barco v. Weaver*, 181 U. S. 481 (1901), *United States v. Telf. Ins. Co.* 205 U. S. 472 (1924), *aff'd* 288 Fed. 821 (C. C. A. 9, 1928).

²⁵ 6 Pet. (11 Curtis) 711 (1836).

²⁶ Apparently the Supreme Court was of the opinion that the principles applicable to Indian possessions in Florida under Spanish rule were not identical with those applicable to the Indians of California. By the Court declared that, to Spain, "the friendship of the Indians was a most important consideration. It would have been lost by adopting towards them a less liberal, just, or kind policy than had been pursued by Great Britain, or acting according to the laws of the Indies in force in Mexico and Peru." (P. 751.)

²⁷ 6 Pet. (10 Curtis) 515 (1822).

²⁸ See sec. 4 of this chapter.

between the Mississippi and the Atlantic, explain their claims and the charters they granted. Their pretensions unavoidably interfered with each other, though the discovery of one was admitted by all to exclude the claim of any other, the extent of that discovery was the subject of unceasing contest. Bloody conflicts arose between them, which gave importance and security to the neighboring nations. Peace and warlike in their character, they might be formidable enemies, or obnoxious friends. Instead of joining their settlements in asserting claims to their lands, or to dominion over their persons, their alliance was sought by flattery, professions, and purchased by rich presents. The English, the French, and the Spaniards were equally competitors for their friendship and their aid. Not well acquainted with the exact meaning of words, nor supposing it to be material whether they were called the subjects, or the children of their fathers in Europe, lavish in professions, duty and affection, in return for the rich presents they received, so long as their actual independence was untouched, and then right to self-government acknowledged, they were willing to profess dependence on the power which furnished supplies, of which they were in absolute need, and rejected dangerous intruders from entering their country, and this was probably the sense in which the term was understood by them.

Certain it is that our history furnishes no example, from the first settlement of our country, of any attempt, on the part of the crown, to interfere with the internal affairs of the Indians, further than to keep out the agents of foreign powers, who, as traders or otherwise, mixed with them into foreign affairs. The king purchased their lands when they were willing to sell, at a price they were willing to take, but never coerced a surrender of them. He also purchased their alliance and dependence by subsidies, but never intruded into the interior of their affairs, or interfered with their self-government, so far as interested themselves only.

The general views of Great Britain, with regard to the Indians, were delineated by Mr. Stanist, superintendent of Indian affairs, in a speech delivered at Mobile, in presence of several persons of distinction, soon after the peace of 1763. Towards the conclusion, he says: "Lastly, I inform you that it is the king's order to all his governors and subjects, to treat Indians with justice and humanity, and to forbear all encroachments on the territories allotted to them, accordingly, all individuals are prohibited from purchasing any of your lands, but, as you know that, as you while in Indian cannot feel you when you visit them unless you give them ground to plant, it is expected that you will cede lands to the king for that purpose. But whenever you shall be pleased to surrender any of your territories to his Majesty, it must be by a formal deed, signed at a public meeting, when the governors of the provinces, or the superintendent shall be present, and obtain the consent of all your people. The boundaries of your hunting grounds will be accurately fixed, and no settlement permitted to be made upon them. As you may be assured that all treaties with your people will be faithfully kept, so it is expected that you, also, will be carefully strictly to observe them."

The proclamation issued by the king of Great Britain, in 1763, soon after the ratification of the articles of peace, forbids the governors of any of the colonies to grant warrants of survey, or pass patents upon any lands whatever, which, not having been ceded to or purchased by us, (the king), as aforesaid, are reserved to the said Indians, or any of them.

The proclamation proceeds: "And we do further declare it to be our royal will and pleasure, for the present, as aforesaid, to reserve under our sovereignty, protection, and dominion, for the use of the said Indians, all the lands and territories lying to the westward of the sources of the rivers which fall into the sea, from the west and northwest as aforesaid, and we do hereby strictly forbid, on pain of our displeasure, all our loving subjects from making any purchases or settlements whatever, or taking possession of any of the lands above reserved, without our special leave and license for that purpose first obtained."

"And we do further strictly forbid and require all persons whatever, who have, either wilfully or inadvertently, seated themselves upon any lands within the countries

above described, or upon any other lands which, not having been ceded to or purchased by us, are still reserved to the said Indians, as aforesaid, forthwith to remove themselves from such settlements."

A proclamation, issued by Governor Gage, in 1772, contains the following passage: "Whereas many persons, contrary to the positive orders of the king, upon this subject, have undertaken to make settlements beyond the boundaries fixed by the treaties made with the Indian nations, which boundaries ought to serve as a barrier between the whites, and the said nations, particularly on the Ohio-bank." The proclamation orders such persons to quit these countries without delay.

Such was the policy of Great Britain towards the Indian nations inhabiting the territory from which she excluded all other Europeans, such her claims, and such her practical exposition of the charters she had granted, she considered them as nations capable of maintaining the relations of peace and war, of governing themselves, under her protection, and she made treaties with them, the obligation of which she acknowledged. (Pp. 646-649.)

The question of how far Spain and Mexico recognized rights of possession in nomadic tribes is a question upon which conflicting views have been expressed. In *Hoyt v. United States and Utah Indians*,¹³¹ the Court of Claims took the position that Spain and Mexico had never recognized any rights of exclusive possession in any of the nomadic tribes, and that only areas affirmatively designated as Indian reservations could be considered Indian country within the meaning of the Indian Intercourse Act of 1894. The actual decision in the case, however, was simply that a plaintiff was not precluded from maintaining a suit for depredations committed by the Indians by the mere fact that he was on territory which later became recognized as an Indian reservation. On the other hand, the Supreme Court, in the case of *Chouteau v. Motron*¹³² held that under the Spanish law applicable to what is now the State of Iowa when that territory was under Spanish dominion, the Fox tribe of Indians had rights of ownership in the land they occupied which were of such dignity that a purported grant of such land by the Spanish Governor would be

* * * an unaccountable and capricious exercise of official power, contrary to the uniform usage of his predecessors in respect to the sales of Indian lands, and that it could give no property to the grantees. It is not meant, by what has just been said, that the Spanish governors could not relinquish the interest or title of the Crown in Indian lands and for more than a mile square, but when that was done, the grants were made subject to the rights of Indian occupancy. They did not take effect until that occupancy had ceased, and whilst it continued it was not in the power of the Spanish governor to authorize any one to interfere with it. (P. 289.)

Apparently the Foxes were as nomadic in their habits as most of the other Plains tribes, so that the correct historical view would seem to be that if Spanish law ever denied title by aboriginal occupancy to certain Indian tribes it was because these tribes did not in fact maintain exclusive occupancy of any territory at all but merely wandered over lands which were traversed by other tribes as well. In this situation even our own law recognizes that no possessory rights are created.¹³³ There would seem, therefore, to be no valid reason to suppose that the Spanish law was more rigorous than the law of Great Britain on the United States with respect to the recognition of Indian possessory rights derived from aboriginal occupancy.¹³⁴

¹³¹ 98 C. Cl. 485 (1908).

¹³² 10 How. 208 (1853).

¹³³ *See* *United States v. Hoyt*, 77 C. Cl. 347 (1898), approved 282 U. S. 606.

¹³⁴ For a classical statement of Spanish legal theory on the subject of Indian title, see Victoria, De Indis et De Jure Belli Roletones (trans. by John Parker Bate, 1917), originally published in 1597. And see Hall, *Laws of Mexico* (1885), secs. 38, 58, 46, 45, 49, 58, 195, 2 Chapter's Recognition (1899), 34, 61-62, 64-65, 66, 95-98. See also White's 3d, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st, 32nd, 33rd, 34th, 35th, 36th, 37th, 38th, 39th, 40th, 41st, 42nd, 43rd, 44th, 45th, 46th, 47th, 48th, 49th, 50th, 51st, 52nd, 53rd, 54th, 55th, 56th, 57th, 58th, 59th, 60th, 61st, 62nd, 63rd, 64th, 65th, 66th, 67th, 68th, 69th, 70th, 71st, 72nd, 73rd, 74th, 75th, 76th, 77th, 78th, 79th, 80th, 81st, 82nd, 83rd, 84th, 85th, 86th, 87th, 88th, 89th, 90th, 91st, 92nd, 93rd, 94th, 95th, 96th, 97th, 98th, 99th, 100th, 101st, 102nd, 103rd, 104th, 105th, 106th, 107th, 108th, 109th, 110th, 111th, 112th, 113th, 114th, 115th, 116th, 117th, 118th, 119th, 120th, 121st, 122nd, 123rd, 124th, 125th, 126th, 127th, 128th, 129th, 130th, 131st, 132nd, 133rd, 134th, 135th, 136th, 137th, 138th, 139th, 140th, 141st, 142nd, 143rd, 144th, 145th, 146th, 147th, 148th, 149th, 150th, 151st, 152nd, 153rd, 154th, 155th, 156th, 157th, 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SECTION 10. PROTECTION OF TRIBAL POSSESSION

Tribal possessory right may be defined as a power to command the aid of the law against trespassers, coupled with a privilege to use reasonable force in excluding such trespassers. An essential of possessory right, whether contained in statute, treaty, Executive order or judicial decision, is measurability. If both these elements are lacking, and imperfect if one is lacking.

The right to protection of tribal possession through an action of ejectment or other similar possessory action was affirmed at an early period. Thus, the Supreme Court in the case of *Wahkiakum v. Banks*,¹⁸⁰ declared:

This Indian title consisted of the usufruct and right of occupancy and enjoyment. . . . That an action of ejectment could be maintained on an Indian right to occupancy and use, is not open to question. This is the result of the decision in *Johnson v. U'Etah*, 8 Wheat 574, and was the question directly decided, in the case of *Connel v. Ruffalo*, 2 Yeager's Ten Rep 163, on the effect of trespass to individual Indians of a mile square each, ceded to the United States by the Cherokee treaties of 1817 and 1819. . . . (49 U.S. 232, 233)

17 Stat. at Large, 358

2nd, 305

This measure of communal law protection was amplified from time to time by treaty and statute provisions designed to prevent or punish various types of trespass upon Indian land. These provisions were usually limited either to a particular tribe or reservation or to a particular type of trespass, e.g., trespass for purposes of trading, driving livestock, stealing horses, and settlement. At no time has there been comprehensive legislation on the general problem of the protection of tribal property against trespass.¹⁸¹ The law on the subject is therefore a historical patchwork which can hardly be understood without reference to historical considerations.

A LEGISLATION ON TRESPASS

The early legislation, whether emanating from the United States,¹⁸² from the colonies,¹⁸³ or from the European powers,¹⁸⁴

¹⁸⁰ 9 How 228 (1830). A suit in trespass, brought by the individual occupant of tribal land against a non-Indian, was successfully maintained in *Peltosa v. Blacksmith*, 10 How 360 (1860).

In a case where a convicts under a congressional grant brought a successful suit in ejectment, a state court against the local Indian superintendent, the United States General held that the suit was founded on that judgment did not give the convicts legal possession of the land and that the plaintiff was an intruder who could be removed by federal authorities under R. S. 32118, and said:

. . . the tribe hold the reservation, not under the treaty, but under their original title, which is confirmed by the Government in agreement to the reservation. (See *Gauvin v. Nokelson*, 9 How 885.)

Thus it would seem that the title imparted by the acts of 1848 and 1858 was at that period, and has ever since continued to be, subject to the Indian right of occupancy in said tribe, the enjoyment of which right, moreover, is assured thereby by the Government by solemn treaty stipulations. . . . (P. 873)

New Pence Reservation—Claim of W. G. Langford, 14 Op. A. G. 508 (1875), decision reaffirmed in 17 Op. A. G. 808 (1882), and 20 Op. A. G. 42 (1891), the latter case holding that Langford held "nothing but a naked title" (p. 47, per Mr. Just. S. O.), which could not be invoked to prevent allotment. "What is the Indian right of occupancy? It is the right to enjoy the land forever with the right of alienation limited to one alienee, the United States, or to such persons as the United States, in its capacity of guardian over the Indians, may permit." (P. 48.)

¹⁸¹ The nearest approach to such general legislation was legislation authorizing Indian Service officials, with the aid of the military, "to remove from the Indian country all persons found therein contrary to law." See Act of June 8, 1864, sec. 10, 4 Stat. 720, 723, D. C. 9147, 25 U. S. 220, republished in Act of May 31, 1894, 48 Stat. 387. And see *United States v. Nelson*, 170 Fed. 391, 298-299 (D. C. Neb. 1876).

¹⁸² Reference to legislation of the United States on this subject under the Articles of Confederation is found in 18 Op. A. G. 285, 288-287 (1885).

imposed and to create new possessory rights, but to recognize existing rights inherent in the Indian nations. This recognition took the form of (a) declining the right or intention to interfere with the action of the Indian tribes, in their own territories, in excluding or removing intruders, or (b) establishing forms of civil or criminal proceedings in non-Indian courts against such intruders. Thus, we find in many of the early treaties, provisions recognizing the right of the Indian tribes to proceed against trespassers in accordance with their own laws and customs "which, at times, antedated the discovery of America by Europeans and applied, originally, only to intruders from other Indian tribes.

The historic source of tribal possessory right is a matter of note that antiquarian interest, since even today the limitations upon the right depend in part upon its source. Perhaps the clearest authoritative analysis of the basis and origin of tribal possessory right is that given in the case of *Bute v. Wright*.¹⁸⁵

The authority of the Creek Nation to prescribe the terms upon which noncitizens may transact business within its borders did not have its origin in act of Congress, treaty, or agreement of the United States. It was one of the inherent and essential attributes of its original sovereignty. It was a natural right of that people, indispensable to its autonomy as a distinct tribe or nation, and it must remain an attribute of its governmental authority by the acquiescence of the nation itself or by the superior power of the people if it is taken from it. Neither the authority nor the power of the United States to license its citizens to trade in the Creek Nation, with or without the consent of that tribe, is in issue in this case, because the complainants have no such license. The plenary power and lawful authority of the government of the United States, by treaty, by act of Congress or by the acquiescence of the government of the Creek Nation every vestige of its original or acquired governmental authority and power may be admitted, and for the purposes of this decision are here conceded. The fact remains nevertheless that every original attribute of the government of the Creek Nation still exists intact which has not been destroyed or limited by act of Congress, or by the contract of the Creek tribe itself. (17, 550)

The proposition that a tribe needs no grant of authority from the Federal Government in order to exercise its inherent power of excluding trespassers has been repeatedly affirmed by the Attorney General.¹⁸⁶ It is against the background of this recognition of tribal power that the course of federal legislation must be viewed. Thus viewed, legislative prohibitions against trespass on Indian land are seen as implementing the assumed international obligations of the United States.¹⁸⁷

The early Indian Intercourse Acts, culminating in the Act of June 8, 1834,¹⁸⁸ dealt with five distinct types of trespassers: (1) trespassers seeking to trade with Indians; (2) trespassers

¹⁸⁵ *Preston v. Brodhead*, 1 Wheat 115, 121 (1818).

¹⁸⁶ See *United States v. Eitcha*, 17 How 525 (1854) (dealing with the Act of March 8, 1853, 9 Stat. 681).

¹⁸⁷ Treaty of January 21, 1788 with the Winneton, Delaware, Chippewa, and Ottawa Nations, Art. V, 7 Stat. 10, 17; Accord, Art. VII of Treaty of January 31, 1788, with the Shawanoe Nation, 7 Stat. 26, and see Chapter 3, sec. 3D (1).

¹⁸⁸ 18 Fed. 947 (C. C. A. 9, 1906), app. diam 208 U. S. 690 (1906). "So long as a tribe exists and remains in possession of its lands, its title and possession are sovereign and exclusive, and there exists no authority to enter upon their lands, for any purpose whatever, without their consent." . . . 1 Op. A. G. 405, 408 (1821).

See to the same effect, 17 Op. A. G. 134 (1887); 18 Op. A. G. 84 (1884). "See, for example, Art. 7 of Treaty of August 7, 1790, with Creek Nation, 7 Stat. 35, 37; Art. 2 of Treaty of October 8, 1818, with Delaware, 7 Stat. 188.

¹⁸⁹ Act of July 23, 1790, 1 Stat. 187; Act of March 1, 1790, 1 Stat. 239; Act of May 10, 1790, 1 Stat. 489; Act of March 8, 1790, 1 Stat. 748; Act of March 30, 1802, 2 Stat. 130; Act of June 8, 1834, 4 Stat. 720.

committing injuries against Indians, (3) trespassers settling on Indian lands, (4) trespassers driving livestock upon Indian lands, and (5) trespassers hunting or trapping game on Indian lands.

Section 8 of the first Indian Intercourse Act,¹²² approved by President Washington on July 22, 1790, provided for the punishment of any person found in the Indian country "with such merchandise in his possession as are usually vendible to the Indians without a license first had and obtained," and this provision, with many modifications,¹²³ remains the law to this day. Section 8 of the same act¹²⁴ contained a further provision making it an offense for any inhabitant of the United States to "go into any town, settlement, or territory belonging to any nation or tribe of Indians and . . . there commit any crime upon, or trespass against the person or property of any peaceable and friendly Indian or Indians, which, if committed within the jurisdiction of any state, or within the jurisdiction of either of said districts, against a citizen or white inhabitant thereof, would be punishable by the laws of such state or district." This provision was likewise incorporated with minor modifications in subsequent statutes.¹²⁵

The first Indian Intercourse Act was temporary, to continue "in force for the term of two years, and from thence to the end of the next session of Congress, and no longer."¹²⁶

The second Intercourse Act, that of March 1, 1793,¹²⁷ introduced a new provision of importance. Section 5 of that act provided:

And be it further enacted, That if any such citizen or inhabitant shall make a settlement on lands belonging to any Indian tribe, or shall survey such lands, or designate their boundaries, by making trees, or other ways for the purpose of settlement, he shall forfeit a sum not exceeding one thousand dollars, not less than one hundred dollars and unless imprisonment not exceeding twelve months, in the discretion of the court, before whom the trial shall be. And if shall, moreover, be lawful for the President of the United States, to take such measures, as he may judge necessary, to remove from lands belonging to any Indian

tribe, any citizens or inhabitants of the United States, who have made, or shall hereafter make, or attempt to make a settlement thereon. (P. 589)

The reference to "lands belonging to any Indian tribe" was amplified in later legislation to refer to "lands belonging, or seemed, or granted by treaty with the United States to any Indian tribe."¹²⁸ Various other minor modifications are found in the language of this provision, but in essence it sets forth the present-day law on the subject.

The second Indian Intercourse Act, like the first, was a temporary act, to continue "in force, for the term of two years, and from thence to the end of the then next session of Congress, and no longer."¹²⁹

The third Indian Intercourse Act, that of May 10, 1796,¹³⁰ dealt for the first time with two new kinds of trespasser, the hunter and the ranger. Section 2 of that act provided:

And be it further enacted, That if any citizen of, or other person resident in the United States, on either of the territorial districts, of the United States, shall cross over, or go within the said boundary line, to hunt, or in any wise destroy the game, or shall drive, or otherwise convey any stock of horses or cattle to range, on any lands allotted or secured by treaty with the United States, to any Indian tribe, he shall forfeit a sum not exceeding one hundred dollars, or be imprisoned not exceeding six months.

These provisions, reaffirmed and made permanent in the second version of the fifth Indian Intercourse Act,¹³¹ were subsequently separated and elaborated in the Act of June 30, 1834,¹³² which was a comprehensive statute on Indian relations.

Sec. 8. And be it further enacted, That if any person, other than an Indian, shall, within the limits of any tribe with whom the United States shall have existing treaties, hunt, or trap, or take and destroy, any peltries or game, except for subsistence in the Indian country, such person shall forfeit the sum of five hundred dollars, and forfeit all the traps, guns, and ammunition in his possession, used or procured to be used for that purpose, and peltries so taken. (P. 780)

Sec. 9. And be it further enacted, That if any person shall drive, or otherwise convey any stock of horses, mules, or cattle, to range and feed on any land belonging to any Indian or Indian tribe, without the consent of such tribe, such person shall forfeit the sum of one dollar for each animal of such stock. (P. 780)

The last of these provisions, which is still in force,¹³³ has been interpreted to cover only the case where cattle are "driven" to the reservation, or to the vicinity of the reservation.¹³⁴ It has been held that sheep are a "cattle" within the meaning of this section.¹³⁵

Following the 1834 act, Congress provided for the protection of Indian lands against trespass in various other statutes. Thus, the Act of July 20, 1837,¹³⁶ entitled "An Act to establish Peace with certain Hostile Indian Tribes" provided that "all the Indian tribes now occupying territory east of the Rocky mountains, not now peacefully residing on permanent reservations under treaty stipulations" should be offered reservations. The In-

¹²² Act of July 22, 1790, 1 Stat. 137.

¹²³ Act of March 1, 1793, 1 Stat. 829 ("without lawful license"), Act of May 10, 1796, 1 Stat. 460, March 3, 1790, 1 Stat. 743, March 30, 1802, 2 Stat. 180, ("That no such citizen, or other person, shall be permitted to reside at any of the towns, or hunting camps of any of the Indian tribes as a trader without a license"), Act of June 30, 1834, 4 Stat. 720 ("That any person other than an Indian who shall attempt to reside in the Indian country as a trader or to introduce goods, or to trade therein without such license, shall forfeit . . ."), Act of July 31, 1834, 22 Stat. 170, R. S. § 2128, 22 U. S. C. 204 ("Any person other than an Indian of the full blood who shall attempt to reside in the Indian country, or on any Indian reservation, as a trader, or to introduce goods, or to trade therein, without such license, shall forfeit . . ."). *Pro vided*, That this section shall not apply to any person residing among or trading with . . . the five civilized tribes, residing in said Indian country, and belonging to the Union Agency therein).

¹²⁴ Act of July 22, 1790, 1 Stat. 137, 138. See Chapter 1, sec. 2.

¹²⁵ Act of March 1, 1793, 1 Stat. 829 ("and shall then commit murder, robbery, larceny, trespass or other crime, against the person or property of any friendly Indian or Indians"), Act of May 19, 1796, 1 Stat. 460, and Act of March 3, 1790, 1 Stat. 713, March 30, 1802, 2 Stat. 180 ("and shall then commit murder, robbery, larceny, trespass or other crime, against the person or property of any peaceable and friendly Indian, which would be punishable, if committed within the jurisdiction of any state, against a citizen of the United States or, unmentioned by law, and with a hostile intention, shall be found on any Indian land"), Act of June 30, 1834, 4 Stat. 720 ("That where, in the commission, by a white person, of any crime, offense, or misdemeanor, within the Indian country, the property of any friendly Indian is taken, injured or destroyed, and a conviction is had for such crime, offense, or misdemeanor, the person so convicted shall be sentenced to pay to such friendly Indian to whom the property may belong, or, where pecuniary may be injured, a sum equal to twice the just value of the property so taken, injured, or destroyed"), *of R. S. § 2145, 25 U. S. C. 212 (imposing penalty for offense of arson in Indian country), R. S. § 2142, 25 U. S. C. 218 (imposing penalty for crime of assault in Indian country)*.

¹²⁶ Sec. 7.

¹²⁷ 1 Stat. 820. See Chapter 4, sec. 3.

¹²⁸ Act of March 3, 1793, sec. 5, 1 Stat. 743, 745.

¹²⁹ Act of March 1, 1793, sec. 15, 1 Stat. 829, 832.

¹³⁰ 1 Stat. 460. See Chapter 4, sec. 2.

¹³¹ Act of March 30, 1834, 2 Stat. 180, 141. See Chapter 4, sec. 3.

¹³² 4 Stat. 720. See Chapter 4, sec. 6.

¹³³ R. S. § 2117, 25 U. S. C. 179.

¹³⁴ *Treppens on Indian Lands*, 18 Op. A. G. 508 (1880).

¹³⁵ *John Sheep Co. v. United States*, 259 U. S. 159 (1920), *aff'd* 260 Fed. 981 (C. C. A. 9, 1915), and 254 Fed. 50 (C. C. A. 9, 1915), *Driving Stock on Indian Lands*, 18 Op. A. G. 91 (1884), *United States v. McIntosh*, 26 Fed. Cas. No. 10744 (D. C. Ore. 1872), holding that "the word cattle includes both sheep and all other animals used by man for labor or food."

¹³⁶ 15 Stat. 17.

lands' possessory right in such reservations was secured by the following statutory language:

"... Said district in districts, when so selected, and the selection approved by Congress, shall be and remain permanent homes for said Indians to be located thereon, and no person(s) and members of said tribes shall ever be permitted to enter therein without the permission of the tribes, not reserved, except officers and employees of the United States" (See 2.)

B. CONGRESSIONAL RESPECT FOR TRIBAL POSSESSION

In addition to the foregoing statutes prohibiting various forms of trespass upon Indian lands, there is a considerable body of legislation which extends recognition to tribal possession by exempting tribal lands from provisions designed to open up the public domain to settlement.¹⁰ Thus, for example, the Act of March 3, 1853,¹¹ relating to public lands in California, protects from settlement "any tract of land in the occupation of any Indian tribe."¹²

The Act of May 17, 1884,¹³ relating to Alaska contains a special proviso:

"Provided, That the Indians or other persons in said district shall not be disturbed in the possession of any lands actually in their use or occupation or now claimed by them, but the terms under which such persons may acquire title to said lands is reserved for future legislation by Congress." (P. 20.)

Protection of Indian possession is likewise the purpose of a provision in the Act of March 3, 1891,¹⁴ establishing a court of private land claims to determine land claims in former Mexican territory within New Mexico, Arizona, Utah, Nevada, Colorado, and Wyoming:

No claim shall be allowed that shall interfere with or overthrow any just and unquestioned Indian title in right to any land or place.

In the same spirit, grants of rights-of-way were frequently conditioned upon a special undertaking by the grantee that it

"... will neither aid, advise, nor assist in any effort looking towards the changing or extinguishing the present tenure of the Indians in their remaining lands, and will not attempt to secure from the Indian tribes any further grant of land or its occupancy than is hereinbefore provided. Provided, That any violation of the conditions mentioned in this section shall operate as a forfeiture of all the rights and privileges of said railway company under this act."¹⁵

In 1888 the Attorney General was able to say,¹⁶

"... it was and is a well-known policy of the Government not to sell lands until the Indian title of occupancy should be extinguished."

Even where Congress has not specifically provided for the protection of Indian possessory rights, the courts have read an implicit qualification into general legislation relating to the public domain, in order to protect such possession.

¹⁰ Act of March 2, 1907, 34 Stat. 1220 (permission to landowners or entrymen to complete tracts at expense of reservation limited so as to exclude "lands in the use or occupation of any Indian having tribal rights on the Custer Allotment Reservation").

¹¹ 10 Stat. 244.

¹² Accord, Act of March 26, 1891, 18 Stat. 37.

¹³ 23 Stat. 24, see chapter 21, sec. 8C.

¹⁴ 26 Stat. 851.

¹⁵ Act of September 1, 1888, 25 Stat. 452, 457 (Shoshone and Bannock); Act of March 3, 1897, 34 Stat. 545; Act of October 1, 1890, 26 Stat. 603.

¹⁶ 19 Op. A. G. 117 (1888).

Thus, in the case of *Spading v. Chaudler*, the Supreme Court declared:¹⁷

"... The general grant of authority conferred upon the President by the act of March 1, 1857, c. 32, § 8 Stat. 16, to set apart certain portions of lands within the land district then created as were necessary for public uses, cannot be considered as empowering him to interfere with reservations existing by force of a treaty" (P. 405.)

Likewise, school land grants have never been made in disregard of tribal possessory rights.¹⁸ In the absence of an expressed intent of Congress to the contrary, railroad land grants have not affected tribal possessory rights.¹⁹ Even where Congress expressly stipulated to extinguish Indian title, railroad land grants conveyed only the unceded fee, subject to tribal occupancy and possessory rights.²⁰ Only where it was necessary to give migrants possessory rights to parts of the public domain, has Congress ever granted tribal lands in disregard of tribal possessory rights.²¹

C. WHO MAY PROTECT TRIBAL POSSESSION

The protection of tribal possessory rights has been recognized as a proper function of the Army,²² of the Interior Department,²³ and of the Department of Justice.²⁴ At the same time, the interest of the tribes themselves in self-protection has been recognized repeatedly in statutes.²⁵

Although primary concern for the protection of Indian lands against trespass rests with the Indian tribe and the Federal Government, it has been held that the individual states have a legitimate interest in protecting Indian possessions against trespass. Thus, it was early held by the Supreme Court that state laws protecting Indian lands against trespass were valid, and state decisions thereon entitled to great weight.²⁶ Where a state failed to hind included land reserved for Indians under state law, it was held that such patent was void as to the erroneously

¹⁷ 100 U. S. 804, 405 (1890). Accord, *United States v. McIntosh*, 101 F. 2d 610 (C. C. A. 9, 1919) *rev'd McIntosh v. United States*, 22 F. Supp. 316 (D. C. Mont. 1937); *United States v. Minnesota*, 270 U. S. 181 (1926). But cf. *United States v. Fortunate-March Valley Irr. Co.*, 213 Fed. 601 (C. C. A. 9, 1914), aff'd 207 F.2d 416 (D. C. Idaho 1918). And see *Hot Springs, Ariz.*, 92 U. S. 698, 704-704 (1875) (Indian possession protected against settlers by denying them preemption claims).

¹⁸ See *People v. Wetherby*, 95 U. S. 517, 526 (1877); *Washington v. Hitchcock*, 201 U. S. 202 (1906).

¹⁹ *Leavenworth, etc. R. R. Co. v. United States*, 93 U. S. 793 (1875); *Northern Pac. Ry. Co. v. United States*, 227 U. S. 305 (1913).

²⁰ *Smith v. Northern Pac. Railroad*, 110 U. S. 8, 55 (1883).

²¹ *Quezon Donation Act of September 27, 1850*, c. 76 sec. 4, § 9 Stat. 496, 497, 498; *New Mexico Donation Act of July 22, 1854*, c. 103, sec. 2, 10 Stat. 808; *Homestead Act of May 20, 1862*, c. 75, 12 Stat. 392.

²² See *United States ex rel. Gordon v. Crook*, 170 Fed. 301 (D. C. Nebraska 1876).

²³ *United States v. Mallin*, 71 Fed. 682 (D. C. Nebraska 1895).

²⁴ See, for instance, Joint Resolution of March 8, 1879, 20 Stat. 488, superseded by Act of March 1, 1889, 25 Stat. 768 (restricting Attorney General to bring suit to quiet title); see 3, *Public Lands Act of June 7, 1924*, 48 Stat. 688 (discussed in Chapter 20, sec. 4). And see Chapter 10, sec. 2A(1).

²⁵ Thus, for instance, sec. 2 of the Act of June 28, 1898, 30 Stat. 495 requires the courts in the Indian Territory to make tribes parties to suits affecting their possessory rights "by service upon a chief or governor of the tribe" whenever it appears "that the property of any tribe is in any way affected by the issue being heard." See 4 of the Public Lands Act of June 7, 1924, 48 Stat. 689, expressly protects the right of the individual Pueblos to bring suit in vindication of their land claims. The right to protect tribal property against trespass, accrues only to the tribe whose land it is and not to Indians of another tribe who happen to be on the land. *Merchand v. United States*, 95 C. Cl. 409 (1900).

²⁶ *Dunford's Lessee v. Thomas*, 1 Wheat. 155 (1818); *Preston v. Brewster*, 1 Wheat. 115 (1816). See also *Dunford v. Wear*, 9 Wheat. 678, 677 (1824).

included Indian lands.¹⁴² The constitutionality of state legislation designed to protect Indian lands from trespass was upheld by the Supreme Court in *State of New York v. Dibble*.¹⁴³

In that case the court declared, *per Grier, J.*

The statute in question is a police regulation for the protection of the Indians from intrusion of the white people, and to preserve the peace. . . . The power of a State to make such regulation to preserve the peace of the community is absolute, and has never been surrendered. (P. 370)

D. EFFECT OF TITLE UPON POSSESSORY RIGHT

The protection which the Federal Government gives to tribal possession is not limited to the cases where title to tribal land is held in the name of the United States, but extends equally to lands where ultimate title is vested in the state. An illuminating analysis of this problem is found in a memorandum to the Assistant Attorney General dated April 29, 1945, regarding the Onondaga Reservation.¹⁴⁴ Common authority is cited to show that even where the United States does not own the ultimate fee in the land of an Indian reservation, its relation of guardianship to the Indian tribe carries the power and duty of protecting the Indian possessory right against condemnation proceedings or other infringements by the state.

As guardian of the Indians there is imposed upon the Government a duty to protect these Indians in their property, it follows that this duty extends to protecting them against the unlawful acts of the State of New York. (P. 222.)¹⁴⁵

Likewise, it has been held that protection of tribal property by the Federal Government is not forewarn where a tribe occupies under state law and thus achieves corporate capacity.¹⁴⁶

E. AGAINST WHOM PROTECTION EXTENDS

Tribal possessory right in tribal land requires protection not only against private parties but against administrative officers acting without legal authority and against persons purporting to act with the permission of such officers. Thus where Indians were induced by administrative authorities to settle on a given area and the area was designated as the "Old Winnebago and Crow Creek Reservation" on Indian office maps, it was held that such lands were a "reservation" within the meaning of a subsequent treaty which set "reservation" lands apart "for the absolute and undisturbed use and occupation of the Indians herein named, and for such other friendly tribes or individual Indians as from time to time they may be willing, with the consent of the United States, to admit amongst them." . . .¹⁴⁷ It was further held that a later Executive order of February 27, 1885, opening these lands to entry was invalid and inoperative.¹⁴⁸

It was likewise ruled by the Attorney General that an application for permission to construct a ditch across an Executive order reservation, without the consent of the Indians, could not

be legally granted by Interior Department officials, even though the ditch was supposed to be beneficial to the Indians. The Attorney General declared:

But the petitioners allege the reservation is not a legal one, and in consequence thereof the Indians for whom the reservation was made are only tenants at will of the Government. But the rights of tenants at will, so long as the landlord does not elect to determine the tenancy, are as sacred as those of a tenant in fee.¹⁴⁹

It has also been held¹⁵⁰ that the Federal Government is under an obligation to protect tribal lands even against fellow tribesmen.

The respect for tribal possessory rights shown by Congress and the courts has not always been shared by administrative authorities. In recent years, however, the Department of the Interior has slowly adhered to the view that a tribe may exclude from tribal property any nonmembers not specially authorized by law to enter thereon, that, having the right so to exclude outsiders, the tribe may condition the entry of such persons by requiring payments of fees, and that federal authorities, in the absence of specific legislative authorization, may not invade outsiders to enter upon tribal lands without tribal consent.

Indian possessory rights are enforceable against state authorities as well as against federal authorities.¹⁵¹ Thus, where a treaty between the United States and the Seneca Nation provided

The United States acknowledge all the land within the aforementioned boundaries (which include the reservations in question) to be the property of the Seneca nation, and the United States will never claim the same nor disturb the Seneca nation. . . . in the free use and enjoyment thereof, but it shall remain theirs until they choose to sell the same. . . . (Pp. 760-767)

the Supreme Court held that state taxation of tribal lands was inconsistent with the treaty and invalid.¹⁵² The court declared:

The tax titles purporting to convey these lands to the purchaser, even with the qualification suggested that the right of occupation is not to be affected, may well embarrass the occupants and be used by unworthy persons to the disturbance of the tribe. All agree that the Indian right of occupancy creates an indefeasible title to the reservations that may extend from generation to generation, and will cease only by the dissolution of the tribe, or their consent to sell to the party possessed of the right of pre-emption. He is the only party that is authorized to deal with the tribe in respect to their property, and thus with the consent of the government. Any other party is an intruder, and may be proceeded against as such under the twelfth section of the act of 30th June, 1834. . . . (P. 771.)

¹⁴⁴ Strat at Large, 780 (P. 771.)

The question of how far Indian possessory rights are protected against Congress involves a problem of constitutional law considered earlier in Chapter 5.

With the establishment of the right of Indian tribes to the protection of federal and state governments (as well as self-protection) against trespass, whether by private parties or by state or federal officers, it becomes pertinent to consider the exact extent of the possessory right to which this protection attaches.

¹⁴² Lemhi Indian Reservation, 18 Op. A. G. 888 (1887).

¹⁴³ 49 U.S. 380 (1885).

¹⁴⁴ See also Chapter 8, sec. 6C.

¹⁴⁵ Dunsforth v. Weir, 9 Wheat, 678 (1824).

¹⁴⁶ The New York Indians, 5 Wall 781 (1860). See Chapter 18, sec. 1-3.

¹⁴⁷ See also Chapter 8, sec. 6C.

¹⁴⁸ Dunsforth v. Weir, 9 Wheat, 678 (1824).

¹⁴⁹ The New York Indians, 5 Wall 781 (1860). See Chapter 18, sec. 1-3.

SECTION 11. EXTENT OF TRIBAL POSSESSORY RIGHTS

The extent of possessory right vested in an Indian tribe may differ in important respects from that of ordinary private possessory rights. Some of these differences run to the advantage of the Indian tribe, others, to its disadvantage.

Because an Indian tribe is a ward of the Government, it has been held that adverse possession under the statute of limitations does not run against an Indian tribe, even where title to the land is vested in the tribe and the tribe is incorporated under

state law.¹²⁶ This rule was slightly modified by Congress, with respect to the Pueblos of New Mexico, in view of the fact that for many years these Pueblos had enjoyed the right to sue and be sued under territorial law.¹²⁷ The compromise adopted in the Public Lands Act of June 7, 1924,¹²⁸ was to the effect that adverse possession might be established by proof of (a) "open, notorious, actual, exclusive, continuous, adverse possession of the premises, claimed, under color of title from the 6th day of January, 1912, to the date of the passage of this Act" together with proof of tax payments, or (b) such possession "with claim of ownership, but without color of title from the 10th day of March, 1889."

While tribal lands are, like other lands, subject to the federal power of eminent domain,¹²⁹ they are not subject to the state power of eminent domain except where Congress has specifically so provided.¹³⁰ The constitutionality of congressional acts con-

fering upon state or private agencies the power to condemn tribal land is established beyond question.¹³¹

Tribal possessory rights may, as we have already noted, be expressly granted by the statute, treaty, or Executive order establishing the right, and in this way made subject, for instance, to entry under public land mineral laws.¹³²

Beyond for special limitations and special advantages of the type above noted, tribal possessory rights are equivalent in extent to the possession rights of private persons.¹³³

Stat. 1290, authorizing condemnation of lands of Captain Grande Reservation by the City of San Diego, subject to the approval of the terms of the judgment by the Secretary of the Interior. Act of June 28, 1898, see 31, 30 Stat. 495, 498 (authorizing terms and entry in Indian Territory to condemn tribal lands).

¹²⁶ The extent and basis of this power is analyzed in Federal Mineral Domain (1910), Secs. 9 and 17N. See also Randolph, Eminent Domain (1891) see 30 and notes cited.

¹²⁷ See, e.g., *Op. Sol. I. D.*, M28184, October 10, 1935, holding that prospectors taking by claim on Porcupine Indian lands under public land mineral laws, must pay title fee surface use if claim was taken up after passage of Act of June 18, 1931, 49 Stat. 944 but not if claim was taken up prior to such act.

¹²⁸ See Act of July 1, 1902, 32 Stat. 500, granting to white settlers the value of improvements on lands occupied by them which were reserved for Indian use, showing Congress' assumption that the establishment of the Indian reservation wiped out the claims of the prior settlers. Accord, Act of June 3, 1874, 18 Stat. 555 (Alaska), Act of March 8, 1885, 23 Stat. 677 (Dark Valley). See also Act of August 4, 1886, 24 Stat. 876 (intended to extinguish all payments made to land office while entry on Indian reservation was subsequently cancelled). Cf. Joint Resolution, of February 8, 1887, 14 Stat. 436 (Nez Perce), Act of February 11, 1920, 41 Stat. 1459 (Sisseton), Act of March 8, 1926, 45 Stat. 1886 (Llane and Great Basins).

¹²⁶ *United States v. 7,562 Acres of Land*, 97 F. 2d 117 (C. C. A. 4, 1938), *United States v. Wright*, 53 F. 2d 390 (11 C. C. A. 4, 1931), *Memo v. Payson Band of Cherokee Indians of North Carolina*, 7 L. D. Memo 517, 523, 488, August 1, 1916. *Memo v. U. P. R.* 2d 117, 12 L. D. Memo 206, 210, January 14, 1928. Accord, *United States v. Gaudin*, 271 U. S. 482, 440 (1926), *United States v. Minnesota*, 270 U. S. 181, 106 (1926), *United States v. Randall*, 231 U. S. 28 (1913), *Hickson v. United States*, 224 U. S. 439, 458 (1912).

¹²⁷ See Chapter 30, sec. 4.
¹²⁸ 41 Stat. 638.
¹²⁹ *Cherokee Nation v. Northern Kansas Ry. Co.*, 185 U. S. 611 (1900), involving Act of 1900 (11 C. W. Ark. 1848) (interpreting Act of July 4, 1881, 23 Stat. 73).

¹³⁰ *United States v. Minnesota*, 270 U. S. 181 (1926), *United States v. Minnesota*, 270 U. S. 181 (1926), *United States v. Randall*, 231 U. S. 28 (1913), *Hickson v. United States*, 224 U. S. 439, 458 (1912); see Act of February 28, 1910, 36 Stat. 1018 (Alaska Cession); see Act of February 28, 1910, 36 Stat. 1018.

SECTION 12. THE TERRITORIAL EXTENT OF INDIAN RESERVATIONS

In determining the extent of Indian tribal lands, first importance naturally attaches to the treaty, statute, or other document upon which tribal ownership is predicated or by which it is defined. The fixing of boundaries of Indian reservations was a major part of early governmental policy in Indian affairs, as a means of securing peace between Indians and whites and among the Indian tribes themselves.¹³⁴ Both by treaty¹³⁵ and by statute¹³⁶ the United States has endeavored to settle conflicting claims and to resolve ambiguities in the definition of reservation boundaries.¹³⁷

Where the delimitation of tribal lands has proved to be of special difficulty, Congress has occasionally referred the determination of such boundaries to the Court of Claims,¹³⁸ or the Secretary of the Interior,¹³⁹ or has established a special tribunal to determine such questions.¹⁴⁰

In interpreting treaties and statutes defining Indian boundaries, the Supreme Court has said:

"... our effort must be to ascertain and execute the intention of the treaty makers, and as an element in the

effort we have declared that construction must be made to the understanding of the Indians in redress of the differences in the power and intelligence of the contracting parties. *United States v. Winick*, 188 U. S. 871. The present case involves no special degree of the principle."

Apart from the foregoing principle, the same rules apply to the resolution of ambiguities in reservation boundaries as are applied to similar ambiguities in other deeds or patents.¹⁴¹

It is presumed that the bed of a navigable stream is not conveyed to an Indian tribe but is reserved by the United States for the future state to be established.¹⁴² However, an intent to confer ownership rights upon the Indian tribe in such stream bed may be shown by the context of the boundary description,¹⁴³ and such intent appears definitely where territory on both sides of the river is reserved to the Indian tribe. As was said in *Donnelly v. United States*:¹⁴⁴ "It would be absurd to treat the order as intended to include the uplands to the width of one mile to each side of the river, and at the same time to exclude the river" (at p. 260).¹⁴⁵ Tide lands and beds of navigable streams which have been made a part of an Indian reservation

¹³⁴ See Chapter 3, sec. 8A(2). The fixing of intertribal boundaries was the chief purpose of certain treaties, e.g., Treaty of August 19, 1856, with Chippewas et al., 7 Stat. 272, sec. 5 Op. A. G. 81 (1848).

¹³⁵ See Chapter 3, sec. 8A(2).
¹³⁶ Act of March 8, 1875, 18 Stat. 476 (boundary between State of Arkansas and Indian country), Act of June 9, 1894, 28 Stat. 30 (Warm Springs Reservation), Act of June 6, 1900, 31 Stat. 672 (conducting tribal claims of Chickasaw-Chickasaw and Comanche, Kiowa, and Apache).

¹³⁷ To the effect that the parties to a treaty are authorized to determine its meaning, and to define boundaries which the terms of the treaty leave unclear, see *Leffinger v. Porter*, 14 Fed. 4 (1840).
¹³⁸ Act of January 9, 1926, 48 Stat. 780 (title to Red Pinecone Quarry), of Act of June 28, 1908, sec. 30, 30 Stat. 495, 518.

¹³⁹ Act of June 7, 1874, 17 Stat. 363 (Hewston and Wapshott).
¹⁴⁰ Act of March 8, 1885, sec. 10, 9 Stat. 581, 584 (California private land claims); Pueblo Lands Act of July 7, 1924, 48 Stat. 688, discussed in Chapter 20, see 4.

¹⁴¹ *Northern Pacific Ry. Co. v. United States*, 227 U. S. 356, at p. 392 (1911), aff'g 181 Fed. 947 (C. C. A. 9, 1911).

¹⁴² *Mingo v. Mingo's Lessee*, 9 Cranch 11 (1818) (holding that unilateral action of United States agents cannot give measure to treaty, which is a bilateral contract). See also 20 Op. A. G. 405 (1912) (Chippewas).

¹⁴³ *United States v. Holt State Bank*, 270 U. S. 40, 55 (1926), aff'g 294 Fed. 161 (C. C. A. 8, 1923).

¹⁴⁴ *United States v. Hudson*, 232 Fed. 841 (D. C. W. D. Okla. 1918), aff'd sub nom. *Donnelly v. United States*, 270 Fed. 110 (C. C. A. 8, 1920), app. dismissed 280 U. S. 753 (land to middle of navigable river included in Omare Reservation). Accord, *Becker-Elliott Oil & Gas Co. v. United States*, 270 U. S. 77 (1926), aff'g 270 Fed. 100 (C. C. A. 8, 1920), and 249 Fed. 909 (D. C. W. D. Okla. 1918).

¹⁴⁵ 528 U. S. 248 (1913).
¹⁴⁶ Followed in 351 U. S. 475 (1956) (Fort Berthold Reservation), *Memo Sol. I. D.*, July 5, 1959 (Owld Lake in Colville Reservation).

by treaty or otherwise³⁷ do not pass to a state subsequently created, as do public lands similarly situated.³⁸ Where the high-water mark is referred to in designating the boundaries of an Indian reservation, there is no implied reservation of tide lands.³⁹

The principles of international law applicable to boundary

³⁷ *United States v. Bayaudan*, 53 F. 2d 297 (C. C. A. 9, 1911) rev'd 40 F. 2d 830 (D. C. W. D. Wash. 1931) (land between high and low tide reserved for title, not allottees); *United States v. Romanus*, 255 Fed. 231 (C. C. A. 9, 1910). But cf. *United States v. Hutchinson River Boats Co.*, 246 Fed. 132 (C. C. A. 9, 1917).

³⁸ *United States v. Rosta*, 40 F. 2d 610 (D. C. W. D. Wash. 1930); *Taylor v. United States*, 44 F. 2d 531 (C. C. A. 9, 1930), Op. Sol. I D., M. 28130, March 31, 1930.

³⁹ *United States v. Salt State Bank*, 270 U. S. 49, 55 (1926), aff'd 274 Fed. 262 (C. C. A. 9, 1923); *Taylor v. United States*, 44 F. 2d 531 (C. C. A. 9, 1930), cert. den. 283 U. S. 820, *United States v. Ashton*, 170 Fed. 500 (C. C. W. D. Wash. 1909), app. dismissed *sub nom. Bid v. Ashton* 230 U. S. 604 (1911), without opinion.

disputes have been invoked in reaching the determination that an island once part of an Indian reservation remains so although it becomes attached to the opposite bank of the river through a sudden change in the stream bed.⁴⁰

In other cases local state law has been invoked to settle ambiguities,⁴¹ and it has been held that where, under Minnesota law, the title of the Indian owner stops at the water's edge, the ownership by an Indian to the title of the entire shore line of a lake will not disturb state ownership of the lake bed.⁴²

Errors in surveying boundaries fixed by treaties or statutes have occasionally given rise to tribal claims.⁴³

⁴⁰ *Shenone Island, Missouri River*, 19 Op. A. G. 230 (1895).

⁴¹ *United States v. Ladlow*, 4 F. Supp. 550 (D. C. N. D. Idaho, 1938).

⁴² *Memorandum* 1 D. December 19, 1916.

⁴³ See, for example *Creek Nation v. United States*, 302 U. S. 620 (1938), rev'd 84 C. Cls. 12. Other aspects of the case are considered in 293 U. S. 163 (1935) rev'd 77 C. Cls. 159 and in 87 C. Cls. 290 (1933).

SECTION 13. THE TEMPORAL EXTENT OF INDIAN TITLES

The question of when Indian possessory rights in a given tract of land come to an end, or, in technical terms, the question of the quantum of the tribal estate in land, has generally been raised in connection with such title as depends upon actual occupancy. The assumption that all possession of lands by Indian tribes is of an identical type has elsewhere been discussed and criticized and need not be reexamined at this point.⁴⁴

Within the diversity of tenures by which tribal lands are held, there undoubtedly exists a type of ownership that arises when the tribe becomes extinct or abandons the land. Although this circumstance is commonly cited as indicating a peculiar tenure by which Indian lands are held, an examination of the prevailing doctrines of real property law at the time when the theory of "Indian title" was first advanced, shows that there is nothing novel or peculiar about the legal justification or the practical significance of the doctrine. Under the feudal theory of English law, where the owner of land died without heirs or committed a felony, the land escheated to the Crown, or to the nearest lord. This right of escheat was not, strictly speaking, a form of inheritance but was a sovereign right superior to the property right of any landowner.⁴⁵ The right of escheat became less valuable, with respect to individual landowners, when the salutary right of testamentary disposition was extended to real property. An Indian tribe, however, could not, under British or American law, alienate its land without the consent of the Crown or the Federal Government. Therefore, the possibility that land would be left vacant when a tribe disappeared or abandoned the land was a real possibility and the rule of escheat served the same purpose that it served under early feudal conditions in England. Land held by a tribe in fee simple would be subject to escheat and it is unnecessary to assume any peculiarty of "Indian title" to explain this result.

Although technically the right of escheat was something entirely distinct from a possibility of reverter, there is ample precedent for confusing the two institutions.⁴⁶ Thus, although one might say with perfect accuracy that land held by an Indian tribe in fee simple would escheat to the United States when the tribe became extinct or abandoned the property, it became fashionable to refer to this incident as a possibility of reverter, rather than escheat. This use of language was not restricted to Indian tribes, but was applied, in the early nineteenth century, to all corporations under the doctrine that a corporation had

"only a determinable fee for the purposes of enjoyment. On the dissolution of the corporation, the reverter is to the original grantor or his heirs."⁴⁷ It was generally agreed that "corporations have a fee simple for the purpose of alienation,"⁴⁸ but this portion of the doctrine was, of course, inapplicable to Indian tribes.

If these observations are well taken, we should conclude that it makes little practical difference whether we describe an Indian estate as a fee simple absolute subject to the ordinary sovereign right of escheat, or call the Indians' estate a determinable fee with a possibility of reverter in the sovereign, or refer to "Indian title of use and occupancy."

The only point at which these various theories may perhaps diverge lies in the test to be applied to determine when land has been "abandoned."

In *Holden v. Joy*⁴⁹ the Indian estate in question was to be, according to the governing treaty, a fee simple, but the patent issued by the President included the condition "that the lands hereby granted shall revert to the United States, if the said Choctees become extinct, or abandon the same."⁵⁰ The Supreme Court rejected the argument that such abandonment took place by reason of (a) Choctee participation in the Civil War on the part of the Confederacy, or (b) an agreement whereby the Choctees allowed Congress to sell the land for their benefit. The Court held that the Choctee title continued until, by the agreement in question, title became vested in the United States. The Court further declined

Beyond doubt the Choctees were the owners and occupants of the territory where they resided before the first approach of civilized man to the western continent, deriving their title, as they claimed, from the Great Spirit, to whom the whole earth belongs, and they were unquestionably the sole and exclusive masters of the territory, and claimed the right to govern themselves by their own laws, usages, and customs.

Enough has already been remarked to show that the lands conveyed to the United States by the treaty were held by the Choctees under their original title, acquired by immemorial possession, commencing ages before the New World was known to civilized man. Unmistak-

³⁷ See sects. 5, 6, 10, and 18 of this chapter.

³⁸ See "Escheat," 5 *Encyc. Soc. Sci.* 591 (T. F. T. Phokett).

³⁹ Op. cit. note 181.

⁴⁰ 2 Kent Commentaries 282. And see 4 Thompson on Corporations, 3d ed., 1927, sec. 2465.

⁴¹ *Id.*

⁴² 17 Wall. 211 (1872).

⁴³ Quotation from patent 7612.

ably their title was absolute, subject only to the pre-emption right of purchase acquired by the United States as the successors of Great Britain, and the right also on their part as such successors of the discovery to prohibit the sale of the land to any other governments or their subjects, and to exclude all other governments from any interference in their affairs. (Pp. 214-211)

Again, the Supreme Court held in *Acute Indians v. United States*,²¹ that delay in the settlement of new lands did not constitute abandonment.²² On the other hand, the Supreme Court, holding that the Pawnee Indians did not own a large part of the city of Chicago, indicated as one basis for its decision the fact that the Pawnee Indians had, after conveying at least all the lands above the lake level, abandoned the district for

²¹ 170 U. S. 1 (1898) app. dism. 173 U. S. 401.

²² 19 *Op. Atty. Gen.* 100 (1866). (Holding that interest in original land continues until date of removal.)

more than half a century.²³ It appears to be settled law that actual removal of an entire tribe from one reservation to another, where such removal is voluntary, constitutes abandonment.²⁴

Although various tests may be found asserting that the title of Indian tribes is less, in point of temporal extent, than a fee simple, reliance upon such tests has proven extremely hazardous.²⁵ A realistic analysis of the cases suggests that the only clear distinction between "Indian title" and "fee simple title" lies in the fact that title in lands are subject to statutory restrictions upon alienation.²⁶

²³ *Williams v. City of Chicago*, 212 U. S. 114 (1917).

²⁴ *Harris v. Southern Pacific Railroad*, 110 U. S. 75 (1880); *Rhoys v. Shoshone Tribe*, 300 F. 2d 3 (C. C. A. 10, 1932), aff'd 55 F. 2d 690, cert. den. 285 U. S. 550. And see cases cited in sec. 4, supra.

²⁵ See, for instance the discussion of "waste" in *United States v. Cook*, 19 Wall. 501 (91) (1871), and numerous discussions based on this discussion which are noted in sec. 15 infra.

²⁶ See sec. 15, supra.

SECTION 14. SUBSURFACE RIGHTS

Whether the possessory right of an Indian tribe includes minerals depends, as does every other question relating to the extent of Indian possessory rights, upon the treaty, statute, Executive order or other document in issue of which upon which the right is based. Where a treaty, statute, or Executive order specifically provides that minerals on Indian land shall be reserved to the United States,²⁷ or where a statute specifies that title to land purchased from an Indian tribe shall not extend to mineral rights,²⁸ no question is likely to arise. So too, a treaty or statute may provide that the Indian tribe shall have specified rights of mining or quarrying in land belonging to the United States.²⁹

Questions as to the Indian right to minerals have generally arisen where nothing specific appears in the treaty, statute, or other document upon which the Indian claim is based, or where the Indian claim is based simply on aboriginal occupancy. Confirmation of the view that aboriginal occupancy may include subsurface rights as well as surface rights is found in the case of *Chouteau v. Johnson*.³⁰ A treaty provision by which designated lands were "set apart for the absolute and undisturbed use and occupation of the Shoshone Indians" was held to convey to the Indians title mineral, as well as timber, rights, in the case of *United States v. Shoshone Tribe*.³¹

Further analysis of the extent of Indian mineral rights is found in the opinion³² of Attorney General (afterwards Justice)

Stone rendered on May 27, 1924, with reference to the proposal of Secretary of the Interior Fall to open Executive order reservation lands to mineral entry under the laws governing minerals within the public domain. After analyzing the terms of the general mining laws, the Attorney General decided:

The general mining laws never applied to Indian reservations, whether created by treaty act, Congress, or executive order. *Quinn v. Caterdon Mining Co.*, 121 U. S. 381; *Kendall v. San Juan Mining Co.*, 144 U. S. 678; *Wadden v. Mountain View M. & M. Co.*, 87 Fed. 670; *Gibson v. Anderson*, 181 Fed. 99.

In support of this conclusion based upon the language of the general mining laws, the Attorney General presented an analysis of Indian mineral rights which may well be set forth in full, without comment, as a complete exposition of the subject:

If the extent of the Indian rights depended merely on donations, or on deductions to be drawn from descriptive terms, there might be some question whether the right of "occupancy and use" included any right to the hidden or latent resources of the land, such as minerals or potential water power, of which the Indians in their original state had no knowledge. As a practical matter, however, their question has been resolved in favor of the Indians by a uniform series of legislative and treaty provisions beginning many years ago and extending to the present time. Thus the treaty provisions for the allotment of reservation lands all contemplate the final passing of a perfect fee title to the individuals of the tribe. And that meant, of course, that minerals and all other hidden or latent resources would go with the fee. The same is true of the General Allotment Act of 1887, which implies expressly to executive order reservations as well as to others. Then, beginning years ago, many special acts were passed (with or without previous agreements with the Indians concerned) whereby surplus lands remaining to the tribe after completion of the allotments were to be sold for their benefit. In all these instances Congress has recognized the right of the Indians to receive the full sales value of the land, including the value of the timber, the minerals, and all other elements of value, less only the expenses of the Government in surveying and selling the land. Legislation and treaties of this character were dealt with in *Frost v. Waine*, 157 U. S. 46, 80; *Minnesota v. Hitchcock*, 185 U. S. 373; *Lone Wolf v. Hitchcock*, 187 U. S. 556; *United States v. Browder*, 128 Fed. 910, 913; and *Shree Co. v. United States*, 282 U. S. 159.

Similar provisions have been made in many other cases for the sale of surplus tribal lands, all the proceeds of all elements of value to go to the tribe. In a recent act for further allotment of Crow Indian lands (41 Stat. 761), the minerals are reserved to the tribe instead of passing to the allottees (Sec. 8), and moreover, unallotted lands chiefly valuable for the development of water power are

²⁷ See, for example, Art. III of Treaty of August 6, 1828, with the Choctaw Indians, 7 Stat. 290; Act of February 21, 1931, 46 Stat. 1202 (Pawnee Indians), passed in Op. Sol. I. D., M. 27050, March 7, 1931, and Op. Sol. I. D., M. 27050, May 7, 1931.

²⁸ Act of February 17, 1920, 41 Stat. 1180 (Alabama and Comanche), Act of June 22, 1930, 46 Stat. 1800 (Walker River), Act of June 25, 1908, sec. 1, 40 Stat. 1067, 1068, 25 U. S. C. 507 (Oklahoma).

²⁹ *Yankton Sioux Tribe v. United States*, 61 C. Cls. 40 (1926). In this case it was held that a treaty reservation of the right to quarry pipelime in a given area did not confer upon the tribe concerned a right of occupancy. The suit was brought under sec. 22 of the Act of April 4, 1910, 36 Stat. 260, 264, on the basis of the Treaty of April 19, 1868, 11 Stat. 741. The decision was reversed on other grounds in 272 U. S. 131 (1926).

³⁰ 10 How. 208 (1853). Of Joint Resolution of April 16, 1860, 8 Stat. 87, authorizing the President to determine whether Indian title to copper lands adjacent to Lake Superior was "yet subsisting, and if so, the terms on which the same can be extinguished." But of discussion of separation of surface and mineral rights under Spanish law, in Op. Sol. I. D., M. 27050, March 7, 1931.

³¹ 504 U. S. 111 (1938). *See Shoshone Tribe v. United States*, 85 C. Cls. 481 (1917); the argument *contra* will be found in a memorandum of the Assistant Attorney General dated December 8, 1917 (31 L. D. Memo. 468).

³² 34 Op. A. G. 181 (1924). This opinion follows that of Solicitor Edwards of the Department of the Interior (A.2892), dated February 12, 1924.

the treaty or statute establishing the reservation has referred to "Indian use and occupancy" or used some similar phrase. These questions were obviously complicated by the interpretations placed on language of the Supreme Court in the cases of *United States v. Cook*³¹ and *Pine River Logging Co. v. United States*.³²

In the former of these cases, timber standing on tribal land was cut by individual Indians, without the authority of the Interior Department.³³ The United States brought an action of replevin against the vendor, and the Supreme Court held that the United States was entitled to recover possession of the timber. The Court based its decision upon the argument that since the timber while standing is a part of the realty, standing timber cannot be sold by the Indians, and only timber rightfully severed from the soil can be legally sold.³⁴ Whether timber was rightfully severed depended upon whether its cutting resulted in improvement of the land or on the contrary, amount of waste. Since the facts of the case established the latter situation, the Court held that the possession of the vendor was illegal. The Court did not decide whether, in recovering the timber or its value, the United States was to hold such timber or timber in trust for the Indian tribe concerned, or whether such recovery was to accrue to the general funds of the United States Treasury.

In the course of its opinion, the Supreme Court, *per* White, C. J., declared:

These are familiar principles in this country and well settled, as applicable to tenants for life and remaindermen. But a tenant for life has all the rights of occupancy in the lands of a remainderman. The Indians have the same rights in the lands of their reservation. What a tenant for life may do upon the lands of a remainderman the Indians may do upon their reservations, but no more. (P. 304.)

The view thus expressed was confirmed by the Supreme Court in the *Pine River Logging Co. case*,³⁵ where an action in the nature of trover, brought by the United States against the vendors of unlawfully cut timber, was upheld by the Court. In the course of its opinion, the Court, *per* Brown, J., declared:

The argument overlooks the fact that the Indians had no right to the timber upon this land other than to provide themselves with the necessary wood for their individual use, or to improve their land. *United States v. Cook*, 10 Wall. 593, except so far as Congress chose to extend such right; that they had no right even to contract for the cutting of dead and down timber, unless such contracts were approved by the Commissioner of Indian Affairs; that the Indians in fact were not treated as *aut jure*, but every movement made by them, either in the execution or the performance of the contract, was subject to government supervision for the express purpose of averting the latter against the abuse of the right given by the statute. (P. 206.)

In the *Pine River Logging Co. case* (and probably in the *Cook case*) the Department of the Interior and the Department of

Justice apparently construed the decision as implying that the title concerned had no property interest in the timber or in the land recovered. In an opinion rendered in 1888, the Attorney General answered in the negative the following question presented by the Secretary of the Interior:³⁶

(1) Whether the Indians occupying reservations, the title to which is in the United States, have the right, in view of the opinion of the Supreme Court of the United States in the case of the *United States v. George Cook* (10 Wall. 593), to cut and sell for their use and benefit the dead and down timber which is found to a greater or less extent on many of the reservations and which will go to waste if not used? (19-104-105.)

Two years later the Attorney General ruled that where timber on land of the Flathead and Lac tribe was cut by trespassers, with the connivance of Indian Service officials, the timber should be sold by the Commissioner of the General Land Office, the proceeds to "belong to the Government absolutely."³⁷

This view was supported by the argument that, under the *Cook* case, the Indians have "the mere right to use and enjoy the land as occupants" and that, therefore, "the Indians have no interest in this timber." The Board of Indian Commissioners had protested immediately after the decision in the *Cook* case, against an interpretation of that case which would "prevent the Indians from cutting and marketing their timber," alleging that such a construction, particularly when applied to dead and down timber, "would prove not only a loss to the Indians, but an absolute damage to the United States."³⁸ In 1889 Congress enacted a statute authorizing the sale of dead timber on Indian reservations by the Indians of the reservation, under Presidential regulations,³⁹ thus recognizing an Indian possessory right but leaving its extent still uncertain.

In a later opinion of the Attorney General, it was held that the Indian occupants of an Executive order reservation were entitled to the proceeds of timber sales.⁴⁰

In the case of the *Rhodesian Indians v. United States*,⁴¹ the Court of Claims pointed out that the interpretation of the *Cook* case denying the validity of the Indian interest in timber was unnecessary and unprofitable. In the *Cook* case, it was pointed out, "The court decided that the members of the Oneida Tribe had no right to cut the timber on the land solely for the purpose of sale, that to do so was waste as in the case of the cutting of timber by a trespasser; and that the United States is the owner of the fee because the owner of the logs." The court further declared:

In that case two points were decided. First, it was decided by analogy to the law relating to the respective rights of life-tenant and remainderman, that the Indians have no right to cut the timber on an Indian reservation for the purpose of sale only, that to do so is waste, and that the

³¹ 10 Wall. 601 (1878).

³² 150 U. S. 275 (1902).

³³ Apparently the Interior Department took the position at that time that tribal timber must be sold by the Indian agent for the benefit of the tribe and that the tribe itself might give a valid permit for the cutting and marketing of timber. See Ex. Doc. No. 72, 40th Cong., 2d sess., vol. 2, July 6, 1868.

³⁴ As was said in the case of *Starr v. Campbell*, 208 U. S. 827 (1908), involving timber on allotted lands.

³⁵ It is alleged that the value of the land, exclusive of the timber, is no more than \$1,000. After the thousand dollar worth of timber has been cut from the land. The resultant upon alienation would be reduced to small consequence if it be confined to one-third of the value of the land and afterwards the title left to the untrained or unqualified disposition of the Indian. Such is not the legal effect of the patent. (P. 381.)

Accord: *United States v. Boyd*, 58 Fed. 547 (C. C. A. 4, 1897).

³⁶ See *op. cit.*, at 205.

³⁷ Timber on Indian Reservations, 19 Op. A. G. 194 (1888).

³⁸ Timber Unlawfully Cut on Indian Lands, 19 Op. A. G. 710 (1880).

³⁹ Letter from the Secretary of the Interior, House Ex. Doc. No. 61, 48d Cong., 2d sess., vol. 12, December 17, 1874. And of remarks of court in *United States v. Foster*, 25 Fed. Cas. No. 15241 (C. C. D. W. Mass. 1870).

* * * while, perhaps, there may be some question whether the Indians would have the right to commit waste, properly so called, upon the land, or to use the timber for the purpose of speculation, still there can be no doubt they would have the right to clear the land for cultivation; and, if so, it would seem, to sell the wood thus obtained from the land; and to say that they could have the right to cut and use the wood and timber for those purposes, and that they could not sell it to enable them to obtain necessary articles, such as nails and other materials for the construction of their buildings and fences, would seem to be making a very refined distinction and one not warranted under the circumstances of the case.

⁴⁰ Act of February 14, 1889, 25 Stat. 678, 25 U. S. C. 199.

⁴¹ State of Timber from Unallotted Lands on Indian Reservation, 29 Op. A. G. 289 (1911) (White Mountain Apache).

⁴² 25 U. S. C. 381 (1887), and 804 U. S. 111 (1888).

title to timber so cut vests in the United States as the owner of the fee of "timber land." Second, the Indians have an exclusive right of use and occupancy of unpatented timber, and the right to cut the standing timber during the whole period of such occupancy is not only for use upon the premises, but "for the purpose of improving the land or the better adapting it to convenient occupation of the right to sell all timber cut for the latter purpose." It is clear therefore that this decision did not hold that the government had the right to cut and dispose of the timber on Indian Reservations, or to sell Indian lands for its own use and benefit without accounting therefor to the Indian tribe. When a reservation is definitely set apart for an Indian tribe by treaty or statute, the Government has only the right and power to control and manage the property and affairs of the Indians in good faith for their betterment, but, as stated by the court in *Shoshone Tribe of Indians v. United States*, 290 U. S. 470:

Power to control and manage the property and affairs of Indians in good faith for their betterment and welfare may be exerted in many ways and at times even in deprivation of the persons of a treaty. *Lucas v. Hay's Hitchcock*, 187 U. S. 261, 364, 395, 398. The power does not extend so far as to enable the Government "to give the tribal lands to others, or to appropriate them to its own purposes, without rendering or assuming an obligation to render, just compensation" for that which would be an exercise of guardianship, but an act of confiscation. *United States v. Cook*, *supra*, p. 110, 113. ***

Government counsel argue here that *United States v. Cook*, *supra*, decided that the interest of the Indians in the reservation lands, and timber thereon is that of a life tenant and no more. In that case the court did say that "What a tenant for life may do upon the lands, or a tenant-at-will the Indians may do upon their reservations, but no more." But in this comparing the position of the Indians with that of a life-tenant for the purpose of stating what the Indians may or may not do on their reservations, we think the court did not intend definitely to hold that the interest of the Indians in the lands of their reservations is similar to that of a tenant for life. Such a holding would have been in conflict with the statement of the court after reviewing prior cases concerning the nature of Indian title, that the Indians have the right of use and occupancy of unpatented timber. We think also that the contention of counsel for defendant is inconsistent with the holding of the Supreme Court in the case at bar—that the power of the government to control and manage the property and affairs of the Indians in good faith for their betterment and welfare does not extend so far as to enable the government to give the land to others or to appropriate them to its own purposes. (Pp. 364-365.)

The decision of the Court of Claims, that the value of Shoshone lands taken by the Government must include the value of the timber thereon, was upheld by the Supreme Court on appeal,¹⁰⁰ and confirmed in the later case of *United States v. Klamath Indians*.¹⁰¹ Following this decision, Congress by special

statute directed the Secretary of the Treasury to credit to the tribal funds of the Chippewa Indians the amount of the judgment in the *Pine River Logging Co.* case, which had been erroneously deposited in the Treasury of the United States as public moneys, together with interest thereon.¹⁰²

It must, therefore be taken as settled law at the present time, that in the absence of specific language to the contrary the establishment of an Indian reservation for the use and occupancy of the Indians, confers to the Indians an interest in the timber of the reservation as complete as is the tribal interest in the land itself, that the cutting and alienation of such timber is subject to congressional legislation, and that the wrongful acts of individual Indians, vendors of timber or agents of the United States Government cannot deprive an Indian tribe of its interest in tribal timber, or of its right to receive the proceeds of timber cut and alienated without the consent of the tribe.

These views are supported by the course of congressional legislation relating to timber growing on tribal land. Congress has repeatedly enacted special legislation authorizing disposition of timber on various designated reservations providing always that the proceeds of such disposition should accrue to the benefit of the tribe concerned.¹⁰³

Apart from these special statutes Congress has enacted various laws of general application relating to the disposition of tribal timber, and providing that proceeds therefrom shall accrue to the benefit of the tribe concerned. Thus, section 7 of the Act of June 25, 1910,¹⁰⁴ reads:

That the timber living and dead and down timber on unallotted lands of any Indian reservation may be sold under regulations to be prescribed by the Secretary of the Interior, and the proceeds from such sales shall be used for the benefit of the Indians of the reservation in such manner as he may direct. *Provided*, That this section shall not apply to the States of Minnesota and Wisconsin. (P. 867.)

Again Congress, by the Act of July 3, 1926,¹⁰⁵ provided that the net proceeds derived from the sale of timber on Indian lands should be credited to the funds of the tribe.

Similarly, various treaties have recognized the Indian right in timber on tribal land by providing for payments to the Indian tribe when such timber was destroyed without tribal consent.¹⁰⁶ Many other treaties provide for the establishment of Indian nurseries, and these have been construed as evidencing an understanding that the Indians would own the timber on the reservation.¹⁰⁷

Further recognition of the two-way interest of an Indian tribe in the timber growing upon its land is found in statutory provisions reserving timber on allotted land for the benefit of the tribe,¹⁰⁸ or reserving tribal timberlands from sale, where other lands are offered for sale.¹⁰⁹

The action of Congress in exercising a large measure of supervision, through the Department of the Interior, over the disposition of Indian timber in no more a denial of the Indian

¹⁰⁰ 304 U. S. 111 (1938). Commenting on the Cook case, the Supreme Court declared, *per* Butler, J. (Read, J. dissenting):

United States v. Cook, *supra*, gives no support to the contention that in ascertaining the compensation to be paid to the Indians, the value of mineral and timber resources in the reservation should be excluded. That case did not involve adjudication of the scope of Indian title to land, mineral or standing timber, but only the right of the United States to replevin logs cut and sold by a few unauthorized members of the tribe. We held that, as against the purchaser from the wrongdoers, the United States' title's right of occupancy in property was not include ownership of the land or mineral deposits or standing timber upon the reservation, or that the tribe's title was the more equivalent, or, like, the title of a life tenant. (P. 118.)

The argument contra is presented in a Memorandum of the Asst. Attorney General, dated December 10, 1937, 1-2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100.

¹⁰¹ 304 U. S. 116 (1938). In this case the Court ruled: The claims declared that the district retained should, until otherwise directed by the President, be set apart as a reservation for the Indians and that the proceeds of the timber sales should be clearly not be deducted from the tribe's right of occupancy. That would be attributable to the timber was a part of the value of the land upon which it grew. (P. 126.)

¹⁰² Act of June 15, 1934, 52 Stat. 688.

¹⁰³ Act of April 25, 1874, 10 Stat. 87 (Monomoney); Act of July 6, 1879, 10 Stat. 74 (Klamath Indians); Act of June 17, 1892, 27 Stat. 52 (Klamath River Indian Reservation); Act of April 28, 1904, sec. 11, 33 Stat. 802, 804 (Flathead Indian Reservation); Act of June 5, 1906, 34 Stat. 218 (Kiowa, Comanche, and Apache); Act of March 28, 1908, 35 Stat. 613 (Monomoney); Act of May 20, 1908, 35 Stat. 436 (Spokane).
¹⁰⁴ 29 Stat. 856. Sec. 27 of this act provides for the sale of pine timber on ceded Chippewa Indian Reservation in Minnesota. See also 26 U. S. C. 190.

¹⁰⁵ 44 Stat. 890.

¹⁰⁶ Act of Treaty of March 9, 1865, with Omaha Tribe 14 Stat. 607; Act of Treaty of July 4, 1868, with the Delaware Tribe, 14 Stat. 798.

¹⁰⁷ *United States v. Smoot*, 26 Fed. Cl. (C. O. C. 1886) (Grand Ronde).

¹⁰⁸ Act of February 25, 1920, 41 Stat. 452.

¹⁰⁹ Act of May 27, 1910, 36 Stat. 440 (Pine Ridge Indian Reservation); Act of May 30, 1910, 36 Stat. 448 (Rosebud Indian Reservation).

interest in such timber than in the equally large measure of control over allocation of Indian lands; a denial of the Indian interest in such lands. On the contrary, the underlying purpose of such legislation, for many years, has been the protection of the interests of the tribe as a whole against overaggressive individual and generations needlessness of posterity.¹ It is believed that the first federal law establishing the principle of sustained yield timber production was the Act of March 28 1890,² relating to timber cutting on the Metometome Reservation.

Federal control over the disposition of tribal timber applies even where the tribe concerned holds the land in fee simple,³ which is a clear indication that limitations upon the disposition of Indian tribal timber are in no way inconsistent with a recognition that the full benefit of interest therein is vested in the Indian tribe.

The tribal possessory right in timber may be protected both by civil and by criminal proceedings. Actions in the nature of replevin,⁴ or trespass,⁵ or injunction⁶ suits have been brought in the United States, as already noted, where timber has been disposed of unlawfully. In addition, criminal sanctions have been applied.

Section 5589 of the Revised Statutes, making it an offense to cut timber on lands of the United States reserved for military or other purposes, was apparently the only statute on the books that might be construed to make unlawful cutting of Indian tribal timber⁷ a criminal offense, until June 4, 1888 when an amend-

¹ The Department of the Interior in General Forest Regulations dated April 21, 1896, 25 C. P. R. 91, states as among its objects the following:

The preservation of Indian timber lands on a perpetually productive basis by including selective protection, preventing their cutting in clear cuttings areas, and making adequate provision for new forest growth while the mature timber is increasing.

Regulation 6 provides for sale of timber only where the volume produced by the forest annually is in excess of that which is profitable at development by the Indians, or where the stand is rapidly deteriorating for various reasons, and then only after the timber to be sold has been inspected and the contract of sale approved.

² 51 Stat. 31. The question of whether the Department of the Interior has complied with this statute has been referred by Congress to the Court of Claims for determination. Act of September 3, 1905, 49 Stat. 1087, amended by Act of April 8, 1888, 52 Stat. 208. *United States ex rel. B. H. W. York*, 6 P. 2d 691 (App. D. C. 1923).

³ *United States v. Budd*, 83 Fed. 647 (C. C. A. 1, 1897).

⁴ *United States v. Cook*, *supra*, at 201.

⁵ *Pine River Logging Co. v. United States*, *supra*, at 203.

⁶ *United States v. B. H. W. York*, at 817.

⁷ See *United States v. Knapik*, 43 Fed. 64, 65 (C. C. W. 1890).

ment to this section was adopted which added to the section the words "on upon any Indian reservation, or lands belonging to or occupied by any tribe of Indians under authority of the United States."⁸ In 1900, this statute was incorporated, with slight verbal changes, in the Penal Code,⁹ as section 36. The provision in question, as subsequently amended, reads:¹⁰

§ 36. Whoever shall unlawfully cut, or aid in unlawfully cutting, or shall wantonly injure or destroy, or attempt to be wantonly injured or destroyed, any tree, growing, standing, or being upon any land of the United States which, in pursuance of law, has been reserved or purchased by the United States for any public use, or upon any Indian reservation or lands belonging to or occupied by any tribe of Indians under the authority of the United States, or any Indian allotment while the title to the same shall be held in trust by the Government, or while the same shall remain inalienable by the allottee without the consent of the United States, shall be fined not more than five hundred dollars, or imprisoned not more than one year, or both.¹¹

The validity of federal penal legislation in this field appears to be beyond question,¹² and its applicability to individual members of the tribe that owns the timber has been maintained even in an extreme case where the court was forced to say:

It is plain that by cutting trees on the reservation Knapik brought himself within the letter of the section as amended. He did not, however, cut the trees for sale or profit. To occupy and cultivate the tract allotted to him in severalty he needed a house and barn, and the trees were cut for the sole purpose of erecting such buildings upon his premises. It seems harsh to visit upon him the penalty of the statute for this act, but the court must administer the law as it finds it.¹³

⁸ 51 Stat. 108.

⁹ Act of March 4, 1900, 31 Stat. 1088. The Act of June 4, 1888, is included in the repealing clause, see 311.

¹⁰ Act of June 25, 1930, sec. 8, 46 Stat. 853, 857.

¹¹ This section is made inapplicable to the Osage Indians and the Five Civilized Tribes by see Act of the same act. Separate similar legislation relating to the Five Civilized Tribes is found in the Act of June 4, 1900, 31 Stat. 1061 as amended by the Act of January 21, 1905, 32 Stat. 774. See Op. Sol. T. D. 32 21251, April 12, 1927.

¹² *United States v. Knapik*, 171 Fed. 1011 (D. C. D. W. 1900).

¹³ *United States v. Knapik*, 43 Fed. 64, 65 (C. C. W. 1890); *Lakota v. United States*, 4 Okla. 400 (1897). In the latter case, the court held erroneous the conviction of a second Indian defendant who had removed and used tribal timber unlawfully cut by the first defendant.

SECTION 16. TRIBAL WATER RIGHTS

Whether water rights inure to a tribe and to what extent is largely a matter of judicial interpretation. The early treaties with the Indians seldom mentioned and never defined water rights. And yet, since the Indian economy was built at that time in part on fishing and later on agriculture, it was essential that a tribe be assured some right to the water within or bordering the reservation.

That the Federal Government had the power to reserve the waters flowing through the territories and except them from appropriation under the state laws had early been decided.¹⁴ Thus, when the question of tribal water right first arose the Supreme Court in the case of *Winters v. United States*¹⁵ held

that where land in territorial status was reserved by treaty to an Indian tribe, there was implicitly reserved for the Indians, and withheld from subsequent appropriation by others, water of the streams of the reservations necessary for the irrigation of their lands.

The reservation was a part of a very much larger tract which the Indians had the right to occupy and use and which was adequate for the habits and wants of a

¹⁴ *United States v. Rio Grande Irrigation Co.*, 174 U. S. 680 (1899), *United States v. Winans*, 196 U. S. 571 (1905), *see* 13 Fed. 72 (C. C. Wash. 1890).

¹⁵ 207 U. S. 581 (C. C. A. 9, 1905). Followed in *United States v. Powers*, 306 U. S. 527 (1930), *affg* 94 F. 2d 788 (C. C. A. 9, 1928), *note* 141 F. Supp. 155 (D. C. M. 1950), *United States v. Alafair*, 101 F. 2d 680 (C. C. A. 9, 1930), *see* *Statute v. United States*, 221 F. Supp. 310 (D. C. Mont. 1937); *United States v. Parkman*,

18 F. 2d 843 (D. C. Wyo. 1928); *United States v. Ishui*, 27 F. 2d 600, 911 (D. C. Idaho 1928); *United States v. Cedarvale Irrigation Co.* and *United States v. Dry Gulch Irrigation Co.* (Equity Nos. 4427 and 4413, 11 C. Utah, 1928—unreported); *United States v. Orr Water Ditch Co.* (Equity Docket A-8, D. C. Nev. 1926—unreported); *United States v. Morrison Canal Ditch Co.* (Equity No. 7788, D. C. Colo. 1931—unreported); *Anderson v. Brown-Kayser Lumber Co.*, 79 F. 2d 987 (Mont. 1938); *Omaha Irr. Co. v. United States*, 101 Fed. 826 (C. C. A. 9, 1904), *affg* 156 Fed. 123 (C. C. Mont. 1907); and complete *Stern v. United States*, 273 Fed. 98 (C. C. A. 9, 1921), *Mason v. Sims*, 5 F. 2d 205 (D. C. W. D. Wash. 1926), but cf. *United States v. Whitman*, 280 Fed. 277 (D. C. Ariz. 1910); *Byers v. Wa-Wa-Si*, 88 Ore. 517, 166 Pac. 121 (1917).

nomadic and uncivilized people. It was the policy of the Government, it was the desire of the Indians, to chain those lands, and to leave one a pastoral and civilized people.¹⁴ If they should become such the original tract was too extensive, but a smaller tract would be made quite without a change of conditions. The lands were not and, without irrigation, were practically useless. And yet it is contended the means of irrigation were deliberately given up by the Indians and deliberately accepted by the Government. (P. 701.)

This contention, the Court said, could not be accepted, especially in view of the rule that agreements with Indians are to be construed in favor of the Indians. The Court rejected also the further contention that the United States had repealed the reservation of water for the Indians by the admission into the Union of Montana, the State in which the reservation was situated. It would be extreme to believe the Court said, that Congress—

... took from them the means of continuing their old habit, yet did not leave them the power to change to new ones. (P. 577.)

The Winters decision effects a prohibition against the diversion of water from a stream above and outside the reservation mouth, as such diversion deprives the tribe of water necessary for the irrigation of tribal lands. In other words, these reserved rights are the property of the Indians to be protected by the Federal Government and no appropriation of water either under state or federal laws which reduces the amount of water in a stream within an Indian reservation below the amount necessary for irrigation of Indian lands is valid.

The Winters decision was thus followed in *Omaha Irr. Co. v. United States*.¹⁵

... This court affirmed the decree in the Winters case, holding that the United States, by treaties with the Indians on the reservation, had implicitly reserved the waters of Milk river to the benefit of the Indians on the reservation to the extent reasonably necessary to enable them to irrigate their lands, and that grantees and settlers on public lands outside of their reservation could not acquire, under the desert land laws of the United States or the laws of the state of Montana relating to the appropriation of the waters of the streams of that state, the right to divert the waters of Milk river to the prejudice of the rights of the Indians existing upon that reservation. ... The law of that case is applicable to the present case, and determines the paramount right of the Indians of the Blackfoot Indian reservation to the use of the waters of Birch creek to the extent reasonably necessary for the purposes of irrigation and stock raising, and domestic and other useful purposes. The government has undertaken, by agreement with the Indians on these reservations, to promote their improvement, comfort, and welfare by aiding them to become self-sustaining as a peaceable and agricultural people. The lands within these reservations are dry and arid and require the diversion of waters from the streams to make them productive and suitable for agricultural, stock-raising, and domestic purposes.

The doctrine enunciated in the Winters case as applied to reservations created by treaty was later recognized by the courts as applicable to reservations created by Executive order. In *United States v. Walker River Irrigation District*,¹⁶ the Circuit Court of Appeals had this to say

... The trial court thought *Winters v. United States* distinguishable, as being based on an agreement on treaty with the Indians. Here there was no treaty. It said that at the time the Walker River reservation was set apart, the Paiutes were at war with the whites, hence

no agreement between them and the Government was possible.

As to the Winters case, as in this the basic question for determination was one of intent—whether the waters of the stream were intended to be reserved for the use of the Indians, or whether the lands only were reserved. We see no reason to believe that the intention to reserve need be evidenced by treaty or agreement. A claim on an executive order setting apart the reservation may be equally indicative of the intent. While in the Winters case the court emphasized the treaty, there was in fact no express reservation of water to be found in that document. The intent or had to be arrived at by taking account of the circumstances, the situation and needs of the Indians and the purpose for which the lands had been reserved. (P. 730.)

The views expressed in the foregoing cases are supported by the course of congressional legislation relating to tribal rights in water. Congress has repeatedly enacted special legislation authorizing the construction of irrigation projects on various designated reservations, providing always that the Indians shall be supplied with water from the project.¹⁷

Again, in opening reservation land to mineral entry Congress has expressly excepted "lands containing springs, water holes, or other bodies of water needed or used by the Indians for watering livestock, irrigation, or water-power purposes."¹⁸ By the Act of March 7, 1928,¹⁹ Congress provided for the purchase of land with sufficient water right for the use and occupancy of the Tonto Band of Homeless Indians. When the Yakima Reservation was receiving less water than the amount to which it was entitled under the doctrine of the Winters case, Congress appropriated a sum of money for the purchase of an additional water right for the Indians.²⁰ To protect the water rights of the Indians of the Toos Pueblo, Congress has authorized the President to withdraw from entry lands within the watershed and to protect said lands from any act or condition which would impair the purity or the volume of the water flowing therefrom.²¹ Water from streams on the ceded portion of the Fort Hall Reservation necessary for irrigation of land under cultivation has been reserved to the Indians inasmuch as long as the Indians "remain where they now live."²²

Similarly, various statutes have provided for payment of compensation to be credited to tribal funds in the event Indian water rights are sold, appropriated or otherwise damaged.²³

Apart from the foregoing statutes Congress has enacted various laws of general application relating to the water rights of Indian allottees.²⁴

¹⁴ Act of January 1, 1889, 25 Stat. 649 (Papago Reservation), Act of January 14, 1899, 27 Stat. 417 (Unadilla Reservation), Act of February 10, 1902, 26 Stat. 745 (Unadilla Reservation), Act of February 15, 1889, 7 Stat. 436 (Yuma Reservation), Act of January 20, 1897, 27 Stat. 429 (Yuma Reservation), Act of March 6, 1900, 34 Stat. 53 (Yakima Reservation), Act of March 14, 1928, 45 Stat. 812 ("Provided further, That all present water rights now appurtenant to the ... and all water for the domestic purposes of the Indians and for their stock shall be paid and paramount to any rights or the district or of any property holder therein"), Act of March 1, 1890, 40 Stat. 921, 941 (Himah Reservation).

¹⁵ Act of December 10, 1926, 44 Stat. 922, of Act of August 20, 1922, 42 Stat. 822 (Aqua Caliente Band).

¹⁶ 15 F.2d 200, 207.

¹⁷ Act of August 1, 1914, 38 Stat. 582, 604.

¹⁸ Act of March 27, 1926, 45 Stat. 672.

¹⁹ Act of June 6, 1900, 31 Stat. 972.

²⁰ Act of August 28, 1935, 49 Stat. 808, Act of March 8, 1927, 44 Stat. 1370 (Choctaw and Chickasaw Indians), Act of March 22, 1908, 34 Stat. 80 (Colville Reservation), Act of January 12, 1893, 27 Stat. 417 (Unadilla Reservation).

²¹ Act of February 5, 1887, sec. 7, 24 Stat. 838, 890-991, Act of May 30, 1908, 35 Stat. 444, of Act of March 2, 1880, 25 Stat. 888 (pertaining to both allotted and tribal lands).

¹⁴ See sec. 28, infra, and see Chapters 2, 3, and 4.

¹⁵ 151 Fed. 829, 831-832 (C.A. 9, 1909), aff'd 166 Fed. 128 (C.C. Mont. 1907).

¹⁶ 104 F.2d 884 (C.A. 9, 1939).

A. TRIBAL RIGHT versus STATE RIGHT IN NAVIGABLE WATERS

The ownership by the United States of lands in territorial status extends to the lands underlying all bodies of water therein.¹⁰⁰ Where unreserved, the title to land underlying navigable waters is held in trust to a state upon admission into the Union, while title to the land underlying non-navigable waters remains in the United States.¹⁰¹

If navigable waters have not been reserved the tribe has but a right of use in common with citizens of the state.¹⁰² It becomes pertinent therefore to examine the criteria for determining whether such waters have been reserved to a tribe. Here again questions of intent and of circumstances surrounding the creation of the reservation are of paramount importance. Thus, in holding that the lands underlying the navigable waters within the Red Lake Indian Reservation passed to the State of Minnesota upon its admission into the Union, the Supreme Court said:¹⁰³

"We come then to the question whether the lands under the lake were disposed of by the United States before Minnesota became a State. An affirmative disposal is not reserved, but only that the lake and therefore the lands under it, was within the limits of the Red Lake Reservation when the State was admitted. The existence of the reservation is conceded, but that it operated as a disposal of lands underlying navigable waters within its limits is disputed. We are of opinion that the reservation was not intended to effect such a disposal and that there was none. If the reservation operated as a disposal of the lands under a part of the navigable waters within its limits it equally worked a disposal of the lands under all. Besides Aked Lake, the reservation lands included Red Lake, having an area of 400 square miles, the greater part of the Lake of the Woods, having approximately the same area, and several navigable streams. The reservation came into being through a succession of treaties with the Chippewas whereby they ceded to the United States their aboriginal right of occupancy to the surrounding lands. The last treaties, preceding the admission of the State were concluded September 20, 1854, 10 Stat. 1160, and February 22, 1855, 10 Stat. 1165. There was no formal cession apart of what was not ceded, nor an affirmative declaration of the rights of the Indians thereto, nor any attempted exclusion of others from the use of navigable waters. The effect of what was done was to reserve in a general way for the continued occupancy of the Indians what remained of their aboriginal territory, and thus to come to be known and regarded as a reservation. *Minnesota v. Illinois*, 135 U.S. 373, 389. There was nothing in this which even approached a grant of rights in lands underlying navigable waters, nor anything even done for a purpose to depart from the established policy before stated, of treating such lands as held for the benefit of the future State. Without doubt the Indians were to have access to the navigable waters and to be entitled to use them in accustomed ways; but these were common rights vested in all, whether white or Indian, by the only legislation involved in *Redford Co. v. Schenck*, 7 Wall. 272, 287-288, and *Beconomy Light & Power Co. v. United States*, *supra*, pp. 118-120, and emphasized in the Enabling Act under which Minnesota was admitted as a State, c. 93, 11 Stat. 363, which de-

clared that the rivers and waters bounding the State and the navigable waters flowing into the same shall be common highways, and forever free, as well to the inhabitants of said State as to all other citizens of the United States." 11p. 377-378.)

A similar result was reached in *Tucker v. United States*,¹⁰⁴ on the theory that since the Executive order creating the Quileute Indian Reservation made no express reference to the Quileute River as the northern boundary, no reservation of its waters was intended, nor any exception to the general policy of the Government to hold such property in trust for the future states.

Where a reservation is created after admission of a state into the Union, there is some question as to whether the unappropriated navigable waters within the reservation are reserved to the tribe. An affirmative answer would seem to deprive the State of an acquired right unless it can be said that the creation of the reservation serves as a notice of the appropriation of unappropriated navigable waters within its border for the use of the Indians.

Where California by statute classified a river as nonnavigable, it has been held that by the subsequent creation of a reservation the waters therein were reserved for the benefit of the Indians.¹⁰⁵

B. EXTENT OF RESERVED WATER RIGHT

It will be remembered that the Court in the *Winters* case decreed only that there was an implied reservation to a tribe of an amount of water reasonably necessary for irrigation and domestic purposes. There was left open the further question of whether the water right impliedly reserved for use for irrigation includes a flow of water sufficient merely to supply the needs of the Indians at the time of the creation of the reservation, or whether it includes a flow sufficient in quantity to irrigate all the irrigable lands of the reservation.

The policy which underlies the doctrine of implied reservation of water has been given effect by holdings that when an Indian reservation is set apart, the water right impliedly reserved is large enough to irrigate the entire irrigable acreage of the reservation.¹⁰⁶ In *Conrad Fur Co. v. United States*,¹⁰⁷ the court granted a right to a designated amount of water with leave to the Government to apply for modification of the decree at any time it might determine that its needs would be in excess of that amount. The District Court decision¹⁰⁸ shows clearly that the water right reserved was based on total irrigable acreage (p. 130) and increased need was anticipated only because of probable change in use of the land resulting from the Indians' progress in agriculture (p. 129). Likewise, in *Karem v. United States*,¹⁰⁹ where water was expressly reserved by treaty for irrigation "on land actually cultivated and in use," the court held that the water right reserved was not limited in quantity to the amount of water necessary to the irrigation of such portion of the Indian lands as were at the time of the treaty actually irrigated. The court said (p. 95):

"The purpose of the agreement was to induce the Indians to relinquish their nomadic habits and to till the soil, and the treaties should be construed in the light of that purpose and such meaning should be given them as will enable the Indians to cultivate eventually the whole of their lands so reserved to their use.

¹⁰⁰ *Shively v. Bowlby*, 152 U.S. 1 (1894); *Alvord Pacific Fisheries v. United States*, 248 U.S. 73 (1918), aff'd 249 Fed. 274 (C.C.A. 9, 1917).

¹⁰¹ *Danforth v. United States*, 228 U.S. 343 (1912).

¹⁰² *United States v. Holt State Bank*, 270 U.S. 49 (1926), aff'd 281 Fed. 102 (C.C.A. 8, 1928); *The James G. Swan*, 50 Fed. 108 (D.C. Wash. 1902); *Tucker v. United States* 41 F. 2d 53 (C.C.A. 2, 1900).

¹⁰³ *United States v. Holt State Bank*, 270 U.S. 49 (1926), aff'd 281 Fed. 102 (C.C.A. 8, 1928). It has been administratively held that

even in the *In re United States v. Holt State Bank*, the reservation of lands for the "use and occupancy" of the Chippewas had the effect of reserving to them the exclusive right of fishing in the waters of the Upper and Lower Red Lakes, a right which the State could neither deprive them of nor regulate. Op. Sol. I. D., M.28107, June 20, 1936. And compare *The James G. Swan*, 50 Fed. 108 (D.C. Wash. 1902).

¹⁰⁴ 44 F. 2d 83 (C.C.A. 9, 1900).

¹⁰⁵ *Danforth v. United States* 228 U.S. 343 (1912).

¹⁰⁶ *Conrad Fur Co. v. United States*, 151 Fed. 820 (C.C.A. 9, 1908), aff'd 158 Fed. 123 (C.C. Mont. 1907); *Shen v. United States*, 278 Fed. 93 (C.C.A. 9, 1921); Op. Sol. I. D., M.13340, May 13, 1925.

¹⁰⁷ *Id.*

¹⁰⁸ *United States v. Conrad Fur Co.*, 150 Fed. 128, 130-131 (C.C. Mont. 1907), aff'd by 151 Fed. 820 (C.C.A. 9, 1908).

¹⁰⁹ Op. cit. fn. 847.

The decision of the Circuit Court of Appeals in the case of *United States v. Walker River Irrigation District*¹¹ would seem to control the foregoing decisions. The court there held, in accordance with the Waters decision, that by the establishment of the Walker River Reservation in 1850 there was implicitly reserved water to the extent reasonably necessary to supply the needs of the Indians. However, in determining the quantity of water "to which the United States is entitled" the court held:

The area of irrigable land included in the reservation is not necessarily the criterion for measuring the amount of water reserved; whether the standard be applied as of 1850 or as of the present. The extent to which the use of the stream might be necessary could only be demonstrated by experience. (C 340.)

The court found from the record that about 1,900 acres were under cultivation as early as 1880, that this area had not been

substantially increased up to the time of trial, and that the number of Indians on the reservation was not increasing. Adverting to the master's finding that a demand for the cultivation of more than 2,100 acres, or a water right of 20,237 cubic feet per second had not been shown, the court concluded:

We are constrained to accept this estimate as a fair measure of the needs of the Government as demonstrated by seventy years' experience. (C 340.)

While lands were reserved in tribal status questions of water right were confined largely to whether particular waters had been reserved to the tribe. With the question of the placing of obstructions to tribal lands to subdivided lands there arose the question of whether the allotment, or a party holding under the allotment, was entitled to divert a part of the water reserved under the doctrine of the *Waters* case to the tribe. The problems to which this question always has been elsewhere discussed.

¹¹ 104 F.2d 111 (Ct. A. 9, 1939).

¹² See Chapter 11, sec. 7.

SECTION 17. TRIBAL RIGHTS IN IMPROVEMENTS

The extent of tribal possessory rights in improvements on tribal land raises two issues: (a) the demarcation of rights between the tribe and the individual member of the tribe who has made the improvements, or who resides on the improved land; and (b) the demarcation of interests between the tribe and third parties.

Of these issues, the first is an issue internal to the affairs of the tribe and therefore dealt with in accordance with tribal law and customs.¹³ Except as statute or treaty otherwise provides, the matter has been specially dealt with in several types of statutes and treaties. Perhaps the most common case in which the ownership of improvements must be determined arises in connection with the sale or cession of improved tribal lands. The earlier treaties generally provided that compensation for improvements was to be paid directly to the tribe,¹⁴ thus leaving to the determination of the tribe itself the question of whether any individual Indian should receive special compensation by reason of such improvements.¹⁵ A few treaties and statutes provide for payment by the United States to the member of the tribe who has made the improvements,¹⁶ and others leave

undecided the manner in which compensation for improvements is to be made.¹⁷ The early practice of making compensation directly to the tribe permitted adjustments between the tribe and the individual concerned, but made no provision for the future the case of tribal funds such adjustments became impracticable. When the Act of June 18, 1884,¹⁸ was adopted, containing a provision opening up the lands of the Papago Reservation, improved and unimproved, to appropriation by mineral prospectors, the requirement that damages should be paid "to the Papago Tribe for loss of any improvements on any land located for mining in such area as may be determined by the Secretary of the Interior but not to exceed the cost of said improvements," failed to do justice to the individual Indians deprived of their homes, gardens, and corals. Accordingly, following the referendum vote of the Papago Indians favoring the application of the Act of June 18, 1884, to the Papago Reservation,¹⁹ amending legislation was enacted providing that the individual Indians concerned should receive payment for improvements of which they might be deprived.²⁰

For many years it was the policy of the Government to encourage the improvement of tribal lands occupied by individual members of a tribe.²¹ The Federal Government, having encouraged such improvements, frequently provided, in disposing of improved tribal lands, that the individual Indian who had made or come to enjoy, the improvements should, if possible, receive the lands improved.²² Likewise an attempt was sometimes made to safeguard Indian improvements in making or reserving reservations boundaries,²³ and where lands were ceded provision was sometimes made for making improvements on retained or new

¹³ *Eich v. Thompson*, 5 Fed. T. 577, 93 S. W. 393 (1909), and see Chapter 7, sec. 8, and Chapter 9, sec. 5. In the absence of proved custom to the contrary, and where law, and statutes are silent, the Interior Department has taken the position that

The tribe does not own the improvements placed upon tribal land by or under the direction of individual members of the tribe. (Alonso B. I. D., October 21, 1918 (Alm Springs).)

¹⁴ Art. III of Treaty of September 30, 1810, 7 Stat. 100 (Chickasaw Nation); Art. V of Treaty of July 20, 1821, 7 Stat. 955 (Seminole and Shawnee); Treaty of February 8, 1821, 7 Stat. 949 (Menominee); Art. V of Treaty of February 24, 1811, 7 Stat. 148 (Seneca); Art. V of Treaty of August 8, 1881, 7 Stat. 853 (Shawnee); Art. V of Treaty of August 20, 1831, 7 Stat. 870 (Ojibwa); Art. III of Treaty of January 10, 1822, 7 Stat. 894 (Wyandotte); Art. IX of Treaty of December 29, 1825, 7 Stat. 478 (Cherokee); Art. I of Treaty of November 24, 1818, 7 Stat. 371 (Crows); Art. III of Treaty of May 20, 1842, 7 Stat. 680 (Seneca); Art. VI of Treaty of October 27, 1826, 7 Stat. 408 (Kaskaskia and Peoria); Art. VII of Treaty of January 4, 1846, 9 Stat. 821 (Crow and Seminoles); Art. V of Treaty of June 8 and 17, 1840 9 Stat. 868 (Pottawatomie, Chickasaw, and Ottawa); Art. IV of Treaty of June 3, 1854, 10 Stat. 1008 (Mandan); Art. V of Treaty of March 27, 1821, 11 Stat. 951 (Wyandotte); Art. IV of Treaty of February 5, 1850, 11 Stat. 608 (Mandan); Act of July 21, 1852, 10 Stat. 15 (Pottawatomie); Act of July 7, 1854, 10 Stat. 812 (Kaskaskia); Art. III of Treaty of March 11, 1865, 12 Stat. 1249 (Chippewas); Act of April 10, 1870, 16 Stat. 28 (Ojibwa).

¹⁵ Art. XII of Treaty of January 24, 1820, 7 Stat. 280, 288 (Crow Nation); Art. XIV of Treaty of January 13, 1825, 7 Stat. 670 (New York Indians); Art. III of Treaty of September 3, 1839, 11 Stat. 877 (Shawnee); Art. VII of Treaty of November 1, 1825, 11 Stat. 921 (Pottawatomie Band of Seneca); Act of May 8, 1872, 17 Stat. 56 (Kansas Tribe).

¹⁶ Art. VI of Treaty of December 26, 1864, 10 Stat. 1132 (Niqually); Art. VII of Treaty of January 26, 1863, 12 Stat. 938 (Kaskaskia); Art. VI of Treaty of January 31, 1875, 12 Stat. 698 (Mandan); Art. V of Treaty of June 10, 1858, 12 Stat. 1037 (Sawtooth and Wahpooton Bands of Sioux); Art. V of Treaty of November 15, 1861, 12 Stat. 1121 (Potawatomi); Art. VI of Treaty of June 28, 1862, 13 Stat. 623 (Kaskaskia); And of Act of July 27 of Treaty of October 18, 1848 with Menominee Tribe, 9 Stat. 632; Act of April 26, 1866, 14 Stat. 137 (Cherokee, Chickasaw, and Seminoles).

¹⁷ 46 Stat. 684.

¹⁸ See 98 Op. A. G. 121 (1904).

¹⁹ Act of August 26, 1887, 30 Stat. 862.

²⁰ Art. IX of Treaty of May 17, 1884, 10 Stat. 1069 (Ojibwa); Art. IX of Treaty of August 7, 1885, 11 Stat. 691 (Seminole and Crows); Act of May 16, 1888, 25 Stat. 180 (Omaha Tribe).

²¹ Act of March 24, 1882, 7 Stat. 860 (Crow); Treaty of February 18, 1858, 7 Stat. 420 (Ojibwa); see 6 of Act of June 6, 1900, 31 Stat. 672 (Fort Hall Indian Reservation); see 4 of the Act of March 1, 1901, 31 Stat. 848 (Cherokee).

²² Art. II of Treaty of February 8, 1838, 7 Stat. 969 (Omaha).

lands to take the place of those lost," or for having that portion of the title remaining on its original lands compensate emigrants for their improvements on such lands.⁴¹

The issue of possessory right in improvements that may arise between the title and third parties is an issue which depends not on the internal law and customs of the tribe but rather on the law governing the transaction under which the property in question has come to be recognized as tribal property. Certain statutes providing for the acquisition of land for the benefit of Indians specifically determine that the improvements thereon shall in some way be acquired for the benefit of the Indians.⁴² Under such statutes there is no question but that the Indians have the same right in the improvements that they have in the land itself.

Where the statute is silent, a more difficult question is presented. Thus, where, under the Act of February 13, 1829,⁴³ an improved lands used for agency, school, and other purposes were conveyed in the Yankton Sioux Tribe, the question was presented whether the buildings on such land thereby became the property of the Indian title. The Solicitor of the Interior Department, answering this question in the affirmative declared:

The use of the term "conveyed" implies that the purpose of Congress was to restore to the Indians the title which they held prior to the cession of 1825, that is, the Indian title of occupancy and use, the United States still retaining the title in fee. But the Indian title of use and occupancy is as sacred as the fee title of the sovereign, *United States v. Cook* (10 Wall 591), and the Indians have the full hereditary ownership with all the rights incident thereto. See 34 Op. Atty. Gen. 177. Whether the ownership of the Indians extends to the buildings upon the lands is essentially a question of what was intended and where that intention is not otherwise shown, it has been held that the Government will be deemed to have assented that its conveyance be construed according to the law of the State in which the land lies. See in this connection *Oklahoma v. Texas* (235 U.S. 574, 587). The act of 1920 contains nothing to indicate any intention upon the part of the Government to retain ownership of the buildings. They are neither exempted nor reserved in the absence of such an exception or reservation, the rule is universal that the buildings are part of and pass with the land. *Isbani v. Morgan* (9 Conn. 374, 23 Am. Dec. 361); *Oreston v. New Bedford* (250 Mass. 894, 96 N.E. 1332); *Hale McFall Co. v. Hudson* (108 Or. 626, 193 P. 902); *Habes v. Scott* (222 Pac. 170); *Schultz v. Ferguson* (231 N.W. 358). Under this rule, the grant to the Indians carried with it the buildings upon the lands.

⁴¹ Art. VII of Treaty of November 6, 1838, 7 Stat. 560 (Miamies). Art. I of Treaty of January 22, 1835, 10 Stat. 1118 (Oregon Bands), and Art. III of Treaty of February 27, 1855, 10 Stat. 1162 (Cherokees). Art. II of Treaty of June 6, 1855, 14 Stat. 647 (New Peace). Treaty of May 6, 1858, 7 Stat. 814 (Cherokees).

⁴² Art. 6 of Treaty of May 20, 1842, with Seneca Nation, 7 Stat. 561. Act of July 1, 1892, 27 Stat. 61 (Vireon Indians). The Act of March 2, 1889, 25 Stat. 1013 (United Provinces and Mimms) provides that certain lands, together with all improvements thereon, shall be held as tribal property. Cf. *Dunham v. Howard*, 4 Ind. 7, 43 (1865) (Cherokee legislation relating to "improved improvements").

⁴³ 15 Stat. 1347.

⁴⁴ Op. Sol. I. D. M. 27671, March 1, 1931.

Nothing in the legislative history of the enactment is as to the contrary. In reports to the Senate and House Committees on Indian Affairs recommending that the bill which became the Act of 1929 be not enacted, the Secretary of the Interior called specific attention to the fact that "there are forty buildings on the land used in connection with school and administrative activities." See House Report No. 1852 and Senate Report No. 1130 on S-2762, 70th Congress, 1st sess. The debates before the House and Senate also show that Congress was advised of the existence of the buildings upon the premises. See Congressional Record, Volume 60, Part 2, 70th Congress, 1st Session, page 8847 and Volume 70, Part 3, 70th Congress, 2nd Session, page 2480-2490.

Aside from the fact that the failure of Congress, with knowledge of the existence of the buildings, to reserve them, reasonably warrants the assumption that no such reservation was intended, the statements of Congressman Leavitt and Senator McMaster strongly indicate that it was the understanding of Congress that enjoyment of the measure would confer upon the Indians ownership of the buildings along with the lands. Such ownership, under the terms of the statute, to take effect when the property was no longer required for agency, school, and other purposes.

It is understood from the information submitted by the Assistant Commissioner of Indian Affairs that the use of the reserved lands for the purposes for which they were reserved has been permanently discontinued and that the lands are no longer needed for any of such purposes. Upon that understanding, it held, for reasons stated above, that the lands and buildings located thereon are now tribal property belonging to the Yankton Sioux Tribe of Indians.

The approach taken in the foregoing opinion suggests that in passing upon any specific tribal claim of possessory right in improvements on tribal land, first resort must be had to the governing statute or treaty. Silence or ambiguity may be resolved (a) by reference to legislative history, or (b) by reference to the state or the common law rule. In general, it may be said that Congress has frequently subordinated the traditional common law rule that improvements run with the land to the equitable principle that one who has built improvements, in good faith, on another's land should not be entirely deprived of the fruit of his labor. Attempts to do justice to the claims of those who have improved tribal lands include provisions allowing non-Indians who have improved tribal lands to sell their improvements at their appraised value,⁴⁵ or allowing Indians of another tribe to pre-empt the lands on which their improvements stand.⁴⁶ As a matter of history, the improvements on land conveyed to Indians were frequently more important indicements of reciprocal cessions than the land itself.⁴⁷

⁴⁵ Act of March 2, 1907, 34 Stat. 1220 (intermarried whites on "free lands").

⁴⁶ Art. 13 of Treaty of May 6, 1854, with Delaware Tribe, 10 Stat. 1048 (for benefit of Christian Indians). Cf. Memo. Sol. I. D., October 20, 1937, and cases cited (log house on Fort Belknap tribal land).

⁴⁷ Cf. Art. I of Treaty of January 22, 1835, 10 Stat. 1113.

SECTION 18. TRIBAL CONVEYANCES

A. RESTRAINTS ON ALIENATION

It is frequently assumed that the inability of an Indian tribe to alienate tribal land is a consequence of the peculiar tenure by which such lands are held.⁴⁸ This tenure is commonly designated as "occupancy," "mere occupancy," "possession," or "Indian

⁴⁸ See *United States v. Cook*, 10 Wall 591, 679-683 (1873); *Howard v. Moot*, 61 N. E. 232, 271 (1876); Keri, Real Property (1895), sec. 221.

title," and these phrases are sometimes deemed a sufficient explanation for the conclusion that Indian lands are inalienable. Careful examination of the cases and of the historical practice of the United States shows that this view is inaccurate. This inaccuracy appears most clearly in five situations:

(1) If the inalienability of tribal land is caused simply by the peculiarity that tribal land is not held in fee simple, then an Indian tribe which does hold land in fee simple should be able

to alienate it. But the decisions are uniform that a title holding land in fee simple is subject to exactly the same restraints upon alienation as any other title.³¹

(2) If "Indian title" is something less than a fee simple,³² then an Indian conveyance of tribal land to private parties should convey something less than a fee simple. But the cases uniformly hold that a conveyance of tribal property under a valid conveyance inquires into the fee simple title.³³

(3) If title in aboriginal occupancy is simply equivalent to a fee simple at will, the land cannot be sold to the sovereign. Yet the practice of the United States,³⁴ and of the British Crown, before 1770, of purchasing land from Indians, and the validity of conveyances thus effected, has never been questioned. As Marshall, *C. J.*, observed, when Europeans claimed "the exclusive right to purchase" they "did not find that right on a denial of the right of the possessor to sell."³⁵

The king purchased their lands when they were willing to sell, at a price they were willing to take, but never coerced a surrender of them.³⁶

The Indian Indians possessed a full right to the land, they retained, until that right should be extinguished by the United States, with their consent.³⁷

(4) If "Indian title" is something substantially less than a fee simple, then in cases of involuntary alienation damages should be based upon something less than the value of the land itself. Yet the courts hold that in such cases the value of the land is the measure of damages.³⁸

³¹ *United States v. Chandler*, 271 U. S. 412 (1926), *Christine Indians*, 9 Op. A. G. 21 (1857), *Geoffrey v. Jackson* 20 Johns 691 (1821).
³² *C. J.*, *United States v. Passa Lumbis Co.*, 1806 U. S. 467, 478 (1907), aff'd 134 Fed. 208 (C. C. D. W. 1901).

The restraint upon alienation must not be exaggerated. It does not of itself deprive the right below a fee simple [land of alienated land].

Apparently the theory that Indian title is something less than a fee was invented to justify the holding that when the sovereign granted an individual land owned by Indians, and the Indians afterwards alienated the land the grantee was entitled to the land in fee simple. See, for example *United States v. Pennington*, 10 Fed. 361 (1864). But this result, which seems eminently sensible, can be justified on the ground that the grantee received a contingent future interest which ripened into a fee simple on the happening of the contingency contemplated. Even under the classical theory of land tenure, a grant of a possibility or reversion by the sovereign is not inconsistent with the retention of a fee simple in the Indian title. It must be remembered that a fee simple reversion to classical theory may be either "absolute" or "qualified," or "conditional," and the possibility of death without issue was a standard condition for the termination of an estate. In fact, the general right of reversion was vested in the sovereign, so it was only natural that if a tribal owner became extinct the land would pass to the sovereign and there was nothing to prevent the sovereign from speculating on that contingency and making grants limited to take effect upon its happening.

³³ *United States v. Brooks*, 51 U. S. 143 (1850), *Geoffrey v. Chandler*, 10 Fed. Cas. No. 5497 (C. C. Ind. 1841). And note see Ind. of the Act of June 4, 1924, 43 Stat. 376, which declares:

"That the authority of the Executive Board of Chukchee Indians, or North Indians, to execute conveyances of lands owned by said band, or any interest therein, is recognized and any such conveyance heretofore or hereafter made by the said band, or any of its members, shall not be questioned in any case where the title conveyed is the instrument of conveyance has been approved or accepted or approved by the Secretary of the Interior." (P. 381.)

³⁴ See Chapter 8, and *cf. Omaha Tribe of Indians v. United States*, 53 C. Cls. 549 (1918), holding that where the United States undertook by treaty to compensate the tribe forced land it was estopped from thereafter denying the title of the Omaha Tribe.

"... the defendants can not now be heard to say that the Indians did not own the land when the treaty was made and had no right to make a cession of it." (P. 600.)

Reid v. Shaw v. Shaw Petroleum Corp., 80 F. 2d 1 (C. C. A. 10, 1922), cert. den. 227 U. S. 859.

³⁵ *Worcester v. Georgia*, 6 Pet. 515, 548 (1832).

³⁶ *Id.*, 548.

³⁷ *Id.*, 548.

³⁸ For all practical purposes, they [the tribe] owned the land. Grants of land subject to the Indian title by the United States, which had only

(6) If "Indian title" is something less than a fee simple subject to restraints on alienation, then when the sovereign grants a right of preemption to a third party, there should be a fee left in the sovereign. But the cases hold that this is not the case and that all interest in the land outside of the right of preemption rests with the Indian title.³⁹

These defects in the theory of "Indian title" do not show that all tribes hold property in fee simple in that any tribe can alienate any property at will, but they should serve to direct our consideration of well-established restraints on alienation towards the field of commercial legislation rather than the mores of medieval doctrine that surrounds the feudal notion of "title in the sovereign."⁴⁰

B HISTORICAL VIEW OF RESTRAINTS

The historical fact is that the alienation of Indian lands, far from being a legal impossibility because of peculiarities of Indian title, was probably the chief objective attained by the Indian land law of Britain, Spain, France, the Colonies, and the United States, for some four centuries. None of these sovereigns forbade such alienation but each sought to regulate it, and, generally to profit from it. Thus, the Supreme Court declared in the case of *Michell v. United States*:

The Indian right to the lands is property, is not merely of possession, that of alienation was concomitant, both were equally secured, protected and guaranteed by Great Britain and Spain, subject only to intemperance and prohibition by the license, charter or deed from the government representing the king. Such purchases enabled the Indians to pay their debts, compensate for their depredations on the Indians resident among them, to provide for their wants, while they were available to the purchasers in payment of the considerations which at their expense had been received by the Indians. It would have been a violation of the faith of the government to both, to encourage Indians to settle in the province, to put themselves and property in the power of the Indians, to suffer the latter to contract debts, and when willing

The naked fee, would transfer no beneficial interest. *Leavenworth, L. & C. v. United States*, 62 U. S. 742, 743-744 (1870), *Brecher v. Weinberg*, 95 U. S. 617, 627 (1877). The right of perpetual and exclusive occupancy of a land is not less valuable than full title in fee. See *Holden v. Fox*, 17 Wall. 211, 214 (1872), *Townsend v. United States*, 10 Fed. Cas. 193 U. S. 540, 557 (1901), *United States v. Shoshone Tribe*, 101 U. S. 117 (1879), *U. S. v. United States v. United States*, 53 C. Cls. 131 (1917). See also, pp. 11-15 of this chapter and cases cited. See also *Op. Bol. I. D.*, 11, 28259, August 24, 1906 (damages for flooding tribal land).

³⁹ *Blacksmith v. Pittman*, 7 N. Y. 401 (1863).

The lands were then in the independent occupancy of a nation of Indians, and were owned by them, and all that Massachusetts acquired by treaty in the cession to her, was the exclusive right of buying from the Indians, when they should be disposed to sell. (P. 11.)
Op. United States v. Oregon Central Milling Road Co. 108 Fed. 549 (C. C. Ore. 1900), holding that a floating grant to road company did not extend to Indian reservation and claimants.

The intention to bestow the fee subject to the burden of the Indian occupancy must necessarily refer to the temporary character of that occupancy. Here the treaty provided for allotment of the reserved land, and guaranteed to the allottees the permanent possession and use of the tracts so allotted, reserving to the United States the right of sale for the benefit of the Indians whenever their property will be advanced thereby. This leaves nothing to be taken from them, and where there is nothing there is no fee. (P. 658.)

This case was reversed on other grounds in 192 U. S. 353 (1904), and now *United States v. Calif. and Ore. Ind. Co. Op. A. G. 9 Op. A. G. 468 (1880)* (holding that land may be held by title according to "same manner as Indian reservations have been heretofore held," and yet be subject to trust for named Indians "and their heirs forever").

⁴⁰ Full recognition of these restraints see 3 Kent's Comm. 877, 3 Washburn, Real Property (8th ed. 1903); see 2000, Rees, Modern Law of Real Property (1907) sec. 32, 1 Dumbria, Land Titles (1895) sec. 66.

The character of the "Indian title" theory as a fiction of feudalism was recognized a hundred years ago by Kent, *Op. cit.* p. 878, 879. See 711, 758-759 (1836).

to pay them by the only means in their power, a cession of their lands, without an assent to the purchase, which, by their laws of municipal regulations, was necessary to vest a title. (Pp 755-756)

Again, in the case of *United States v. Perot*,¹¹ the Supreme Court declared, in upholding the validity of a grant made by an Indian pueblo

"The transfer of land to the Pecos was made in conformity with the existing regulations established for the protection of the Indians, under the supervision and with the approval of the local authorities, and appears to have been satisfactory to all parties. (P 510)

Again, in the case of *Chahton v. Malony*,¹² where it was held that an instrument executed by the Pice Tribe amounted to a conveyance to mine rather than a conveyance in fee, the Supreme Court declared

"It is a fact in the case, that the Indian title to the country had not been extinguished by Spain, and that Spain had not the right of occupancy. The Indians had the right to continue it as long as they pleased, or to sell out parts of it—the sale being made conformably to the laws of Spain, and being afterwards confirmed by the king or his representative, the Governor of Louisiana. Without such confirmation and confirmation to one could, in all other, take possession of lands under an Indian sale. We know it was frequently done, but always with the expectation that the sale would be confirmed, and that until it was, the purchaser would have the benefit of the forbearance of the government. We are now speaking of Indian lands, such as these were, and not of those portions of land which were assigned to the Christian Indians for villages and residences, where the Indian occupancy had been abandoned by them, or where it had been yielded to the king by treaty. Such sales did not need ratification by the governor, if they were passed before the proper Spanish officer, and paid upon record. (Pp 236-237)

Similarly did the various colonies, at least since 1633, make provision for the confirmation of Indian conveyances by proper governmental authorities.¹³

Indian grants in Massachusetts Colony, for example, required the approval of the General Court.¹⁴ In New York, under the Constitution of 1777, Indian tribal conveyances required the assent of the legislature, or, after the Act of March 7, 1809, of the State Surveyor-General.¹⁵

The legislation of the United States on the sale of Indian lands has followed the course thus fixed by European and colonial sovereignties, and under this legislation the existence of a transferable estate in land has not been denied but the method of transfer has been rigidly circumscribed. This regulation of land sales by Indians to non-Indians has been an essential part of the general power of supervision over "Indian intercourse," claimed by each of the European sovereigns exercising dominion in North America. This power the United States likewise claimed, in its Constitution, and to this claim many Indian tribes were induced to give explicit assent.¹⁶ The most substantial

subject of such interference was land, since this was the most valuable possession of the Indian tribes. The United States asserted the power, as did other sovereign nations, of regulating the sale of land by Indians. As an essential part of such regulation the United States claimed the right, either for itself or for the state in which the land was situated, of purchasing land from the Indian tribes and of extending other desirable purchases from the market, and various treaties asserted to this claim.¹⁷ This policy was paralleled by a policy, which excluded from the Indian country unlicensed private trader, in commodities other than land.

C FEDERAL LEGISLATION

Section 4 of the first Indian Intercourse Act¹⁸ covered the sale of lands, together with other types of trade, and declared

"That no sale of lands made by any Indian, or any nation or tribe of Indians within the United States, shall be valid to any person or persons, or to any state, whether having the right of pre-emption to such lands or not, unless the same shall be made and duly executed at some public treaty, held under the authority of the United States.

This provision was amplified in the Second Indian Intercourse Act, approved March 1, 1793,¹⁹ section 8 of which provided

"That no purchase or grant of lands, or of any title or claim thereto, from any Indian or nation or tribe of Indians, within the bounds of the United States, shall be of any validity in law or equity, unless the same be made by a treaty or convention entered into pursuant to the constitution, and it shall be a misdemeanor, in any person not employed under the authority of the United States, in negotiating such a treaty or convention, punishable by fine not exceeding one thousand dollars, and imprisonment not exceeding twelve months, directly or indirectly to treat with any such Indians, nation or tribe of Indians, for the title or purchase of any lands by them held, or claimed. *Provided, nevertheless*, That it shall be lawful for the agent or agents of any state, who may be present at any treaty, held with Indians under the authority of the United States, in the presence, and with the approval of the commissioner or commissioners of the United States, appointed to hold the same, to propose to, and adjust with the Indians, the compensation to be made for their claims to the lands within such state, which shall be extinguished by the treaty.

This provision was reiterated from time to time with various minor modifications.²⁰ It should be noted that this provision was

(See *Perot*.) Art. IX of Treaty of March 12, 1805, 12 Stat. 997 (Ponca); Art. IV of Treaty of June 10, 1805, 12 Stat. 1031 (Mendawakaton and Wahkooton Bands of Sioux); Art. IV of Treaty of June 10, 1805, 12 Stat. 1037 (Shawnee and Wahkooton Bands of Sioux); Art. I of Treaty of April 15, 1805, 12 Stat. 1101 (Winnebagoes); Art. I of Treaty of July 16, 1805, 12 Stat. 1105 (Raua Creek and Black River Chippewas and Menominee or Chippewas); Art. V of Treaty of February 18, 1801, 12 Stat. 1103 (Anishewab and Chippewas Indians); Art. VIII of Treaty of June 9, 1805, 14 Stat. 967 (New River); Art. IV of Treaty of March 6, 1805, 14 Stat. 967 (New River); Art. XI of Treaty of July 10, 1800, 14 Stat. 700 (Cherokee); Art. II of Treaty of October 1, 1800, 15 Stat. 467 (Sacs and Foxes of Mississippi). And see Chapter 8, sec. 3C(1).

¹⁸ See, for example, Art. III of the Treaty of January 9, 1789, with the Winnebago, Delaware, Cherokee, Chippewas, Potawatamias, and Sac Nations, 7 Stat. 28, 29, Art. V of the Treaty of August 8, 1795, with the Wyandottas, Delaware, Chippewas, and other tribes, 7 Stat. 46, 62; Art. VI of the Treaty of September 24, 1807, with the Pawnee, 11 Stat. 729; Art. V of the Treaty of March 12, 1805, with the Ponca, Tribe, 12 Stat. 997. And see Chapter 8, sec. 3B(2). [That similar provisions were included in colonial legislation is manifest in the reference of Marshall, *O. J.*, in *State of New Jersey v. Wilson*, 4 Cranch 141 (1812), to the New Jersey Act of August 15, 1798, restraining the Delaware Indians from alienating lands reserved to them by agreement.

¹⁹ Act of March 12, 1793, 1 Stat. 137. See sec. 10, this Chapter, and see Chapter 10.

²⁰ 1 Stat. 829.
Act of March 1, 1793, sec. 8, 1 Stat. 829, 890; Act of May 19, 1790, sec. 12, 1 Stat. 496, 479; Act of March 8, 1790, sec. 12, 1 Stat. 748, 749; Act of March 30, 1809, sec. 12, 2 Stat. 130, 143; Act of June

¹¹ 5 Wall. 386 (1866). Accord *Pueblo de San Juan v. United States*, 47 F. 2d 446 (C. C. A. 10, 1931), cert. den. 284 U. S. 626.

¹² 16 How. 209 (1859). See comment in *Blackwell and Weeks, Law of Mines, Minerals, and Mining Water Rights* (1877) pp. 93-94.

¹³ See 3 Kent, Comm. 301 et seq. for an analysis of the colonial legislation.

¹⁴ *Legon v. Yehant*, 118 Mass. 433 (1878) (citing colonial authority: Indian deed dated September 4, 1696). And see *Danell v. Welton*, 108 Mass. 128 (1871).

¹⁵ See *Goodell v. Jackson*, 20 Johns. 608, 722, 738 (1823).

¹⁶ Art. IV of Treaty of December 30, 1849, 9 Stat. 984 (Umba); Art. VII of Treaty of June 22, 1805, 10 Stat. 974 (Chickasaws); Art. VII of Treaty of February 22, 1805, 10 Stat. 1106 (Mississippi Bands of Chippewas); Art. VII of Treaty of February 27, 1805, 10 Stat. 1172 (Winnebagoes); Art. XV of Treaty of August 7, 1805, 11 Stat. 999 (Senecas); Art. XVII of Treaty of April 10, 1805, 11 Stat. 748 (Yankton Tribe or Sioux); Art. X of the Treaty of June 11, 1805, 12 Stat. 997

not intended to prevent the alienation of Indian lands and in fact many Indian treaties thereafter concluded provided for the alienation of Indian lands to parties other than the United States,¹⁰ "notably to religious bodies," "landlords," or other Indian tribes.¹¹ In some instances a patent grant is validated.¹² In other cases, authority is given to some administrative officer, usually the Secretary of the Interior, to sell at public sale,¹³ and in a few cases the title itself is given authority to sell land to a named grantee¹⁴ or to any purchaser.¹⁵ A number of treaties provide for tribal cessions of land by the tribe to individual members.¹⁶ In effect this statutory requirement that all tribal grants be made by treaty simply applied to the American constitutional view the principle that had been developed under British rule, that the consent of the tribe is required to validate a tribal conveyance.¹⁷ This principle is not dependent upon the character of the Indian title and applied to much to land held in fee simple by an incorporated tribe as to land held under any lesser tenure.¹⁸

10, 1934, see 12, 4 Stat. 729, 730, R. S. § 2110, 23 U. S. C. 177. Of the scope of this statute, an opinion of the Attorney General declares:

I cannot think that it applies merely to those Indian tribes who hold their land by the original Indian title. The words are broad enough to include a title holding lands by patent from the United States, and the statute in unambiguous language requires it to reserve this construction. (Christian Indians, 5 Op. U. S. 24, 27 (1837).)

Under *United States v. Waddell* and *Goodell v. Jark* it is decided above. (Cottis, 4 Cent. U. S. 495, 501 (1871).) The fact that similar content of title applies to aboriginal occupancy but not to land held by individual Indians in fee simple, and such title is purchased while land is in settled community.)

¹¹ Various treaty provisions by which the New York Indians conveyed lands are analyzed in 1 U. S. Memo. 26 (1929), 5 U. S. Memo. 232 (Mar. 14, 1935). Other treaty provisions empower specific chiefs to take minerals from an Indian reservation, e. g., Art. IV of Treaty of October 12, 1843, with the Rhinoceros-Goshute Bands, 18 Stat. 681, 682. An example of a tribal land grant dissolved by treaty will be found in Art. VI of the Treaty of March 29, 1836, with the Potawatamies, 7 Stat. 498. A contract for the transfer of land is modified in a supplemental article concluded April 27, 1848, 10 Stat. 727, to the Treaty of July 19, 1866, 14 Stat. 770, with the Chickasaw Nation.

¹² Art. II of Treaty of January 31, 1865, with the Wyandots, 10 Stat. 1199.

¹³ Art. II of Treaty of July 19, 1866, 14 Stat. 779, with the Chickasaw Nation, contained in *Brill v. Alliance of R. R. Co.*, 61 Fed. 317 (C. C. A. 8, 1894). Art. V of Treaty of June 28, 1862, with the Kickapoo, 14 Stat. 628, Art. V of Treaty of March 21, 1866, with the Seminoles, 14 Stat. 715, Art. V of Treaty of June 14, 1866, with the Creeks, 14 Stat. 788, Art. I of Treaty of July 4, 1866, with the Delawares, 14 Stat. 787, Treaty of June 28, 1867, with the Chickasaw-Nations, 14 Stat. 811. The former power on President to prescribe manner of tribal compensation, continued in 17 Op. A. G. 285 (1882), Treaty of April 28, 1866, with the Chickasaw and Chickasaw, 14 Stat. 780. And of "agreements" entered by Act of July 10, 1882, 22 Stat. 187 (Crow) and Act of September 1, 1888, 25 Stat. 432.

¹⁴ See sec. 8 this chapter.

¹⁵ Treaty of June 30, 1862, with the Senecas, 7 Stat. 72, Art. XIV of Treaty of January 15, 1873, with New York Indians, 7 Stat. 550.

¹⁶ Art. II of Treaty of January 31, 1865, with Wyandots, 10 Stat. 1199, Art. IX of Treaty of June 24, 1862, with the Ottawas, 12 Stat. 1237.

¹⁷ Art. X of Treaty of January 15, 1873, with the New York Indians, 7 Stat. 550.

¹⁸ Art. XVIII of Treaty of July 10, 1866, with the Cheyennes, 14 Stat. 700, Art. I of Act of February 14, 1861, 26 Stat. 740 (See Fox Nation).

¹⁹ Sec. 5 of Act of July 1, 1902, 32 Stat. 696 (confirming agreement submitted by Kansas Indians).
²⁰ See *Jackson v. Porter*, 18 Fed. Cas. No. 7154 (C. C. N. D. Y., 1825), p. 241.

²¹ See in 870 supra. A similar provision in the Constitution of New York of 1777 (Art. 87) ("that no provision or contracts for the sale of lands, made with or to the said Indians, shall be binding on them, or deemed valid unless made under the authority, and with the consent of the legislature") was construed in *Goodell v. Jark* (20 Johns 683, 1828). The court, holding that such limitations applied to an Indian holding land under a patent, declared:

This is the provision, and the constitution states one important fact as the basis, and the sole governing motive for the whole of

So hardly has this principle been established that the Supreme Court suggested in the *Waddell* case, that quite apart from any particular statute, the United States admitted a retention of guardianship towards the Indian people such that even land held in fee simple could not be granted or lost by their action unless the United States was represented by an attorney.²² It is difficult to understand how the appearance of a United States attorney would validate a conveyance of tribal land which is invalid by statute,²³ and the scope of this doctrine remains uncertain.

General limitations on the conveyance by an Indian tribe of interests in real property have been supplemented, from time to time, by special statutes prohibiting such conveyances with respect to particular tribes.²⁴

On the other hand, general limitations upon the manner of disposing of tribal property have been qualified by numerous special acts of Congress. Since 1871, transfers of tribal land have generally been made pursuant to statutes relating to particular reservations or areas, and authorizing sales by the Secretary of the Interior. Some of these statutes require tribal consent in such sale.²⁵ Other statutes validate conveyances by one tribe to another tribe,²⁶ or by a tribe to non-Indians,²⁷ or

it and that is, that *lands* were too often granted towards the Indians in conflict to make to their lands. It was this, and this only, that endangered our peace and trust with them. There was no suggestion of fraud or imposition committed by them upon the white. That would have been a very different suggestion and almost as reasonable as the complaint of the white in the table that the lands situated at below him, was disclaiming him in the equipment of the situation. (Nicom.) Thus, in the resolution of Congress of January, 1870, regulating the sale of the Indian lands, it was declared that the Indians should be permitted to trade with them without license and that the traders should take no account of the state of their duties and interference. In April, 1870, it was said to them that Congress was determined to cultivate peace and friendship with them, and prevent the white people from engaging them in any manner or taking their lands. That Congress wished to give them more and to all them before the Indians, who lived with them on their great island, and that the white people should not be suffered, by force or fraud, to deprive them of any of their lands. And in November, 1870, when Congress was discussing the conditions of peace to be allowed to the six nations, they resolved, that one condition should be, that no land should be sold or ceded by any of the said Indians, either as individuals, or as a nation, unless by the act of Congress. (79, 722-723).

It was immaterial whether the Indians had their lands in communal possession, or by gift or grant from the whites, provided they had an acknowledged title. In either case, the lands were to be sold with title to them, and title to them, and none such ceded, and respect to the law of the land. (79, 722).

His conclusion upon the whole case is, 1. That the patent of John Goodell and his heirs was a patent to him and his heirs and assigns, that civil condition and character might be, whether alien or native.

1. That by the constitution and statute law of this state no white person can purchase any right in title to land from any one or more Indians, either individually or collectively, without the sanction having been conferred by Congress, and their being no theory in law upon which compensation may be awarded by the court. *United States v. Porter-Jark Valley Inc. Co.*, 214 Fed. 601, 605 (C. C. A. 2, 1914), affg 205 Fed. 134 (C. C. Idaho 1918).

²² Act of February 28, 1869, 2 Stat. 527 (Abkhams and Wyandots).

²³ See 1 Act of May 8, 1872, 17 Stat. 86 (Kasasas). Act of June 10, 1872, 17 Stat. 388 (Ottawas); Act of June 10, 1872, 17 Stat. 801 (Omahas); Act of March 2, 1873, 17 Stat. 651 (Miami); Act of August 27, 1864, 28 Stat. 307 (several shows final consent to exchange of lands and consent of the legislature and none such ceded, when the land in question was purchased by *Porter-Smith*, in 1897 (C. 714).

²⁴ 37 U. S. 494 (1828). See Chapter 30 sec. 7.

²⁵ See the Department of Justice has no means authority than how the Interior Department to legislate such use or to direct the Indians of their land, no authority to do so, and no authority to bring the action having been conferred by Congress, and their being no theory in law upon which compensation may be awarded by the court. *United States v. Porter-Jark Valley Inc. Co.*, 214 Fed. 601, 605 (C. C. A. 2, 1914), affg 205 Fed. 134 (C. C. Idaho 1918).

²⁶ Act of February 28, 1869, 2 Stat. 527 (Abkhams and Wyandots).

²⁷ See 1 Act of May 8, 1872, 17 Stat. 86 (Kasasas). Act of June 10, 1872, 17 Stat. 388 (Ottawas); Act of June 10, 1872, 17 Stat. 801 (Omahas); Act of March 2, 1873, 17 Stat. 651 (Miami); Act of August 27, 1864, 28 Stat. 307 (several shows final consent to exchange of lands and consent of the legislature and none such ceded, when the land in question was purchased by *Porter-Smith*, in 1897 (C. 714).

²⁸ Joint Resolution of July 25, 1848, 0 Stat. 874 (Wyandots and Delawares).

²⁹ Act of June 8, 1863, 13 Stat. 312 (grant by Delawares Indians to Christian Indians); Act of June 22, 1870, 15 Stat. 170 (Ottawas and Winnebago); Act of March 8, 1875, 18 Stat. 420, 451 (Senecas and Kaokshams); Act of March 3, 1868, 22 Stat. 603 (Cherokee, Pawnee,

by a tribe to its members⁴⁵ which amounts, of course, to allotment. Other statutes authorizing sales by the Secretary of the Interior are silent on the issue of tribal consent. Statutes of this character are generally limited to surplus lands left after the completion of allotment.⁴⁶ Between 1812 and 1912 a number of statutes were enacted authorizing the Secretary of the Interior to sell or otherwise dispose of specific atoms of tribal land to municipalities, religious bodies and public utilities, without reference to the wishes of the tribe.⁴⁷ Questions raised by these statutes are dealt with separately, used in as they present a question of the extent of federal power over Indian land.⁴⁸

Statutes authorizing the sale of tribal lands were superseded⁴⁹ with respect to Indian tribes subject to the Act of June 18, 1934,⁵⁰ by section 1 of that act, which provides:

Except as herein provided to the contrary, with a view to the better management of restricted Indian land and to the interests in the assets of any Indian tribe or corporation organized hereunder shall be made an approved. *Provided, however*, That such lands or interests may, with the approval of the Secretary of the Interior, be sold, devised, or otherwise be located or from which the States were derived or to a successor corporation, and in all instances such lands or interests shall descend to the devisee in accordance with the then existing laws of the State or Federal laws where applicable, in which said lands are located or in which the subject matter of the corporation is located, to any number of such tribe or of such corporation in any heirs of such member. *Provided further*, That the Secretary of the Interior may authorize voluntary exchanges of lands of equal value and the voluntary exchange of shares of equal value whenever such exchange in his judgment is expedient and beneficial in or compatible with the proper consolidation of Indian lands and for the benefit of cooperative organizations.

The prohibitions of that section have been supplemented by prohibitions against alienation contained in tribal constitutions adopted pursuant to section 16 of the act and tribal charters adopted pursuant to section 17.

On the other hand, the provision in section 4 allowing exchanges of land of equal value and section 5 of the act allowing acqui-

sition of lands by exchange, make it possible for tribes subject to the act to execute valid conveyances of tribal land by deed, approved by the Secretary of the Interior, provided the consideration is land of equal or greater value.⁵¹

D INVOLUNTARY ALIENATION

Generally speaking, restraints on alienation of Indian land apply to involuntary alienation as well as to voluntary alienation. Thus, treaty guarantees of tribal possession are held to protect tribal land against sale by state authorities for nonpayment of taxes and therefore ineffectually, to protect such lands against taxation.⁵² Restraints on alienation of tribal lands which prevent a tribe from making a valid conveyance of its property equally prevent individual members of the tribe from conveying such property.⁵³ Restraints on alienation of tribal lands likewise operate to prevent partition of such lands by state court at the suit of a tribal member.⁵⁴

E INVALID CONVEYANCES

Despite all statutes, Indian tribes have, from time to time, executed grants of tribal land. Although such grants are clearly invalid to convey a legal or equitable estate, it would be unwise to say that all such grants are ineffectual acts that cannot affect any rights. There are at least two federal cases which suggest that rights may accrue under tribal law, though not under federal or state law.

In *Johnson v. McIntosh*,⁵⁵ Marshall, O. J., intimated that an Indian tribe might make a grant under its own law even though such a grant would not be enforceable in the courts of the United States.

If an individual might extinguish the Indian title, for his own benefit, or, in other words, might purchase it, still he could acquire only that title. Admitting then [the Indians'] power to change their laws or usages, so far as to allow an individual to separate a portion of their lands from the common stock, and hold it in severalty, still it is a part of their territory and is held under them, by a title dependent on their laws. The grant derives its efficacy from their will, and, if they choose to resume it, and make a different disposition of the land, the courts of the United States cannot interfere for the protection of the title. (12 538.)

A similar view is taken in the case of *Johnson v. Porter*,⁵⁶ where it was held that a grant made by an Indian tribe might be revoked by the tribe and that the grantee would have no redress in the courts of the United States.

A purchaser, from the natives, at all events, could acquire only the Indian title, and must hold under them and according to their laws. The grant must derive its efficacy from their will, and if they choose to resume it and make a different disposition of it, courts cannot protect the right before granted. The purchaser incorporates himself with the Indians, and the purchase is to be considered in the same light as if the grant had been made to an Indian, and might be resumed by the tribe, and granted over again at their pleasure.

⁴⁵ *Memo Sol I D*, February 3, 1937. The problem of what officials of a tribe may execute a deed is dealt with in *People of Santa Rosa v. Pail*, 278 U. S. 313 (1927) 107* 12 F. 2d 283 (App. D C 1926), 85 F. 2d 114 (1934). *Memo Sol I D*, March 11, 1938.

⁴⁶ See Chapter 14, sec 2.

⁴⁷ *United States v. Bayless*, 285 Fed. 105 (C. C. A. 2, 1930), aff'd 250 Fed. 488 (D. C. N. D. N. Y. 1910), app. dis. 277 U. S. 514 (1928). *Passaic v. Lynch*, 258 U. S. 289 (1922) (holding adopted white members of tribe subject to restraint on alienation). And see authorities cited in Chapter 9, sec 2.

⁴⁸ *United States v. Chatoe*, 28 F. Supp. 846 (D. C. W. D. N. Y. 1938).

⁴⁹ See Whart 543 (1832).

⁵⁰ 18 Fed. Cl. No. 7143 (C. C. N. D. N. Y. 1925). And see 1 *Dumbitt Land Titles* (1896), p. 404.

⁴⁵ *Pomoy, New Port, Okech and Mowmow and Okech*, on the distinction between a sale by one tribe to another and an acquisition of tribes into *United States v. Cherokee Nation*, 28 C. Cl. 241 (1890), and 101 U. S. 127 (1904).

⁴⁶ Act of March 7, 1871, 16 Stat. 544 (conveyance to railway company by Oneida tribe, Wisconsin).

⁴⁷ Act of April 20, 1878, 20 Stat. 311 (Blackfoot Indians and Menomonee). And see Chapter 11.

⁴⁸ Act of February 28, 1890, 29 Stat. 17 (Chippewa). Act of February 15, 1912, 37 Stat. 87 (Cherokee and Chickasaw). Act of August 24, 1912, 37 Stat. 497 (Five Civilized Tribes). Act of February 14, 1913, 37 Stat. 778 (Standing Rock Reservation). Joint Resolution of December 4, 1913, 38 Stat. 1177 (Cherokee and Chickasaw). Joint Resolution of January 11, 1917, 39 Stat. 811 (Cherokee-Chickasaw). Act of January 25, 1917, 39 Stat. 870 (Cherokee-Chickasaw). Act of February 27, 1917, 39 Stat. 944. Act of April 12, 1924, 43 Stat. 132. Act of May 26, 1930, 46 Stat. 885 (Chickasaw-Cherokee), on the sale of coal deposits in the segregated mineral lands of the Cherokee and Chickasaw tribes, see *Memo Sol I D*, December 11, 1918, Op. Sol. I D, 1173, April 6, 1922, Op. Sol. I D, 1713, May 28, 1924, Op. Sol. I D, 1547, November 15, 1928.

⁴⁹ Act of July 1, 1912, 37 Stat. 186 (Omaha Reservation). Act of July 10, 1912, 37 Stat. 192 (Flathead Reservation). Act of September 8, 1916, 39 Stat. 816 (Chippewa). Act of January 7, 1919, 40 Stat. 1051 (Flathead Reservation). Act of February 28, 1910, 36 Stat. 3200 (Capitan Grande Reservation). Act of April 18, 1920, 41 Stat. 553 (New Price). Act of February 21, 1921, 41 Stat. 1105 (Cherokee and Chickasaw). Act of March 3, 1921, 41 Stat. 1455 (Fort Belknap). Act of May 4, 1922, 42 Stat. 116 (Capitan Grande Reservation). And see Chapter 5, sec 25.

⁵⁰ See Chapter 6.

⁵¹ *Memo Sol I D*, August 22, 1930 (Pyramid Lake). See 4 does not, however, prevent foreclosure of a lien on land existing when land is returned to tribal ownership under sec. 8. Op. Sol. I D, 1597, August 1, 1938.

⁵² 48 Stat. 984, 25 U. S. C. 461 et seq.

If this be the view which we are to take of the Indian right of occupancy, the claim of John Stedman considered in the most favorable manner, could never have been any thing more than a mere right of possession, subject to be reclaimed, and extinguished at the will of the Indians, and which has been done, as will be seen hereafter. But if it may very well be questioned, whether this claim is satisfied even to so favorable a consideration (P 240)

It has already been shown, that admitting a purchaser from the Indians acquires their right of occupancy, the Indians may whenever they choose, resume it, and make a different division of the land, which in the present case has been done by the 8d article of a treaty between his Britannic majesty and the Seneca Nation of Indians, dated the 3d of April, 1794. There can there fore be no doubt, but that the Indians' right to the land in question was ceded to the king by the treaty of 1794, and all Stedman's right of occupancy must then have ceased, and been extinguished, and he stood upon his mere naked possession, without title, and without the right of possession (P 242)

In 1852 the Attorney General in an opinion on the claim of William G Langford, declared

The occupancy of the land by the American Board of Commissioners, in Foreign Missions from 1836 to 1847 was by the contract of a tributary of the tribe, the occupancy by the United States since 1852 has been by its similar consent, manifested by the treaties of 1857 (12 Stat, 937), and 1858 (14 Stat, 467). Chief Justice Marshall, in Johnson v. M'Intosh (5 Wheaton, 544), speaks of a deed well executed in the Illinois Indians, said (p. 791) (Quoting the passage above set forth)

It is not suggested in the present case that any grant was made by the New People to the board, and it is left

17 Op. v. G 800 (1842). See sec 8, in 301, this chapter

SECTION 19. TRIBAL LEASES

The question whether leases of tribal lands executed by tribes are valid in the absence of statutory prohibition or invalid in the absence of positive statutory authorization can be answered only on the basis of an analysis of the entire course of federal legislation and litigation on the subject.

The first explicit statutory limitation upon the power of a tribe to lease tribal land is found in section 12 of the Act of May 19, 1796,¹ reading as follows

And be it further enacted, That no purchase, grant, lease, or other conveyance of lands, or of any title or claim thereto, from any Indian, or nation or tribe of Indians,

¹ 1 Stat 460, 472. The background of the 1796 act is indicated by the two following quotations. The first is from a resolution proposed by the Indian Affairs Committee of the House of Representatives in 1795 with reference to the rights of states and individuals to extinguish the right of possession and occupancy held by the Indians

That, it appears to your committee, that the Legislature of the State of Georgia, by an act of the 7th day of January last, have contracted and provided for an absolute conveyance of certain portions of lands held by the Creek and other Indian tribes, within the limits claimed by that State under the cession of territory made with the United States, amounting to three-fourths of the lands so held by said Indians

That your committee cannot but foresee great danger to the peace of the United States, in vesting interests in individuals, the enjoyment of which is to depend on the extinguishment of the Indian titles from the constant excitement which they produce, to embroil the Government with the neighboring Indians, in hope of their extinction or banishment

That rights, so dangerous to the general happiness, should reside only in the hands constituted for the guardianship of the general good of society, as being alone capable of comparing the various interests, alone disposed to promote a happy result to the community

That your committee are of opinion, that it is highly incumbent on the United States to contribute to the rights of the Indians, the rights acquired by treaty, not only for obtaining their confidence in our Government, but for preserving an inviolable respect in the citizens of the United States, to its constitutional acts.

to assume that the indentment for the allotment was the appropriation in the title of the benefits which the agents of the board had come there to confer on them. If the power of the board became dissipated to them I know of no law to prevent the nullification of the allotment and the resumption of the land (P 307)

The possibility suggested in these cases, that a tribe may give effect under its own laws and customs to grants that would be held invalid in state or federal courts, assumes that this is a subject not within the scope of the federal statutes and one on which the local law of the tribe is therefore conclusive. Authority for this view is available but not conclusive¹⁰

Speaking of a colonial statute similar to 25 U S C 177,¹¹ Chief Justice Shaw of Massachusetts, holding the statute inapplicable where the land was within a settled community, declared

In the first place, we think it manifest, that this law was made for the personal relief and protection of the Indians, and is to be so limited in its operation. It is to be used as a shield, not as a sword

¹⁰ The law of real property is to be found in the law of the situs. The law of real property in the Cherokee Nation of Indians is to be found in the constitution and laws of the Cherokee Nation
Int'l. v. Indians v. Cherokee Nation, 38 C Cls 234, 251 (1908)

* * * that vetoes the establishment of town sites not the purchase nor the occupancy by non-Indians of lands within the Cherokee tribe of the town sites in question, from the jurisdiction of the government of the Creek Nation

See in 403, supra

Shaw v. Wright, 115 Fed 947 (C C A S, 1907), app dismissed 204 U S 599 (holding that deeded land is subject to tribal jurisdiction where title is undeterminable fee)

Clark v. Williams, 8 Minn 460, 501 (1847)

within the bounds of the United States, shall be of any validity, in law or equity, unless the same be made in treaty, or convention, entered into pursuant to the constitution

Your committee, therefore submit the following resolutions

Resolved That it is recommended to the President of the United States, to use all constitutional and legal means, to prevent the Indians of the tribes made tributary to him, from alienating the United States with an assurance, that Congress will cooperate in such other acts, as will be proper for the same end

Resolved That if he should recommend to the President of the United States, not to permit treaties, for the extinguishment of the Indian title to any lands to be held at the instance of individuals or of States, where it will appear that the property of such land, when the Indian title shall be extinguished, will be in partial parcels. And that, whenever treaties are held for the benefit of the United States, individuals claiming rights or pre-emption, shall be prevented from treating with Indians, concerning the same, and that, generally, such private claims be postponed to those of the several States, whenever the same may be consistent with the welfare and defense of the United States

Resolved, That the President of the United States be authorized whenever claims under prior contracts may cease to exist, to obtain a cession of the State of Georgia, of their claim to the whole or any part of the land within the present Indian boundaries and that _____ dollars ought to be appropriated to enable him to effect the same

President Washington in the same year and shortly thereafter addressed a communication to the United States Senate with reference to certain treaties requested by the State of Georgia

Gentlemen of the Senate

Just at the close of the last session of Congress, I received from one of the Senators and one of the Representatives of the State of Georgia, an application for a treaty to be held with the tribes in portions of Indiana claiming the right to certain lands lying beyond the present commonly boundary line of that State, and which were described in an act of the Legislature of Georgia, passed on the 10th of December last, which already has been laid before the Senate. This application, and the subsequent correspondence with the Georgia Legislature, also heretofore mentioned, I have deemed very important. I thought proper to postpone a decision upon that application. The views I have

the exclusive method of making grants of leases apparently worked no hardship.

A new situation, however, was created by the passage of the Act of March 3, 1871,¹² prohibiting the execution of treaties with Indian tribes. The passage of this act blocked the only valid method of leasing land while existing legislation permitted.

There is some evidence in the statutes and decided cases, that invalid leases were made by various tribes before and after 1871 and that these leases, although denied legal validity, served the purposes of lessors and lessees.¹³

The 1871 statutory breach in the general ban against tribal leasing appeared in a special act relating to the Seneca Indians, authorizing just invalid leases and authorizing new leases to be made by the authorities of the Seneca Nation in accordance with the laws and customs of that nation.¹⁴

Since February 10, 1876, the date of the Seneca leasing act, various other special acts have provided for leases of tribal land of the Fort Peck,¹⁵ Blackfoot,¹⁶ Fort Belknap,¹⁷ Kaw,¹⁸ Crow,¹⁹ Shoshone,²⁰ Spokane,²¹ and Ojawa²² reservations, the Five Civilized Tribes,²³ and Pueblos.²⁴

The first general statutory authorization of tribal leasing is

¹² 16 Stat. 541, 546, 18 U. S. § 3070, 25 U. S. C. 71.

¹³ The existence of such invalid leases is discussed in the Dept. H. Comm. Ind. No. 478, 48d Cong., 1st sess., dated April 20, 1874, relating to the Seneca Indians of New York. In accordance with this report there was subsequently amended the Act of February 19, 1875, 19 Stat. 540 authorizing certain invalid leases. See also *Quincy v. Stepien*, 3 Ind. T. 285 (1900), and 126 Fed. 138 (C. C. S. 1005), in which leasing practices within the Indian Territory are discussed. In the case of *United States v. Rogers*, 28 Fed. 628 (D. C. W. D. Ark. 1885), in reaching the holding that certain lands were "occupied" by the Cherokee Nation, the purpose of original provision, the court described such "occupancy" in these terms:

The evidence in this case shows that the Cherokee Nation has consistently, and at all times since it obtained the outlet, claimed it and exercised its full ownership and control over it. The nation has collected at different times, a quitrent tax from white men who were grazing their stock on it. Individual Indians have gone on it and leased up large tracts of land on the outlet. Different individual Indians have gone out and lived on it, and now live on it. That since the passage of this law of January 6, 1883, the Cherokee Nation has, by force of arms of the United States, been driven from the outlet, 6,000 square miles of this outlet. That under the provisions of the sixteenth article of the treaty of 1866 with the United States, it has sold tracts of land on this outlet for reservations to the Pawnee, Ponca, Nez Percé, Ojawa, and Mescalero. The very country where this alleged offense was committed, was at the time of its commission leased to the citizenry as a part of the 6,000,000-acre tract. That the Cherokee Nation has not abandoned any part of the outlet except what it has sold; it claims the title and possession of the outlet and of that part of it where this alleged offense is shown to have been committed. The United States, the grantor, has admitted the title to it.

¹⁴ See preceding pp. 441. The Act of February 10, 1876, was amended by the Act of September 30, 1880, 26 Stat. 578 and extended to cover additional particular cases by the Act of February 27, 1901, 31 Stat. 516, the Act of May 27, 1904, sec. 4, 35 Stat. 441, 446 and the Act of February 21, 1911, 36 Stat. 927. See also the Act of February 28, 1901, 31 Stat. 810, requiring payment of rentals to the United States agent for transmission to tribal officers, in part, and in part to the heads of families of the Seneca Nation.

¹⁵ Act of September 20, 1928, 42 Stat. 857, 25 U. S. C. 400 (mining leases on Fort Peck and Blackfoot Reservations).

¹⁶ *Ibid.*

¹⁷ Act of March 8, 1921, 41 Stat. 1465 (tribal leases of minerals and water power on Fort Belknap Reservation).

¹⁸ Act of April 28, 1924, 43 Stat. 111, 25 U. S. C. 401 (mining leases on Kaw Reservation).

¹⁹ Act of February 28, 1891, 26 Stat. 794 (tribal permits, approved by tribal council).

²⁰ Act of June 4, 1920, 41 Stat. 751 (mining leases on Crow Reservation, approved by tribal council).

²¹ Act of August 31, 1916, 39 Stat. 510 (20-year oil and gas lease on Shoshone Reservation, Wyo.).

²² Act of May 18, 1918, 39 Stat. 155 (25-year mining leases on Spokane Reservation).

²³ Act of June 26, 1906, 34 Stat. 580 (tribal leases of oil, gas, and minerals on Ojawa Reservation). Act of March 8, 1921, 41 Stat. 1249, Act of March 9, 1926, 43 Stat. 1476. See Chapter 28.

²⁴ Act of August 7, 1882, 22 Stat. 849 (tribal leases of salt deposits in Cherokee Nation). Act of October 1, 1880, 26 Stat. 640 (giving the

found in section 3 of the Act of February 28, 1891,²⁵ which in its present code²⁶ form reads as follows:

Where Lands are occupied by Indians who have bought and paid for the same, and which lands are not needed for farming or agricultural purposes, and are not desired for individual allotments, the same may be leased by authority of the council speaking for such Indians, for a period not to exceed five years for grazing, or ten years for mining purposes, in such quantities, and upon such terms and conditions as the agent in charge of such reservation may recommend, subject to the approval of the Secretary of the Interior.

The Act of August 15, 1891 extended the foregoing authority as follows:

The surplus lands of any tribe may be leased for farming purposes by the council of such tribe under the same rules and regulations, and for the same term of years as is now allowed in the case of leases for grazing purposes.

The foregoing two statutes are, at the present time, the sole statutes of general application²⁷ under which tribal lands may be leased for grazing or farming purposes, except insofar as such lands are capable of irrigation, in which event the Act of July 8, 1926,²⁸ applies. This act extends the permissible leasing period for irrigable lands to 10 years, declaring:

The unallotted irrigable lands on any Indian reservation may be leased for farming purposes for not to exceed ten years with the consent of the tribal council, business committee, or other authorized body representative of the Indians, under such rules and regulations as the Secretary of the Interior may prescribe.

Involving the Act of 1891 authorized mining leases on lands "occupied by Indians who have bought and paid for the same," it has been extended and amplified by four later statutes.²⁹

(1) Section 26 of the Act of June 30, 1919,³⁰ later amended by the Act of March 3, 1921,³¹ and the Act of December 16, 1920,³² authorized the Secretary of the Interior to lease tribal lands within the States of Arizona, California, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Washington, and Wyoming, for the purpose of mining for deposits of gold, silver, copper, and other valuable metalliferous minerals. The 1919 act, as was characteristic of acts relating to tribal property enacted at that time, made no provision for Indian consent to such leases. Leases made under this statute might be "for a period of twenty years with the preferential right in the lessee to renew the same for successive periods of ten years upon such reasonable terms and conditions as may be prescribed by the Secretary of the Interior,

agent of the United States, to coal leases on lands of the Cherokee Nation." The Act of June 28, 1898, 30 Stat. 490 terminates the making of tribal leases in the Indian Territory (sec. 23), grants power to the Secretary of the Interior to lease tribal minerals (sec. 13), provides for the deposit of rentals in the United States Treasury to the benefit of the tribe (sec. 10), and protects lessees under prior leases executed by individual occupants of tribal land (sec. 24). For other acts, see Chapter 28.

Sec. 17 of the Pueblo Lands Act of June 7, 1904, 43 Stat. 688, provides that no lease made by any public "shall be of any validity in law or in equity unless the same be first approved by the Secretary of the Interior."

²⁵ 26 Stat. 796.

²⁶ 25 U. S. C. 307.

²⁷ Act of August 15, 1894, sec. 1, 28 Stat. 805, 25 U. S. C. 402.

²⁸ For special statutes, see footnotes 432-435, *supra*.

²⁹ 44 Stat. 804, 25 U. S. C. 402a.

³⁰ The leasing powers of incorporated tribes are discussed *infra*. For general leasing regulations see 25 C. F. R. 71-1-71-20. For regulations regarding grazing on the Navajo and Hopi Reservations, see 25 C. F. R. 72-1-72-18.

³¹ For regulations relating to leasing of tribal lands for mining, see 25 C. F. R. 158-1-158-80.

³² 41 Stat. 8, 31.

³³ Act of August 7, 1882, 22 Stat. 1281.

³⁴ 44 Stat. 922, 25 U. S. C. 896.

unless otherwise provided by law at the time of the expiration of such period."

"The 1919 act in effect extended to Indian reservations in the named State the procedure of exploration and discovery then in force on the public domain."

(12) A second extension of the law authorizing mineral leases on tribal land was enacted about the 19th of May 29, 1924,⁴² which provided that unallotted land on Indian reservations, other than lands of the Five Civilized Tribes, and the Osage Reservation, subject to lease for mining purposes under the 1891 act, should be "leased at public auction by the Secretary of the Interior, with the consent of the council speaking for such Indians, for oil and gas mining purposes for a period of not to exceed ten years, and as much longer as oil or gas shall be found in paying quantities." * * *

(13) Secretarial authority to make mineral leases on tribal land was extended by the Act of April 17, 1924,⁴³ to cover land "on any Indian reservation reserved for Indian agency or school purposes, in accordance with existing law applicable to other lands in such reservation." A majority of at least one-eighth was to be reserved in all such leases, and the proceeds were to be deposited to the credit of the Indian tribe.

(14) The next statute on the subject of mineral leases was the Act of March 3, 1927,⁴⁴ which related to Executive order reservations, not covered by the 1891 act, and made special provision for oil and gas leases, in the following terms:

"Unallotted lands within the limits of any reservation or withdrawal created by Executive order for Indian purposes or for the use or occupancy of any Indians or Indians may be leased for oil and gas mining purposes in accordance with the provisions contained in section 308 of this title."⁴⁵

The foregoing statutes left the law governing mineral leases on tribal land in a patch-work state. This condition was remedied on May 11, 1938, by the enactment of comprehensive legislation governing the leasing of tribal lands for mining purposes. This legislation was advocated by the Secretary of the Interior in a letter to the Speaker of the House of Representatives dated June 17, 1937. As this letter was presented by the House Committee on Indian Affairs, recommending the proposed legislation as the basis of its recommendation, it throws considerable light on the problems involved to be met by the above act.⁴⁶

⁴² 43 Stat. 244, 25 U. S. C. 308.

⁴³ 44 Stat. 100, 25 U. S. C. 400a.

⁴⁴ 44 Stat. 1847, 25 U. S. C. 308a.

⁴⁵ 25 U. S. C. 308a.

⁴⁶ Other sections of this act relate to disposition of interests (see 2, 25 U. S. C. 308b) taxes (see 8, 25 U. S. C. 308c), changes in reservation boundaries (see 4, 25 U. S. C. 308d), and prospecting permits (see 5, 25 U. S. C. 308e).

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, June 27, 1937

THE SPEAKERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

My DEAR MR. SPEAKER: I transmit herewith a proposed bill to govern the leasing of Indian lands for mining purposes. Under section 20 of the Act of June 30, 1910 (41 Stat. 81), no unallotted lands on Indian reservations other than lands made on any reservation in the States of Arizona, California, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Washington, or Wyoming. Under the provisions of section 8 of the Act of February 28, 1891 (26 Stat. 789), as amended May 29, 1924 (43 Stat. 211), leases for oil, gas, and other minerals may be made with the consent of the tribal council on treaty reservations in all States. Section 10 of the Indian Reorganization Act approved June 18, 1934 (48 Stat. 984), provides that organized Indian tribes shall have the power to prevent the leasing of tribal lands. Under section 17 of that act, Indian tribes to which charters of incorporation have been empowered to lease their lands for periods of not more than ten years. There is at present no law under which Executive order lands may be leased for mineral purposes. The purpose of the bill is the Act of June 30, 1910, except for oil and gas mining purposes, and the tribes are likewise qualified under sections 16 and 17 of the Indian Reorganization Act. One of the purposes of the legislation now proposed, therefore, is to obtain uniformly so far as practicable uniformity in law relating to the leasing of tribal lands for mining purposes. The Act of June 30, 1910 requires the formal opening of lands for prospecting, location, and lease, by the Secretary of

Section 1 of the Act of May 31, 1893,⁴⁷ lays down a comprehensive law covering mineral leases on unallotted land, in the following terms:

"Hereafter unallotted lands within any Indian reservation or lands owned by any tribe, group, or band of In-

di-Indians, have an application for a lease for minerals other than coal and gas can be considered. It also requires that a person desiring to lease shall locate the mining claims as under the United States mining laws before the Secretary of the Interior. The regulations he must have the lands surveyed if they have not already been surveyed in all accordance with the mining law applicable to the public domain. This frequently involves a large delay and is often quite an expense to an applicant in a lease. Frequently we have known of persons applying for a lease of remaining sand and gravel for local grading purposes, or for the opening of a mine, either for building or other purposes in connection with which there would be little or no interference with mining. In such cases, applicants for leases are required to go through all the ordinary and expensive processes in acquiring actual mining leases. Sometimes the time and expense of making the location and of having the land surveyed are more than they care to undertake although the material desired may be very conveniently located and could be profitably utilized, and consequently the opportunity to lease the land is lost, and the revenue, while perhaps not a great deal in a particular instance, would amount to considerable in such cases through the entire Indian Service."

Section 20 of the Act of June 30, 1910, ^{supra} as amended by the Act of March 3, 1927 (44 Stat. 1281) and December 26, 1924 (43 Stat. 922-923) gives unallotted Indian lands within the States mentioned therein to the Indians, subject to prospecting and leasing for nonfuel minerals as lands of the public domain, after such Indian reservation has been formally deposited by the Secretary of the Interior. It has been held that the Secretary of the Interior has no discretion under the said act in the matter of granting applications for leases of lands having property located on claim and complied with the laws and regulations of the Department of the Interior, and where the same if it has been necessary to avail the laws notwithstanding the fact that the Indians of the reservation were supposed to receive the lands. In other words, the Secretary of the Interior is not to be limited by the fact that the lands are in the hands of the Indians. The Department is in a position to prevent the destruction of a lease by the Indians, and the Department is not to be limited by the fact that the lands are in the hands of the Indians. It is not believed that the present law is adequate to give the Indians the greatest return from their property. As stated, the present law provides for leasing and taking mineral leases in the same manner as mining locations are made on the public lands of the United States. This procedure is not present in applying to a claim on the public domain. For instance, on the public domain the discoverer of a mineral deposit gets a valuable right and can follow the use beyond the side lines, substantially, while on the Indian lands under the Act of June 30, 1910, he is limited to the confines in the survey marked out to exceed 600 feet by 1,600 feet in any one claim. The draft of the bill herewith would permit the obtaining of sufficient acreage to remove the necessity for extrajurisdiction rights with all its attending controversy.

The most urgent change is in the interest of leasing deposits of building stone, sand, gravel and metalliferous minerals. For instance, the well-known iron deposit on the Fort Apache Indian Reservation, extending along the canyon wall for a distance of about 2 miles and 50 feet thick with an estimated value of over 10 million tons, now must be "discovered" and located and monumented and then an application made for a lease. Under the present law only the outcrop along the canyon wall can be taken up under the lease. There are no outcrops of iron ore from the face of the cliff. This is a serious disadvantage, can be leased to better advantage at public auction and in the hands of a private owner rather than to a Government. A small nucleus along the outcrop and applies for a preference right to a lease, although it may be a mile or more from the outcrop. This deposit of iron ore is about 30 miles from a railroad, and anyone interested and considering building a railroad and developing the property would have a very serious problem of 600 feet back from the edge of the cliff. This deposit should be approximately 1 mile out in blocks extending at least 1 mile back from the outcrop.

Coal deposits on the several reservations are not adaptable to the discovery and location system in the present act which has very limited application. The presence of coal is usually not known until a considerable area has been explored, and a reasonable advance before any coal is actually opened on the land. Deposits of coal along the west side of Pyramid Lake, Nevada, can be seen for a distance of many miles but they must be "discovered" and "located" in accordance with the provisions of the law relating to mining on the public domain. There is no one who elects monuments thereon. Deposits of sand, gravel and other minerals are now similarly leased on the public domain. They are well known and could be leased with greater advantage to the Indians in definite areas.

The draft of bill, it is believed, would be a more satisfactory law for the leasing of Indian lands for general purposes. It will harmonize, it will harmonize, it will harmonize with the Indian Reorganization Act, and I recommend that it be enacted.

The Acting Director of the Bureau of the Budget has advised that there is no objection to the presentation of this report to the Congress.

Sincerely yours,

CHARLES F. SMITH,
Acting Secretary of the Interior.

⁴⁷ 42 Stat. 247, 25 U. S. C. 300a.

lands under Federal jurisdiction, except those hereinafter specifically excepted from the provisions of this Act, may, with the approval of the Secretary of the Interior, be leased for mining purposes, by authority of the tribal council or other authorized spokesmen for such Indians, for periods not to exceed ten years and as long thereafter as minerals are produced in paying quantities. Section 2 of the act (25 U S C 380b) provides for public auction of oil and gas leases and "stands the right of tribes organized and incorporated under sections 18 and 19 of the act of June 18, 1934," "to lease lands for mining purposes as herein provided and in accordance with the provisions of any constitution and charter adopted by any Indian tribe pursuant to the act of June 18, 1934." Section 3 of the act (25 U S C 380c) specifies the type of land to be furnished by lessees. Section 4 of the act (25 U S C 380d) authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to promulgate regulations for the enforcement of the act. Section 5 (25 U S C 380e) authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to delegate to subordinate officials power to impose leases. Section 6 of the act (25 U S C 380f) provides that the act "shall not apply to the 'Papago Indian Reservation in Arizona, the Crow Reservation in Montana, the ceded lands of the Shoshone Reservation in Wyoming, the Osage Reservation in Oklahoma, not to the coal and asphalt lands of the Cherokee and Chickasaw Tribes in Oklahoma.'" ¹²

The 1891, 2404, and 1938 acts cover mining leases on all reservations and also grazing ¹³ and farming leases on lands "bought and paid for" by Indians. There is no comprehensive legislation authorizing agricultural and grazing leases on lands which the Indians never "bought and paid for," e. g., lands held by aboriginal occupancy recognized by treaty. There is no general statute authorizing timber leases, but timber sales, which serve the purpose of leases, are made pursuant to section 7 of the act of June 20, 1910. ¹⁴ Neither is there any general legislation authorizing leases for purposes other than mining, grazing, and farming. ¹⁵ This does not mean, of course, that tribal lands have not been utilized by third parties, under permits or under invalid tribal leases, for many other purposes, such as trading posts, power sites, summer cottages, and ordinary commercial development. The character of such use will be further considered in connection with the problem of invalid leases and the problem of tribal

leases or permits. For the present it is enough to point to the large gaps in the existing law governing tribal leases, gaps which, it may be hoped, Congress will soon cover.

For those Indian tribes within the scope of the act of June 18, 1934, these gaps are largely covered by section 17 of that act, which provides that the Secretary of the Interior may issue a charter of incorporation for any tribe applying therefor, which charter may convey comprehensive power to manage and dispose of tribal property subject to the proviso that tribal land within the limits of the reservation may not be leased for periods exceeding 10 years. Such charter provisions may of any not provide for departmental approval of tribal leases. Most charters provide for a trial period during which all tribal leases are subject to departmental approval, to be followed by free tribal leasing within the limits prescribed by the act and the particular charter. ¹⁶

¹⁷ The Corporate Charter of the Menominee (Chippewa) Tribe, issued by the Secretary of the Interior on September 17, 1917, and ratified by vote of the tribe 11,480 to 22,000 against on November 12, 1917, contains the following provisions on the leasing of tribal lands and the termination of departmental supervisory powers over such leases:

3 The Tribe, subject to any restrictions contained in the Constitution and Laws of the United States, or in the Constitution and Laws of the said tribe, and subject to the following restrictive powers, in addition to all powers already conferred or guaranteed by tribal Constitution and By-Laws:

• • • (b) To purchase, take by gift, bequest, or otherwise, hold, manage, operate, and dispose of property of every description, real and personal, subject to the following limitations:

• • • (3) No lease, permits (which terms shall not include land conveyances to third parties) in land now on sale contract by covering any land or interests in land now on

after filed in the Tribe within the boundaries of, or reservation of the Menominee Chippewa Tribe shall be made by the Tribe for a longer term than ten years and in such lease and permits except as otherwise provided in the

such contracts must be approved in the Secretary of the Interior or by his duly authorized representative,

• • •

6 Upon the request of the Tribal Executive Committee for the termination of any supervisory powers reserved to the Secretary of the Interior under sections 9 (b) 2, 5 (d), 5 (e), 5 (f), 5 (g), 5 (h), and section 8 of this Charter, the Secretary of the Interior, if he shall approve such request, shall (upon receipt of the question) of such termination to the tribe for its decision. This termination shall be effective upon ratification by a majority vote at an election

in which at least fifty per cent of the adult members of the Tribe in which at least fifty per cent of the adult members of the Tribe

residing on the reservation of the Menominee Chippewa Tribe shall vote. If at any time after ten years from the effective date of this Charter, such request shall be made and the Secretary shall disapprove it or fail to approve or disapprove it within ninety days after its receipt, the question of the termination of any such powers may then be submitted by the Secretary of the Interior or by the Tribal Executive Committee to popular referendum of the adult members of the Tribe acting by a majority vote of the

of the Menominee Chippewa Tribe and if the termination is approved by two-thirds of the eligible voters of the Tribe, the

• • •

A similar provision, without the 10-year minimum for continued supervision, is found in the Corporate Charter of the Fort Belknap Indian Community, issued by the Secretary of the Interior on July 20, 1917, and ratified by the Indian community on August 25, 1917.

An alternative form of charter, under which supervision terminates automatically after a specified period has been issued to a number of Oklahoma tribes, under the act of June 20, 1938 (49 Stat. 1907, U S Code, title 25, sec. 608) A typical charter, that of the Kickapoo Tribe, issued by the Secretary of the Interior on December 11, 1935 and ratified by vote of the tribe on January 18, 1938, contains the following provisions:

3 The Kickapoo Tribe of Oklahoma, subject to any restrictions contained in the Constitution and Laws of the United States or in the Constitution and Laws of the Tribe, and subject to the limitations of Sections 4 and 5 of this Charter, shall have the following corporate powers as conferred by Section 5 of the Oklahoma Indian Welfare Act of June 20, 1938:

• • •

(g) To purchase, take by gift, bequest or otherwise, own, hold, manage, operate, and dispose of property of every description, real and personal.

• • •

4 The foregoing corporate powers shall be subject to the following limitations:

• • •

(b) No tribal land or interest in land shall be leased for a longer period than ten years, except that oil, gas, or mineral leases may be made for longer periods when authorized by law.

• • •

¹² 48 Stat. 984, 986.

¹³ Special statutes govern the ceded reservations. See, for ex., 463, 464, 465, supra. On Ogea and Cherokee Cessions lands, see Chapter 28. The Papago Reservation in Arizona was created by Executive order on February 1, 1917. The order provided that the mineral lands within the reservation should be open for exploration, location, and patent under the general mining laws of the United States. The subsequent acts of Congress enlarging and extending the boundaries of the Papago Reservation have provided that the lands added thereto should be subject to the proviso of the Executive order concerning mineral rights. Act of February 21, 1931, 46 Stat. 1302; Act of July 28, 1947, 50 Stat. 190, see also Op. Sol. I D., 3121818, October 16, 1938. Since mineral lands of the Papago Reservation are subject to disposition as part of the public domain, the tribe cannot lease them.

¹⁴ For grazing regulations see 53 C F R 71-72.18. For leasing of Indian lands for farming, grazing and business purposes, see 25 C F R 171.1-171.38.

¹⁵ The mature living and dead and down timber on unallotted lands of any Indian reservation may be sold under regulations to be prescribed by the Secretary of the Interior, and the proceeds from such sales shall be used for the benefit of the Indians of the reservation in such manner as he may direct. Provided, That this section shall not apply to the States of Minnesota and Wisconsin." (25 U S C 407, 80 Stat. 107.) Of Act of February 16, 1889, 26 Stat. 678, 26 U S C 160, amended in sec. 15, supra, and see Act of March 4, 1913, 37 Stat. 1015, 18 U S C 615 (authorizing sale of burnt timber on "public domain") and specifying that the proceeds from the sale of burnt timber on lands appropriated to an Indian tribe shall be transferred to the fund of such tribe. On the power of the Secretary to modify timber contracts, see Chapter 5.

¹⁶ But see 25 C F R 171.1, 171.12.

Tribal constitutions adopted pursuant to section 16 of the act must be distinguished from charters issued pursuant to section 17. The former determine, primarily, the manner in which the tribe shall exercise powers based upon existing law, and leasing provisions in tribal constitutions are therefore to be read in the light of existing law, tribal charters, on the other hand involve an exercise of power, and leasing provisions in charters are not limited by prior law.¹⁴

Where a tribe has the power to execute a corporate lease, there is administrative determination by the effect that ministerial duties in the execution of such power may be delegated by the corporate authorities to a federal employee but that general responsibility for the execution of such leases and for fixing the terms thereof cannot be transferred to such an employee.¹⁵

Under the foregoing statutes it will be seen that the character of tribal ownership is, generally speaking, irrelevant to the question of whether the tribe may lease tribal lands. An exception to this general rule must be made respecting the Act of February 28, 1911,¹⁶ which is limited to lands "bought and paid for by the Indians," and note should be taken of the early view, now superseded,¹⁷ that Pueblo lands are not subject to departmental control.¹⁸

Within the limits fixed by acts of Congress and regulations issued pursuant thereto, the tribe may specify the terms upon which it will lease land. Thus where improvements for Indian rehabilitation are placed upon tribal land under the Emergency Appropriation Act of April 8, 1935,¹⁹ the tribe may rent such improved lands to needy members and provide that rentals shall be impressed with a trust for a particular purpose.²⁰

Congressional power over the leasing of tribal lands includes the power of controlling the receipts therefrom. It has been held that the tribal interest in rentals is subject to the mere measure of purely congressional control as is the tribal interest in land itself, so that a statute conveying the tribal interest in minerals to allottees raises no serious question of constitutionality and no reasonable basis for a suit by the tribe against the mineral lessees.²¹ Conversely, where minerals are reserved to a tribe

§ 1711 In any lease from the date of initiation of this Charter, or such other date as may be fixed pursuant to Section 8, the following corporate acts or provisions shall be valid only after approval by the Secretary of the Interior or his duly authorized representative:

(d) Any lease, grant, permit, or other contract affecting tribal land, tribal minerals, or other tribal interests in land.

§ 1712 At any time within six years after the initiation of this Charter, any power or review established by Section 8 may be terminated by the Secretary of the Interior with the consent of the Executive Council. At no time the expiration of this period shall the Secretary have power to further extend of this period. Each proposed extension shall be effective unless disapproved in a three-fourths vote of the Executive Council.

14 Memo Sol I D, February 12 1937, and Memo Sol I D, December 11 1947 (holding that a statutory requirement of Board approval for tribal leases applies to tribe organized under sec 16 but not to tribe incorporated under sec 17).

15 Memo Sol I D, September 11, 1917, Memo Sol I D, December 22, 1936.

16 26 Stat 793.

17 It has been held by Assistant Attorney General, later Turbin, Van Devanter that in order to bring land within the statutory category of "lands bought and paid for by the Indians," each payment was not necessary and that an exercise of other lands for other valuable consideration sufficed. *Unalakleet Land*, 27 L. 498 (1907). Accord *Stromberry Valley Cattle Co v Chapman*, 46 Pac 348 (1900).

18 *United States v Candelaria*, 271 U S 432 (1926). And see *Chapman* 30.

19 49 Stat 1135.

20 49 Stat 1135. See Presidential Order No 1228-1, dated January 11, 1939, allocating emergency funds for "the rehabilitation of Indians in stricken land by artificial means."

21 *Op Sol I D*, at 8818, March 18, 1936.

22 Attorney's Council to Represent the Seminole Nation, 25 Op A G 421 (1928).

for a given period, with provision that they shall belong to the allottee (thereafter, an extension of this period of tribal interest is not unconstitutional and tribal leases, therefore executed have been sustained as valid.²²

Whatever its power over outstanding tribal leases may be, Congress has in certain cases provided that such outstanding leases shall continue in force despite the allotment of the land leased.²³ The present practice appears to be to include in tribal leases a provision permitting their termination in the event of the allotment of the land leased.

The execution of tribal leases which are not authorized by any existing federal law raises a series of difficult problems as to the legal rights of lessors, lessees, and third parties. The statute which denies legal validity to a lease not made "by treaty or convention entered into pursuant to the constitution" does not prohibit the execution of such a lease, and although the statute imposes a penalty upon private persons who, without local authority attempt to negotiate such treaties or conventions or otherwise "treat with any such nation or tribe of Indians for the title or purchase of any lands by them held or claimed," it has been held that this language does not make it an offense to execute, accept or negotiate for an unauthorized lease. This issue was squarely raised in the case of *United States v Hunter*,²⁴ which was an action to recover the statutory penalty of \$1,000 for an alleged violation, by a lessee of the Cheyenne Nation, of Revised Statutes, Section 2318. The court offered the following interpretation of the prohibitory language of this section:

Obviously, it contemplates the casting of a penalty upon one who assumes to act for the United States, and, attempting an authority which he does not possess, attempts to negotiate a national contract or treaty with an Indian nation. But there is another clause in the sentence which renders the question at issue doubtful, that denounces the penalty on every person who attempts to treat with any such nation or tribe of Indians for the title or purchase of any lands by them held or claimed. This seems to refer to an attempt, by private contract and personal arrangement, to obtain the lands of an Indian nation. But what kind of a private contract is denounced? The description is not as broad as in the first sentence, for there it speaks of purchase, grant, lease, or other conveyance of lands, or of any title or claim therein, while here it is for "the title or purchase of any lands." Does this include a mere lease for grazing purposes? I think not. A leasehold interest may be considered for some purposes, a title, and sometimes the word "title" is used in a general sense so as to include any title or interest, and thus a mere leasehold interest, but here it is the title, and this, in common acceptance, means the full and absolute title, for when we speak of a man as having title to certain lands, the ordinary understanding is that he is the owner of the fee and not that he is a mere lessee, and, this being a penal statute, no extended, no strained construction should be put upon the words used in order to include in it not within their plain and ordinary significance. That this is the true construction is sustained by the section immediately following, which reads:

"Every person who drives or otherwise conveys any stock, or horses, mules, or cattle, to range and feed on any lands belonging to any Indian tribe, without the consent of such tribe, is liable to a penalty of one dollar for each animal of such stock."

This imposes a penalty on any one who, without the consent of an Indian tribe drives his stock to range and feed on the lands of such tribe. This implies that an

²³ *Adams v Ogea Tribe of Indians*, 50 W 2d 853 [C C A. 10 1939].
²⁴ 50 W 2d 918 [C C W D Okla 1931], cert den 287 U S 822.

Some later statutes seek to eliminate doubts on this point by expressly reserving to Congress the right to extend the period of tribal mineral ownership. Act of March 8, 1921, 41 Stat 1866 (Fort Belknap).

²⁵ Act of June 4, 1920, 41 Stat 761 (Crow); Act of March 8, 1921,

41 Stat 1855 (Fort Belknap).

²⁶ 21 Fed 615 [C C R. D. Mo. 1884].

Indian tribe may consent to the use of their land, for grazing purposes, or, at least, that if it does consent no penalty attaches, and, if the tribe may so consent, it may express such consent in writing and for at least any brief and reasonable time. It was and is counsel for the government that if a lease on any lands can be sustained, so may one for 999 years, and thus the Indian tribe is actually dispossessed of its lands. But, as was stated in the opening of the opinion, the question here is not as to the validity of a lease long or short, but as to whether this penal statute reaches to the mere holding or negotiating of the lease. To the question I have this answer, it seems to me that it cannot be so interpreted, and whatever may be the fact as to the validity of such a lease, and entering into no discussion as to how far it is binding on the Indian nation, or whether it could be of aid in the option of the nation or by the action of the national government, I am of the opinion that the acts charged upon the defendant are not within the scope of this penal statute. (Pp. 117-118.)

Under this analysis it would appear that the creation by tribal authorities of a lease involving tribal land may lead to the same consequences as the creation of a lease by an infant, a lunatic or a person under guardianship. The lease cannot be enforced, but the execution of the lease is not an offense, and valid rights may accrue under the lease.

Thus, it was held, in *Leonson v. United States*,⁴⁴ that the United States could not recover rentals under an approved lease if rent had already been paid under an invalid lease. The court declared, *per* Chief Justice (later Justice) Shannon:

"It is conceded on all hands that Robert H. Ashby, the United States Indian agent, had authority to collect the rents for these premises, and it, in his direction, the lessees under the invalid lease, paid the rent to a representative of the Winnebago tribe of Indians, who accepted and distributed it with Ashby's knowledge and consent, among those Indians, the government would undoubtedly be estopped from again collecting rent for the same premises of one who never had occupied them, and to whom the rents were collected by a representative of the estate quo finient, and distributed with the consent of the trustee among the estate quo finient, it is difficult to perceive how the trustee can again collect the rents. All this repeated evidence was competent, pertinent, and relevant to the point whether the Flominy Company and Nick Fritz, who occupied during the term of the Lemmon lease, held under him or under their old leases from the Winnebago tribe of Indians, and it should have been received." (P. 653.)

A lease, although invalid, may be sufficient to bar a trespass action against the lessee under Revised Statutes, section 2117, above discussed.⁴⁵ Likewise a lessee under a void lease may justify his possession to the point of enjoining a trespasser.⁴⁶ Likewise, it has been held by a state court that the lessee under an invalid tribal lease may execute a binding agreement, amounting to a sublease, with a third party and may recover on a note given by such third party as consideration, in accordance with the principle that a lessee may not question the title of his lessor.⁴⁷ It has also been held in at least one state case⁴⁸

that the holder of an invalid tribal lease may recover upon a contract for the purchase of cattle upon the land so leased. On the other hand, there are some state cases holding that an Indian tribe cannot recover rental under a void lease (although it is intimated that a quantum meruit recovery may be had),⁴⁹ and that a lessee under such a lease who is not in actual possession of the land leased, cannot secure possession of crops grown thereon.⁵⁰

The foregoing decisions leave many gaps in a definition of the rights of lessees, and third parties, under an invalid lease. These questions, however, are not peculiar to Indian law, and courts will probably answer them, as they arise, by reference to analogies in the general field of landlord and tenant relations.⁵¹ Such analogies, however, must be used cautiously, in view of the fundamental principle that, in matters affecting tribal affairs, where Congress is silent the law of the tribe rather than the law of the state must prevail.⁵² In accordance with this principle, it has been held that the effect of a lease of tribal land must be determined in accordance with the statutes and judicial decisions of the tribe. Thus, in *Oshagah Coal Co. v. McCaleb*,⁵³ where the plaintiff company, operating under an instrument which, though called a "mineral lease," apparently amounted to a "lease," sought an injunction against a trespasser, the court declined, *per* Chief Justice,

The bill averred . . . that the (Cheyenne) Nation had theretofore lawfully leased five mineral licenses, pursuant to the laws of the Nation, to certain licensees therein named, which licenses conferred on said licensees the exclusive right to mine and sell coal on the various tracts of land described in said licenses. . . . that all of the licenses aforesaid were assigned by, and that the assignment thereto were obtained from, the licensees, by the plaintiff company, in accordance with the laws of the Nation. . . . From any point of view, we think that the bill stated a case entitling the plaintiff, to some measure of equitable relief. It showed . . . that the plaintiff company had an exclusive right to mine coal on the lands in question. . . . (Pp. 87-89.)

Furthermore, it has been held that the judgment of a tribal court on the validity of a lease involving a member of the tribe, the tribe itself, and a nonmember, is *res judicata* and will not be reexamined in a court of the United States.⁵⁴

In the case of *Baibee v. Shannon*⁵⁵ the court declared:

Much of the testimony in the record goes to show that the lease from the Creek Nation under which appellants claim is illegal because not made in compliance with the Creek laws upon the subject, and because the grant was in excess of the authority of the principal chief. The judgment of the Creek court precludes our consideration of these questions. We cannot review errors of law or practice in such courts, when their judgments are presented to us, unless such errors are jurisdictional. (P. 510.)

Moreover, it has been held that agents of the United States are without authority to remove as trespassers persons holding under an allegedly invalid lease. Thus, in the case of *Quigley v. Stephens*,⁵⁶ an Indian agent sought to determine a controversy

of the Indians, and in fact rendered the service to the defendant of caring for, and feeding his cattle, he was entitled to compensation therefor.

⁴⁴ *Wages v. Cheyenne Ship Livestock Association*, 58 Kans 712, 51 Pac 216 (1897), and *Licht v. Oonover*, 10 Okla 742, 88 Pac 908 (1903) (holding that an individual Indian attempting to lease tribal land cannot recover agreed rental under the invalid lease); *Lemmon v. Munro*, 1 Idaho 612 (1870), and 102 U S 145 (1880) (holding that white men attempting to lease tribal land cannot recover rentals); *Thib v. Goussin*, 2 Dak 71, 2 N W 268 (1878) (holding that white men attempting to lease tribal land cannot recover in ejectment).

⁴⁵ *Quigley v. Stephens*, 1 Ind T 299, 40 B W 884 (1907).

⁴⁶ See *Beale* 7.

⁴⁷ 88 Fed 86 (C C A 8, 1895).

⁴⁸ *Barber v. Shannon*, 1 Ind T 299, 40 B W 884 (1907).

⁴⁹ *Id.*

⁵⁰ 8 Ind T 295 (1900), and 125 Fed 148 (C C A 8, 1908).

⁴⁴ 106 Fed 650 (C C A, 8, 1901).

⁴⁵ 18 Op A 235 (1885).

⁴⁶ *Oshagah Coal Co. v. McCaleb*, 68 Fed 86 (C C A 8, 1895). While the opinion in this case refers to a "mineral lease" rather than a "lease," it refers to the "estate" created by the transaction, which indicates that the instrument was a lease rather than a license.

⁴⁷ *Cheyenne Ship Livestock Assn v. Ovi L & O Co.*, 138 Mo 894, 40 B W 107 (1907).

⁴⁸ *Kansas v. Y. Y. Land & Cattle Co. v. Thompson*, 57 Kans 702, 797, 48 Pac 84 (1897).

Conceding that Thompson had at no time a right, as against the Indians or the government of the United States, to continue in the occupancy of the land, he was there with the consent

as to the validity of a lease of tribal land executed by the owner of improvements thereon, and, reaching the conclusion that the lease was invalid, ordered the removal of the lessee. In a suit in ejectment which the alleged lessee then brought in the United States Court for the Northern District of the Indian Territory, it was held that the action of the agent was without legal authority or justification. The court declared:

But whether the deed was void or valid, the rights of the parties to it, its destruction, the disposition of the improvements acquired under it, and the law and the equities of the case, cannot be passed upon or enforced by an Indian agent. The courts alone possess these powers. The Indian agent complies in his decree "that, if this rule were to prevail, beneficiaries could take possession of the country, and practically control the tribes by connivance with their citizens." Whether this be true or not, the fact is—and it is one of common knowledge—that nine-tenths of the farms of the Indian Territory have been opened up, and made valuable by entries substantially like this, and the Indian owners have been the direct beneficiaries. The courts here, without passing upon the validity of such entries, have universally held that, until the improvements provided for in the contract were paid for, the Indian lessor was estopped to set up the invalidity of the lease, and, recently, in harmony with these decisions, by act of Congress (the Curtis bill—Ind. T. Am. St. 1890, §§ 576-578), it is provided that the lessee shall not be ejected until he shall have been paid for his improvements. We hold that the Indian agent had no jurisdiction to try this case, and, therefore, when, at the instance of the

appellee, he, using his police for that purpose, forcibly ejected the appellant from the premises, and put the appellee in possession, all the parties to the transaction—the appellees, as well as the Indian police, who is made a party to this suit—were guilty of an act of forcible entry, and that, therefore, the court below erred in instructing the jury to find their verdict for the appellee. The judgment of the court below is reversed, and the cause remanded. (P. 274.)

Whether the foregoing decisions represent sound law may be open to discussion. They raise fundamentally a question that goes beyond the scope of Indian law and revolves about the principle that a lessee may not question the title of his lessor.⁸⁰ We turn, however, in the following section on "Tribal Licenses," obtain some further light on the situation created by legally unauthorized tribal leases.

Whether else these cases may show, they do indicate that a lease made by a title to a member of the tribe, being maintainable only in the courts of the tribe, may be valid under those laws although null and void under federal or state law. Such a view seems to have been implicitly accepted with respect to leases to tribal members in a number of decisions⁸¹ and in a rather extensive administrative practice.

⁸⁰ See 1 Tilden, *Landlord and Tenant* (1910), § 21, 182.
⁸¹ *United States v. Rogers*, 23 Fed. Cls. (D. C. W. D. Ark. 1885),
United States v. Isaacs, 25 Fed. Cls. No. 15141 (C. C. W. D. Wis. 1870),
and see also cited *supra*, at 197.

SECTION 20. TRIBAL LICENSES

That an Indian tribe may grant permission to third parties to enter upon tribal land, and may impose such conditions as it deems desirable upon such permission, is a proposition that has been repeatedly affirmed by the Attorney General. Perhaps the most persuasive of the opinions on this issue is that rendered by Acting Attorney General Phillips in 1884.⁸² Three years earlier, the validity of the permit laws of the Choctaws and Chickasaws had been upheld in a formal opinion of the Attorney General, and the Interior Department had been advised that its activities in removing intruders should follow the definition of "intruders" provided by tribal law.⁸³ In 1884, a reconsideration of the question was asked "In consequence of earnest protest against that opinion from among the people of the two nations concerned—the more because such protest is in accordance with the judgments of some members of Congress and other prominent gentlemen from the States adjoining." The Attorney General declared:

In the absence of a treaty or statute, it seems that the power of the nation thus to regulate its own rights of occupancy, and to say who shall participate therein and upon what conditions, cannot be doubted. The clear result of all the cases, as related in US United States Reports, at page 526, is, "the right of the Indians to their occupancy is as sacred as that of the United States to the fee."

I add, that so far as the United States recognize political organizations amongst Indians the right of occupancy is a right in the *tribe or nation*. It is of course competent for the United States to disregard such organizations and treat Indians individually, but their policy has generally been otherwise. In such cases presumptively they resist all question of individual right to the definition of the nation, as being purely *domicile* in character. The practical importance here of this proposition is that in the absence of express contradictory provisions by treaty, or by statutes of the United States, the nation (and not a citizen) is to declare who shall come within

the boundaries of its occupancy, and under what regulations and conditions. (P. 30.)

Finally no statute or treaty provision compelling variance from this rule, the Attorney General upheld the validity of the tribal laws in question. In answer to a second question put by the Interior Department "whether, supposing these laws to be valid, the United States, through the proper Department, have power to revise them so as to secure reasonableness in the amount of the fees which they require from persons who apply for permits," the Attorney General held:

In conclusion I have to say, that my attention has not been called to any statute by which Congress has delegated to a Department or officer of the United States its power to control such taxation. I therefore conclude that no Department or officer has such power. (P. 36.)

While a tribe may thus issue and condition a permit covering entry upon tribal land, it cannot (any more than could a state) grant an exclusive permit which would interfere with interstate commerce and thus trespass upon a field constitutionally reserved to Congress. Thus in the case of *Muskogee National Telegraph Company v. Holt*,⁸⁴ the court held that a purported exclusive tribal license to a telephone company could not bar Congress from issuing a similar license to another company. The validity of the tribal license was not questioned, but the claim to exclusiveness "was invalid from the time the grant was made, being an attempt on the part of the nation to exercise a power vitally affecting interstate commerce, which did not belong to it." (P. 385, per Thayer, J.)

Under the foregoing analysis the power of a tribe "to declare who shall come within the boundaries of its occupancy and under what regulations and conditions" exists in the absence of treaty or statute as an inherent power of the tribe. We have already noted that such power is not limited by statutes restricting the power to lease.⁸⁵ The power to issue permits, while neither

⁸² Choctaw and Chickasaw Permit Laws, 18 Op. A. G. 84 (1884).

⁸³ *Intruders on Lands of the Choctaws and Chickasaws*, 17 Op. A. G. 184 (1881).

⁸⁴ 118 Fed. 882 (C. C. A. 9, 1902), *rev'd* 42nd T. 18 (1901).

⁸⁵ See sec. 10, *supra*.

created not limited by statute, has been occasionally recognized and continued by statute.⁸⁰

There are administrative decisions upholding the validity of tribal permits approved by a superintendent, instead of by the Secretary of the Interior, who is required to approve tribal leases,⁸¹ and upholding the validity of a tribal permit issued to a state conservation department for the establishment of a game station.⁸² Tribal charters of incorporation issued by the Secretary of the Interior pursuant to section 17 of the Act of June 18, 1931,⁸³ sometimes distinguish between leases and permits, requiring departmental approval of leases but not requiring such approval of permits.⁸⁴

For purposes of administering the payment of soil conservation benefits, the Department of Agriculture has ruled that in the case of grazing leases the lessee may receive conservation benefit payments but that in the case of permits neither the tribe nor the permittee may receive such benefits.⁸⁵

The distinction between a lease and a permit or license received administrative consideration and comment with the validity of resolutions made by a Pueblo to members of the Pueblo. The lease legal issues raised thereby must apply equally to transactions between the tribe and third parties.⁸⁶

This distinction has been considered by the courts in a great variety of cases which seek to distinguish an interest in land from a mere license. A recent decision in the Circuit Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit holds

"A mere permission to use land, distinguishable from that remaining in the owner and no interest in exclusive possession of it being given, is but a license. (Citing authorities)." *Tips v. United States*, 70 F. (2d) 521, 526.

The essential characteristic of a license to use real property, as distinguished from an interest in real property, is that in the license case the licensee has no vested right as against the licensor or third parties. It has only a privilege, which the licensor may terminate.

As Justice Holmes pointed out, in *Alfonso v. Washington Jockey Club*, 227 U.S. 534, "A contract binds the person of the maker but does not create an interest in the property that it may concern, unless it also operates as a conveyance." * * * But if it did not create such an interest, that is to say, a right *in rem* valid against the landowner and third persons, the holder had no right to enforce specific performance by self-help. His only

right was to sue upon the contract for the breach." (At page 630.)

Put in its simplest terms, the rule is that a landowner does not transfer an interest in his land by allowing another to use the land. Thus, for instance, a member of the landowner's family, inasmuch as he is "a bare licensee of the owner, who has an equal interest in the land," cannot derive from his legal privilege to use the land a right against the landowner or against third parties. *Billett v. Town of Mason*, 81 Vt. 701 (N. H. 1911). See also *Karlson Lumber Co. v. Kolman*, 69 N.W. 165 (Wt. 1900). (2p 17-18.)

While it is easy to formulate a theoretical distinction between a lease and a license, there is a fairly large " twilight zone " in which reasonable differences of interpretation may arise. Within this zone the courts have professed to look into the intention of the parties to determine whether the transaction was intended to create a right against the landowner and against third parties, in which case it must be considered a lease, or was intended merely to confer a privilege, in which case a mere license relationship is established.

Even the language of leasing will not suffice to create a lease relationship if the transaction leaves complete power over the land in the hands of the landowner. Thus, in the case of *Tips v. United States*, 70 F. (2d) 525, the court found that an instrument which used the term "indefinite," "tenant," "lease," etc., was nevertheless a mere license, because the so-called lessee, the War Department, had no power to lease the property or to grant more than a revocable permit to use the property. (P. 10.)⁸⁷

Where the parties intend to create a bare license to use and enjoy tribal property, there is no statute under which the licensee may be barred from the use of such property nor can administrative limitations prevent the tribe concerned from peacefully tolerating such use. Whether, however, such permittees would be entitled to any protection against the tribe in the event of a breach of the conditions of the permit by the tribe is a question on which, unfortunately, no decisions are available.⁸⁸

The terms and conditions of tribal permits have generally been agreed upon by the parties immediately concerned and the practical absence of litigation in this field leaves us without an authoritative basis for answering many questions which might be put. It has been administratively determined that a tribe may grant to an Indian service official a power of attorney to execute grazing permits covering tribal land, but that the Interior Department has no right to coerce the grant of such powers of attorney.⁸⁹

The terms and conditions of tribal permits are prescribed in various of the constitutions and charters issued pursuant to sections 16 and 17 of the Act of June 18, 1931.⁹⁰ It has been administratively determined that a grant of a nonexclusive right-of-way across tribal land is not such a transfer of restricted Indian land as is absolutely prohibited by section 4 of the act cited, but that such a grant is a conveyance of an interest in land and therefore, even though the Secretary of the Interior is authorized by statute to grant rights-of-way across tribal land for specified purposes, such a grant by the Secretary is invalid, in the case of a tribe organized under section 16 of the act, unless the tribe consents thereto.⁹¹

Notes

⁸⁰ See, for instance, Act of January 5, 1927, 41 Stat. 982, authorizing as an exclusive right of the Seneca Indians on their reservations in New York the right "to issue permits and licenses, for the taking of game and fish."

⁸¹ Memo Sol. I. D., December 11, 1937.

⁸² Memo Sol. I. D., December 22, 1938.

⁸³ 48 Stat. 984, 986.

⁸⁴ Memo Sol. I. D., November 11, 1937. *Charter of Lac du Flambeau Tribe*, sec. 5(b) and 5(b5), and of *Memo Sol. I. D., May 23, 1937* (reference to tribal members in issuance of grazing permits).

⁸⁵ The permit (Form 5-512) prescribed by the Secretary of the Interior by which grazing privileges upon tribal lands may be granted expressly states that "the Government or the Department of the Interior, except to prevent waste or other injury to the livestock, has no right to limit the number of animals and is not to be taken or construed as granting any leasehold interest in or to the land described herein, but that it is a mere permit, terminable and revocable in the discretion of the approving officer. The permittee, therefore, in our opinion, has no such legal estate or interest in the land so as to give him control thereof. Furthermore, the operator herein only a personal privilege to graze livestock on the land in question, an owner, cash tenant, share tenant, nor a person who acts in similar capacity, he is not within the definition of 'tenant' as used in the act cited."

Whether the fee is or is not held by the United States Government in trust for the Indians, the land after it has been leased is outside the control of the Government or the Department of the Interior, except to prevent waste or other injury to the livestock, and the right to limit the number of animals is a stock grazed on such lands by the lessee to the grazing capacity thereof, the lease conveying an estate or interest in the land for the period of the lease. The lessee, renting for cash, is a third operator by definition, and he has such estate or interest in the land upon which he operates as to give him control thereof. *Memo Sol. Dept. Agriculture, February 17, 1937.*

⁸⁶ Op. Sol. I. D., M.29050, August 9, 1939.

⁸⁷ *Tips*.
⁸⁸ The nearest case on point seems to be *Shelton v. Kresge*, 5 Ind. T. 166 (1906), but this situation was governed by sec. 3 of the Curtis Act of June 23, 1906, 30 Stat. 495, applicable only to the Five Tribes, which granted permission the privilege of remaining on tribal land and fee-free long enough to cover the value of their improvements.

⁸⁹ Memo Sol. I. D., November 11, 1935.

⁹⁰ 48 Stat. 984, 986-987, 25 U.S.C. 476, 477.

⁹¹ Memo Sol. I. D., September 2, 1935.

SECTION 21. STATUS OF SURPLUS AND CEDED LANDS

In the preceding three sections dealing with the execution of conveyances, leases, and licenses, covering Indian tribal lands, we have been primarily concerned with the validity as such of statements and with the power of the tribal entities to dispose of private property. When we turn to the subject of Indian land cessions to the United States, the question of validity is no longer a troublesome one. For, as we have noted, most of the historical precedents of Indian land law were designed to encourage the cession of tribal lands to the United States, and the courts have been reluctant to put obstacles in the way of this process.¹² Even where prior treaties guaranteed that no land cessions would ever be made or that such cessions would be made only with the consent of three-fourths of the Indians concerned, the Supreme Court has held that a subsequent statute providing for the cession of Indian land by a majority is entirely constitutional.¹³ The problem in this field is, therefore, primarily one of the construction of treaties, agreements, and statutes, rather than their validity.

In dealing with the status of ceded lands, the basic question that constantly recurs is whether a cession of lands by an Indian tribe has finally and completely ended the interest of the tribe therein, or whether the tribe retains some equitable interest in the land conveyed.¹⁴ Prior to 1860, most of the treaties, agreements, and statutes by which Indian tribes ceded land to the United States provided for an outright and final conveyance, in return for which the Indians received cash payments, annuities, subsistence lands, or other forms of value.¹⁵

For about four decades after the adoption of the General Allotment Act an alternative pattern prevails. "Sparrows" reservation lands, not needed for allotment, are turned over to the Government for the purpose of sale. The Indians are credited with the proceeds only as the land is sold, and the United States is not itself bound to purchase any part of the lands so opened for disposal. Undisposed of lands of this class remain tribal property until disposed of as provided for law.¹⁶

In between these two recognized patterns of "cession and removal" and "relinquishment in trust," various hybrid forms appear.¹⁷

The "cession and removal" formula is found in the Treaty of March 31, 1854,¹⁸ with the Omaha Indians, construed in *United States v. Omaha Tribe of Indians*.¹⁹ In this treaty the language of present conveyance is used and the Indians undertake to remove from the land ceded within 1 year from the ratification of the treaty. The fact that payment was to be made over a

long period of years, in the opinion of the Supreme Court, did not delay the passage of title to the United States.²⁰

A clear case of the "relinquishment in trust" agreement appears in the Act of April 27, 1804,²¹ ratifying an agreement with the Crow Indians. The agreement provided that the Indians "ceded, alienated, and relinquished" to the United States all of their "right, title, and interest" in the lands described. The United States agreed to sell the land on prescribed terms and to pay the proceeds to the Indians, making semiannual reports as to the status and disposition of the sums realized. The agreement specifically declared the intention of this Act that the United States shall act as trustee for said Indians to dispose of said lands and to expend and pay over the proceeds received from the sale thereof only as received, as herein provided.²² Construing these provisions in the case of *Ash Sheep Co. v. United States*,²³ the Supreme Court declined

It is obvious that the relation thus established by the act between the Government and the tribe of Indians was essentially that of trustee and beneficiary and that the agreement contained many features appropriate to a trust agreement to sell lands and devote the proceeds to the interests of the *cestui que trust*. *Minnesota v. Hitchcock*, 185 U. S. 373, 381, 299.

Taking all of the provisions of the agreement together we cannot doubt that while the Indians by the agreement released their possessory right in the Government, the owner of the fees, so that, as their trustee, it could make perfect title to purchasers, nevertheless, until sales should be made any benefits which might be derived from the use of the lands would belong to the beneficiaries and not to the trustee, and that they did not become "Public lands" in the sense of lands subject to sale, or other disposition, under the general land laws. *Union Pacific R. R. Co. v. Hart*, 215 U. S. 384, 398. They were subject to sale by the Government, to be sure, but in the manner and for the purposes provided for in the special agreement with the Indians, which was embodied in the Act of April 27, 1804, c. 34 at 352 and as to this point the case is ruled by the *Hitchcock* and *Chippewa* *Trust, supra*. Thus, we conclude that the lands described in the bill were "Indian lands" when the complaint permitted its sheep upon them, in violation of § 2117 of Revised Statutes, and the decree in No. 212 must be affirmed. (Pp. 163, 168.)

Similar circumstances were present in the Act of June 14, 1860,²⁴ authorizing an agreement for the cession and sale of Chippewa lands. In construing this agreement the Supreme Court suggested:²⁵

... that the United States has no substantial interest in the lands, that it holds the legal title under a contract with the Indians and in trust for their benefit. (P. 297.)

¹² Accord on Sol. I. D. M 28-108, January 8, 1938. In this case the effect of Art. I of an agreement with the Yuma Indians, ratified by the Act of August 10, 1804, 28 Stat. 280, 832, was in issue. The Substantive of the future Department ruled that although nontribal lands had been continuously designated as a part of the Indian reservation and leased for grazing and mining purposes for the benefit of the Yuma Indians, this administrative reservation of Indian ownership could not prevail in the face of clear language in the agreement indicating "in clear and precise terms a present relinquishment or cession of all of the interest of the Indians in the reservation lands." The unopposed cases of *United States v. Sud Johnson* and *Alm. Sud Johnson*, and *United States v. M. O. Walker* and *Mrs. M. O. Walker*, decided August 2, 1885, in the District Court of the United States for the Southern District of California, are cited in support of this ruling.

¹³ 33 Stat. 862.

¹⁴ 33 Stat. 862, 361.

¹⁵ 262 U. S. 169 (1920), aff'd 250 Fed. 601 (C. C. A. 9, 1918), and 264 Fed. 100 (C. C. A. 9, 1918).

¹⁶ 26 Stat. 632.

¹⁷ *Minnesota v. Hitchcock*, 185 U. S. 373 (1902).

¹² These claims have been maintained and established as far west as the river Mississippi by the word. The title to a vast portion of the lands we now hold, originates in them. It is not for the courts of the country to question the validity of this title or to require one which is incompatible with it. *Johnson v. Johnson*, 8 Wheat. 618, 588-589 (1825).

¹³ *Lane Wolf v. Hitchcock*, 187 U. S. 638 (1902); *Cherokee Nation v. Hitchcock*, 187 U. S. 294 (1902).

¹⁴ Whether or not the Government became trustee for the Indians or acquired an unrestricted title by the cession of their lands depends in each case upon the terms of the agreement or treaty by which the cession was made. *Minnesota v. Hitchcock*, 185 U. S. 373, 394, 398 (1902); *United States v. Helm*; *Land of Chippewa Indians*, 229 U. S. 408, 409 (1913). *Ash Sheep Co. v. United States*, 232 U. S. 160, 164 (1920) aff'd 250 Fed. 601 (C. C. A. 9, 1918), and 254 Fed. 50 (C. C. A. 9, 1918). *Op. United States v. Choctaw Nation*, 170 U. S. 404 (1900); *Op. Sol. I. D.*, M 29708, June 15, 1938 (Ltr.) (60 I. D. 830). *Op. Sol. I. D.*, M 28108, January 8, 1938 (Yuma).

¹⁵ See, for example, *Beckles v. Gouffed*, 82 App. D. C. 808 (1909). See also in 64 of this chapter.

¹⁶ *Ash Sheep Co. v. United States*, 252 U. S. 169 (1920), aff'd 250 Fed. 601 (C. C. A. 9, 1918), and 251 Fed. 60 (C. C. A. 9, 1918).

¹⁷ See sec. 5-8, *supra*.

¹⁸ 33 Stat. 1043.

¹⁹ 263 U. S. 276 (1920).

This was not a case the Court pointed out, where the interest of the tribe in the land from which it has been removed ceases, and the full obligation of the Government to the Indians is satisfied when the preliminary or conditional consideration for the cession is secured to them" (P 431). Under the circumstances the Indians had a right to expect that the entire tract would be used as declared in the act or agreement.¹¹

Various other cases are cited to the equitable interest thus found to exist in the Indian title with respect to the land ceded.¹²

Several difficult borderline cases were presented when Congress, by section 8 of the Act of June 18, 1834,¹³ authorized the Secretary of the Interior "to restore to tribal ownership the remaining surplus lands of any Indian reservation heretofore opened or authorized to be opened, to sale, or in any other form of disposal by Presidential proclamation, or in any of the public land laws of the United States." The question arose whether this language was broad enough to cover land ceded by the Colorado Ute Indians under the Act of June 16, 1880.¹⁴ The Solicitor of the Interior Department, holding that such lands came within the permissive scope of the statute,¹⁵ declared

The 1880 cession agreement with the Colorado Ute Indians is one of the early examples of condition if surplus land cessions, in that the provisions of the 1880 act set forth a plan of allotment and disposal of surplus lands which became stereotyped in later allotment acts. A commission was appointed to make a census of the Indians, to select lands to be allotted, to survey and subdivide these lands for allotment, and to cause allotments to be made. The provisions of section 7 of this act, quoted above, are significant in that they provide for the disposal only of those lands within the reservation "not so allotted." The legislative history of this 1880 act makes clear that the chief purpose of the act was the immediate allotment within the Colorado Ute Reservation of the individual Indians of various Ute lands and the opening to disposal of the remaining surplus lands. The opening up of the surplus lands was described as essential in view of the thousands of settlers and prospectors on the borders of the reservation who could not successfully be kept from entering the reservation by military or other means. The plan of allotment of the Indians was favored and actively opposed as the existing wedge in the allotment of the tribes generally throughout the United States. In fact, a general allotment act was pending at that session of Congress. (See House debates on the 1880 agreement, Congressional Record, 10th Congress, 2d session, June 7, 1880, pages 4297-4298.)

From the foregoing it definitely appears that the fact that this cession occurred several years before other allotment cessions does not mean that this cession falls within the entire type of outright cession and removal. This cession was rather a forerunner and a model of later allotment acts and differs in no important respect from these acts. The fact that two of the three main groups of Indians were subsequently not allotted within the borders of the Colorado Ute Reservation does not alter my conclusion. The 1880 act did not provide for establishing new reservations but for supplying the Indians with

allotments, and where allotments occurred outside the reservation, the Indians were to be charged a price of \$1.25 an acre to be paid from the proceeds of the land sold from the Colorado Ute Reservation. The allotments off the reservation were therefore in the nature of free allotments and, in the case of the Fortmangler Utes, were made only because of the fact that in sufficient allotments within the reservation the Colorado Ute Reservation (See Report of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, 1884, at 14, 125 *1 seq.*)

The fact that the Act of 1880 and the subsequent Act of 1882 provided that the lands ceded "shall be held and deemed to be public lands of the United States" was held not to affect the conclusion that the lands in question were lands in which the Indian tribe retained an interest.

Surplus lands ceded to be disposed of by the Indians are in fact qualified public lands and not qualified Indian lands. They are public lands in that the United States has the legal title and has selected from the Indians in release of their right of occupancy and has assumed to dispose of them, but they are not public lands in the full sense of the term as they are to be disposed of only in limited ways and upon certain conditions. *Miners v. Little Rock, supra.* It should be noted that both the 1880 and the 1882 acts concerning the Ute land qualified the reference to the land as public land and subject to disposal under the public land laws by stated conditions and restrictions. (Pp 888-891.)

Where ceded lands are held by the United States to be disposed of for the benefit of an Indian tribe, all proceeds from the land belong, in equity, to the Indian tribe.¹⁶ No part of such proceeds accrue to the state in which the lands are located, although such state is entitled to proceeds from the sale of ordinary "public lands."¹⁷ Where such lands are subjected by statute to a flowage exemption, Congress has provided for payment of damages to the tribe.¹⁸

Where surplus lands are disposed of as a result of fraud, the Secretary of the Interior, under proper statutory authorization, may sue on behalf of the tribe to recover the lands lost or the value thereof.¹⁹

The equitable right to the value of lands erroneously disposed of is vested in the Indian tribe.²⁰

Where unsold ceded lands are held to be, in equity, the property of the tribe, it has been administratively determined that such lands are within the scope of the leasing provisions of approved tribal constitutions.²¹

The equity in ceded lands is vested in the tribe entitled to the proceeds therefrom, rather than the tribe on land making the original cession, and ceded lands testament to that ownership pursuant to section 8 of the Act of June 18, 1834,²² become the property of the tribe entitled to the proceeds thereof.²³

The manner in which ceded lands are to be disposed of is for Congress to determine, so long as the promised benefits accrue to

¹¹ Ibid., pp. 401, 402.

¹² *United States v. Beville*, 110 U. S. 688 (1884) (holding ceded lands remain property of Indians in equity until sold and are therefore not "public lands" within the official duties of an agent designated to sell "public lands"); *United States v. Mackay*, 155 U. S. 150 (1894); *United States v. Cook*, 295 U. S. 109 (1935), rev'd 7 C. Cl. 150 (1883); *Johnson*, 245 U. S. 709 (1915), of *United States v. Mule Lake Band of Chippewas*, 229 U. S. 498 (1912) (certain lands ceded not present consideration, others for future disposition under treaty).

¹³ 48 Stat. 584. On the scope of sec. 8 of this act, see *Memorandum* 341 U. S. 180, 21 Stat. 1088 (Southern Ute, interpretation of Act of June 18, 1834, 21 Stat. 1088, Act of February 20, 1865, 28 Stat. 677), and see 311 U. S. 660 (1934).

¹⁴ 21 Stat. 109.

¹⁵ 30 Stat. 121, 2d 29708, June 15, 1908 (50 U. S. 430). The restoration made pursuant to this opinion was superseded by the Act of June 9, 1908, 32 Stat. 1200.

¹⁶ 30 Stat. 121, 2d 29708, August 5, 1930 (58 U. S. 154) (Fishhead), *Peter Frederickson*, 15 F. D. 440 (1932) (Minnesota National Forest, 31 U. S. 413 (1871) (ceded lands donated as National Forest and no jurisdiction of Secretary of Agriculture), *Oppenoe Indians of Menominee*, 204 U. S. 407 (1902), 407 U. S. 470 (1962).

¹⁷ *State of Indian Lands in Kansas*, 19 Op. A. G. 117 (1888).

¹⁸ Act of April 11, 1935, 48 Stat. 215.

¹⁹ *United States v. Red-Band Milt & Reclamation Co.*, 171 Fed. 501 (C. C. 9 U. S. 1900).

²⁰ *United States v. Creek Nation*, 295 U. S. 108 (1935), rev'd 7 C. Cl. 150 (1883), *reaffirmed*, 295 U. S. 709 (1935).

²¹ *Memorandum* 341 U. S. 180, 21 Stat. 1088.

²² 48 Stat. 584, 26 U. S. C. 468.

²³ 30 Stat. 121, 2d 29708, February 20, 1938, 58 Stat. 108 U. S. 180, January 22, 1938.

To the effect that proceeds of ceded lands are due to the tribe making the last cession, in the absence of clear contrary provisions in the governing statute, treaty, or agreement, see *United States v. Choctaw Nation*, 370 U. S. 304 (1960).

the tribe.¹¹ Whether ceded lands are subject to preemption laws applicable to the public domain generally¹² or exempt from such laws,¹³ depends upon the terms of the cession as well as the applicable public land laws.

Where Indians "cede and convey" certain lands to the United States, "in compliance with the desire of the United States to locate other Indians and freedmen thereon,"¹⁴ it has been held that such lands become the property of the United States but are not subject to preemption rights as a part of the public domain and are "Indian country" within the meaning of criminal trespass laws.¹⁵

Where the Indians making the cession are given a certain period within which they may select a portion of the ceded land for their own use, it has been said that "until this privilege was exhausted, the land in any proper sense, belonged to them," and accordingly it has been held that during such period the lands are not subject to "preemption" as public domain lands.¹⁶

It has been administratively determined that ceded lands in which an Indian tribe retains an equity may be temporarily withdrawn from entry as "public lands" under the Act of June 25, 1910.¹⁷

Cession agreements in acts of Congress are generally construed as contracts,¹⁸ and where provision is made for subsequent tribal consent, the agreement becomes effective as of the time when such consent is given, although formal proclamation of such consent may be delayed.¹⁹

¹¹ Statutes concerning apportionment of ceded lands for purposes of sale are construed in disregard of Land within Indian Reservation, 36 Op. U. S. 506 (1931), *Stone v. Indian*, 10 U. S. 373 (1918), *Op. Sol. I. D.*, M 28028, May 21, 1935. Example of statute extending public land laws to ceded Indian lands is Act of March 19, 1890, 34 Stat. 78.

¹² *Rioqui v. Matons*, 11 F. R. & U. R. Co. 28 Fed. Cas. No. 15317 (C. C. Kan., 1877), *Winnamuck v. Indians*, 31 F. R. & U. R. Co. 1 Fed. Cas. No. 559 (C. C. Kan., 1870).

¹³ Ceded Indian lands were held to be exempt from the preemption act of September 4, 1911, 5 Stat. 178; *Spaulding v. Chandler*, 100 U. S. 794 (1901). Such lands were likewise held to be exempt from the preemption provisions of the Act of April 12, 1815, 3 Stat. 181, *Hot Springs*, 12 U. S. 408 (1875).

¹⁴ Treaty of March 21, 1860 with the Seminoles, 14 Stat. 765.

¹⁵ *United States v. Payne*, 8 Fed. 881 (11 C. W. D. Ark., 1881).

¹⁶ *Indian v. Hendon*, 10 Vail 136, 418 (1872).

¹⁷ 36 Stat. 817. Memo Sol. I. D., September 17, 1934.

¹⁸ *Op. New York Indians v. United States*, 170 U. S. 1 (1898) (time of exchange and removal). Cf. also, *Oklauma v. Texas*, 238 U. S. 574 (1925) (conveyance of public land by United States construed in accordance with laws of state in which land is situated).

¹⁹ *Great Miami Reservation*, 10 Op. A. 4 407 (1890). See Chapter 14, sec. 5.

The question of civil and criminal jurisdiction over ceded lands involves, in addition to the question of property rights discussed in the *Lash Sheep* case, other questions which are separately treated in Chapters 18 and 31.

That reserved rights to hunt and fish on lands sold by an Indian tribe are property rights, rather than rights of sovereignty, and are therefore to be exercised under the police power of the state, was decided in the case of *Kennedy v. Becker*.²⁰ In that case the United States, on behalf of the plaintiff Indians sought to maintain that lands sold by the Semoras with reservation of hunting and fishing rights "became thereby subject to a joint property ownership and the dual sovereignty of the two peoples, white and red, to fit the case intended, however infrequent such situation was to be."²¹ The opinion of the Court, prepared by Hughes, J., and read by White, C. J., declared:

We are unable to take this view. It is said that the State would regulate the whites and that the Indian tribe would regulate its members, but it neither could exercise authority with respect to the other at the *locus in quo*, either would be free to destroy the subject of the power. Such a duality of sovereignty instead of maintaining in each the essential power of preservation would in fact deny it to both.

We do not think that it is a proper construction of the reservation in the conveyance to regard it as an attempt either to reserve sovereign prerogative or so to divide the inherent power of preservation as to make its competent exercise impossible. Rather are we of the opinion that the clause is fully satisfied by considering it a reservation of a privilege of fishing and hunting upon the granted lands in common with the whites, and others to whom the privilege might be extended, but subject nevertheless to that necessary power of appropriate regulation, as to all those privileged, which inhered in the sovereignty of the State over the lands where the privilege was exercised. This was clearly recognized in *United States v. Winans*, 193 U. S. 371, 384, where the court in sustaining the fishing rights of the Indians on the Columbia River, under the provisions of the treaty between the United States and the Yakima Indians, entered in 1855, and (referring to the authority of the State of Washington) "Nor does it" (that is, the right of taking fish at all usual and accustomed places) "restrain the State unreasonably, if at all, in the regulation of the right. It only gives in the land such elements as enable the right to be exercised" (193 U. S. 384).

²⁰ 241 U. S. 560 (1916). For a further discussion of tribal hunting and fishing rights, see Chapter 14, sec. 7, and see Chapter 3, sec. 2.

²¹ *Ibid.* p. 568.

SECTION 22. TRIBAL RIGHTS IN PERSONAL PROPERTY^{22a}

The first white explorers, traders, settlers, and lawyers found the Indians possessing not only lands but various valuable chattels, such as furs, provisions, tobacco, wampum, and, in some parts of the country, slaves. Apparently no attempt was ever made to claim ownership of these chattels in the name of the sovereign, as was done, from time to time, with Indian lands. Possibly this may be ascribed to the fact that the Indians themselves had more definite notions of ownership with respect to chattels than they had with respect to land, or perhaps we may find a more adequate explanation in the historic fact that the feudal system was always pretty closely tied to land and never developed a theory of "seizin" and "fees" with respect to personal property. Whatever the reason, the result is

that we are at least spared the confusions that the theory of seizin and fees has introduced into Indian land law. If an Indian tribe or clan owns a man's picture^{22b} or a herd of cattle, no matter how many limitations the law may put upon the disposition of the property, nobody will explain the limitation in terms of a "fee in the sovereign."

Apart from this difference, the ownership of personal property by an Indian tribe raises problems essentially similar to those raised by tribal ownership of realty.

The same diversity noted in the types of interest in real property held by an Indian tribe is found with respect to personality in tribal ownership.

The essential distinctions between tribal property and public

^{22a} For regulations regarding tribal money, see 25 C. F. R., subchapter B.

^{22b} *Pueblo of Laguna v. Pueblo of Acoma*, 1 N. M. 220 (1887).

property, which we have noted in the field of realty, are paralleled in the field of personalty.

The distinction between property vested in the tribe as an entity and property held by tribal members in common is likewise repeated in the field of personalty.

The question of who composes the tribe in which personal property is vested does not differ in principle from the parallel question which we have considered in the field of real property.

The problems raised by the concept of "equitable ownership" in tribal realty are repeated with respect to equitable ownership in tribal funds and other personal property.

Possibly a peculiar problem is raised in the field of tribal personalty by the question of when interest is payable on tribal funds held by the United States although this problem shows a basic similarity to the problem of the right to the proceeds of land held by the United States in trust for an Indian tribe.

Another problem that may appear peculiar to the field of tribal personalty, but is in fact basically analogous to problems in the field of tribal realty, is that of creditors' claims against tribal funds.

Because of these numerous parallels, it should be possible to deal with the foregoing questions rather briefly, relying upon analyses already made with respect to real property.

A FORMS OF PERSONAL PROPERTY

The personal property of Indian tribes probably comprises all the forms of personal property known to non-Indians, including bonds, notes, mortgages, monies, credits, shares of stock, choses in action,¹⁰⁰ and debts.¹⁰¹

A tribe may have an equitable interest in personal property held by the United States or by some other party, and, conversely, an Indian tribe may have in its possession funds, which it holds as trustee.

Thus a tribe may hold funds as a trustee to carry out projects for the rehabilitation of needy Indians.¹⁰²

Of all forms of property held by an Indian tribe, it is probable that a principal locus of discussion and controversy has been the category of choses in action and, in particular, claims against the United States and against other tribes.¹⁰³

B. TRIBAL PROPERTY AND FEDERAL PROPERTY

As with realty, the distinction between personal property of an Indian tribe and public property of the United States has been recognized in a wide variety of cases.

The distinction between tribal funds and public moneys of the United States was the basis of the decision in *Quick Bear*

v. *Leupp*.¹⁰⁴ In that case the Supreme Court held that payments to the Bureau of Catholic Indian Missions for the care, education, and maintenance of Indian pupils was not in violation of statutory provisions which declared it "to be the settled policy of the Government to hereafter make no appropriation whatever for education in any sectarian school." The Supreme Court said:

These appropriations rested on different grounds from the gratuitous appropriations of public moneys under the heading "Support of Schools." The two subjects were separately treated in each act, and, naturally, as they are essentially different in character. One is the gratuitous appropriation of public moneys for the purpose of Indian education, but the "Trust Fund" is not public money in this sense. It is the Indians' money, or at least is dealt with by the Government as if it belonged to them, as much as it does. It differs from the "Trust Fund" in that the "Trust Fund" has been set aside for the Indians and the moneys expended to their benefit, which expenditure required no annual appropriation. The whole amount due the Indians for certain land cessions was appropriated in one lump sum by the act of 1850, 23 Stat. 888, chap. 403. This "Trust Fund" is held for the Indians and not distributed *per capita*, being held as property in common. The moneys are distributed in accordance with the direction of the Secretary of the Interior, but the right belongs to the Indians. The President declared it to be the moral right of the Indians to have this "Trust Fund" applied to the education of the Indians in the schools of their choice, and the same view was entertained by the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia and the Court of Appeals of the District. But the "Trust Fund" has exactly the same characteristics. They are moneys belonging really to the Indians. They are the price of land ceded by the Indians to the Government. The only difference is that in the "Trust Fund" the debt to the Indians created and secured by the treaty is paid by annual appropriations. They are not gratuitous appropriations of public moneys, but the payment, as we repeat, of a treaty debt in installments. We perceive no justification for applying the proviso or declaration of policy to the payment of treaty obligations, the two things being distinct and different in nature and having no relation to each other, except that both are technically appropriations. (21 U.S. 311.)

Since the decision in *Quick Bear v. Leupp*, the Bureau of Indian Affairs has continued to make payments to sectarian schools out of Indian "trust" or "treaty" funds, at the request of the adult Indians concerned. Justifications for such expenditures have been regularly presented to Congress in hearings on Indian appropriations and regularly approved.¹⁰⁵

In the case of *United States v. Ewashoff*,¹⁰⁶ where the United States sought to recover upon an Indian agent's bond by reason of the agent's failure to deposit certain timber sale proceeds in the United States Treasury, the court found for the defendant, on this issue, declaring:

The mail at which this lumber was sawed was studied by the United States for the Indians of this reservation in pursuance of the treaty with the Umpqua, of November 20, 1854 (10 Stat. 1125), and that with the Molalla, of December 21, 1855, (12 Stat. 931), and in fact belongs to them, and therefore, in my judgment, such lumber was not the "property" of the United States, within the purview of section 3615 of the Revised Statutes, which requires the proceeds of any sale thereof to be conveyed into the treasury, nor was the money received therefor, received "for the use of the United States," within the purview of section 3617 of the Revised Statutes. (21 U.S. 363.)

¹⁰⁰ See, for example, Act of June 10, 1872, 17 Stat. 888 (sale of Ottawa tribal assets).

¹⁰¹ On debts to a tribe created by the appropriation of tribal funds for payment of irrigation construction charges on allotted lands, see Act of June 4, 1920, sec. 8, 41 Stat. 754, 755. See also Act of March 3, 1921, sec. 9, 41 Stat. 1395, and see Chapter 12, sec. 7. To the effect that a tribe may transfer or assign debts owing from the United States on the same basis as a private person, see *Absenteeism of Indian—Cherokee Nation*, 20 Op. A. G. 749 (1894).

¹⁰² See, for example, Act of April 27, 1901, 33 Stat. 855, 855 (Crow).
¹⁰³ See Letter of Acting Secretary I. D. to United States Employees' Compensation Commission, July 8, 1937, analyzing loans and grants to Indian tribes made pursuant to the Emergency Relief Appropriation Act of April 8, 1935.

¹⁰⁴ These agreements are known as trust agreements and contain the following significant provisions: The United States grants to the tribe all of the allocation of emergency funds required to cover the cost of the approved projects excepting such part of the cost as represents necessary administrative and supervisory expenses. The grant is made subject to the condition that it will be used for only the approved projects and that the projects will be carried on under the regulations and supervision of the Indian Office.
And see Sec. 24 of this chapter.

¹⁰⁵ See Chapter 14, sec. 6.

¹⁰⁶ 210 U. S. 50 (1908).

¹⁰⁷ Act of June 10, 1872, 17 Stat. 821, 845. Act of June 7, 1897, 30 Stat. 68, 70. Similar provisions are found in more recent appropriation acts, e. g., Act of March 2, 1917, 40 Stat. 694, 698.

¹⁰⁸ Op. Sol. I. D., 277514, August 1, 1938. See Chapter 12, sec. 2.

¹⁰⁹ 28 Fed. Cl. (C. C. Ore. 1886).

In a somewhat similar case the United States Supreme Court declared:⁵⁶

The moneys paid for the Indian lands were trust moneys, not public moneys. They were at all times in equity the moneys of the Indians, subject only to the expenses incurred by the United States for surveying, managing, and selling the lands. (P. 433.)

C TRIBAL OWNERSHIP AND COMMON OWNERSHIP

Tribal funds, like tribal lands, are the property of the tribe as an entity rather than common property of the individual members.⁵⁷

This general rule, however, does not settle the question of when a particular treaty or statute is to be construed as establishing tribal property rights in a given fund, for instance, and when individual rights are established. The problem is apt to become acute when the treaty or statute in question refers to "Indians" in the plural instead of to a tribe in the singular.

In the case of *Chippewa Indians of Minnesota v. United States*,⁵⁸ a possible ambiguity in the original statute⁵⁹ requiring payments to "the Chippewa Indians in the State of Minnesota" was resolved by the Supreme Court in view of a well-known course of administrative dealings treating the funds in question as the property of the tribe rather than of individuals.

Ordinarily a treaty promise to make annuity payments to a tribe *per capita* does not establish vested rights in individual members of the tribe, and no such vested right is established by the general statute requiring that payments of annuities be made directly to the Indians rather than to agents or attorneys.⁶⁰ Therefore individual members who separate from the tribe forfeit a legal claim to annuities.⁶¹ As was said in the case of *The Sac and Fox Indians*,⁶² per Holmes, J.:

The Government did not deal with individuals but with tribes. *Blackfeet v. United States*, 130 U. S. 308, 377. See *Flaming v. McCurtain*, 215 U. S. 59. The promises in the treaties under which the annuities were due were promises to the tribes. *Treaties of November 3, 1864*, 7 Stat. 581, October 21, 1857, 7 Stat. 540, October 11, 1812, 7 Stat. 590. See treaty of October 1, 1829, 15 Stat. 467 (P. 181).

The treaty contracts on which the plaintiff's claims are founded gave rights only to the tribe, not to the members. It was an accepted and reasonable rule especially in the days when Indian wars, still very possible and terrible some, that payments to the tribe should be made only at their reservation and to persons present there. The acts of 1852 and 1867 did not shift the treaty rights from the tribe to the members, create new rights or enlarge old ones. The payments up to 1884 had the sanction of statute. The act of 1884 no more created individual rights than did the acts of 1852 and 1867. It continued

⁵⁶ *United States v. Brundage*, 110 U. S. 688 (1884).

⁵⁷ *Dales v. Goodall*, 8 Ind. T. 115 (1901) (holding individual Choctaw has no such interest in tribal property as will justify representative suit to prevent improper additions to tribal rolls); *Seminole Indians—Modification of Agreement With, 29 Op. A. G. 840 (1907)*; see *Parks v. Rowe*, 11 How. 362, 371 (1850). And cf. *Wheeler v. United States*, 210 U. S. 840 (1911), rev'g 44 C. Clm. 137 (1909) (holding nonconstitutional provision in the Appropriation Act of March 1, 1907, 31 Stat. 1015, 1022, conferring jurisdiction upon the Court of Claims and the Supreme Court to determine the constitutionality of the Act of April 28, 1900, 34 Stat. 187, as amended by Act of June 22, 1900, 34 Stat. 320, adding new members to Cherokee rolls).

⁵⁸ 307 U. S. 1 (1930).

⁵⁹ Act of January 14, 1860, 21 Stat. 642.

⁶⁰ Act of August 20, 1862, sec. 8, 16 Stat. 41, 60.

⁶¹ *Sac and Fox Indians of the Mississippi in Oklahoma*, 220 U. S. 481 (1911), aff'g 43 C. Clm. 287 (1910).

⁶² *Ibid.*

its benefits to "original Sacs and Foxes now in Iowa," and made the Secretary of the Interior the judge (Pp. 180-189.)

D TRIBAL INTEREST IN TRUST PROPERTY

Numerous statutes refer to funds held by the United States for an Indian tribe as "trust funds" and to the Secretary of the Treasury or the Secretary of the Interior as "custodian."⁶³

The strict language of "trust" is not, however, necessary to establish a trust relationship between the United States and the tribe where tribal personal property is held by the United States.

Incidents of the trust or depository relationship are found in statutes providing for payments out of the Treasury to replace bonds held by the Secretary of the Interior for an Indian tribe and stolen while in his custody,⁶⁴ or to compensate for the defaults of states on state bonds.⁶⁵

E THE COMPOSITION OF THE TRIBE

As has been already noted the question of what individuals are entitled to share in tribal personal property does not differ essentially from the parallel question considered with respect to realty.⁶⁶ The chief difficulties with respect to the proper distribution of tribal funds have arisen in connection with the amalgamation of distinct tribes,⁶⁷ the splitting of single tribes,⁶⁸ and the loss of membership by or adoption of particular individuals.

Where several tribes or bands are interested in a single fund, Congress has sometimes provided for distribution in accordance with respective numbers.⁶⁹

The interest of the various groups of "heredees" in national funds has been a source of legislation⁷⁰ and litigation⁷¹ for many years.

Special statutes occasionally provide for the payment of shares of tribal funds to persons newly added to tribal rolls.⁷²

F. INTEREST ON TRIBAL FUNDS

When tribal funds are held by the United States for the benefit of the tribe, the question frequently arises whether interest on such funds is due to the tribe and, if such be the case, what the appropriate rate of interest may be. Ordinarily this question must be answered by reference to the terms of the treaty, act

⁶³ Act of June 10, 1870, 16 Stat. 58, Act of June 18, 1860, sec. 2, 21 Stat. 201, 202 (Grant and Little Osage).

⁶⁴ Act of July 12, 1862, sec. 1, 32 Stat. 550, 540 (Katahdin, Potomac, Potomac-Lane, and Waco).

⁶⁵ Thus the Act of March 4, 1815, 5 Stat. 700, 777, includes an appropriation "to make good the interest on investments in State stocks and bonds, in various Indian tribes, not yet paid by the States, to be reimbursed out of the interest when collected." * * * Act of August 31, 1842, 5 Stat. 576 (Wyandott).

⁶⁶ See 1 *supra*.

⁶⁷ See e. g., Act of January 10, 1861, 26 Stat. 720 (Division of Shosh. Nation).

⁶⁸ See e. g., Treaty of July 10, 1860, with Cherokee Nation, 14 Stat. 790 (incorporation of friendly tribes).

⁶⁹ Treaty of July 27, 1853, with Comanche, Kiowa, and Apache Indians, Art. 6, 10 Stat. 1013, 1014; Act of January 18, 1861, sec. 8, 21 Stat. 317, 318 (Winnebago); cf. Treaty of August 25, 1828, Art. 2, 7 Stat. 316, 316 (Winnebago, Potomac, Potomac-Lane, and Ottawa Indians); cf. also Act of March 2, 1870, sec. 2, 22 Stat. 1013, 1015 (United Potomac and Minnesota).

⁷⁰ See Act of August 7, 1882, 22 Stat. 802, 328, Act of March 8, 1883, 22 Stat. 682, 685-686; Act of August 28, 1864, 28 Stat. 434, 441, 441.

⁷¹ *Cherokee Nation v. Chickasaw*, 185 U. S. 8 (1902); *Cherokee Nation v. Shawnee*, 155 U. S. 108 (1894), aff'g *Journeaux v. Cherokee Nation*, 28 C. Clm. 281 (1898).

⁷² Act of June 2, 1924, 43 Stat. 263 (Cherokee and Arapaho).

of Congress, or agreement by which the fund in question was established.¹⁸⁴

Under some treaties which amounted to interest payments were designated "annuities."¹⁸⁵

The Act of April 3, 1880,¹⁸⁶ authorized the Secretary of the Interior to deposit such funds in the United States Treasury, in lieu of investment, with a provision that interest should be payable "semiannually . . . at the rate per annum stipulated by treaties or prescribed by law." The Act of February 12, 1928,¹⁸⁷ as amended by the Act of June 13, 1930,¹⁸⁸ provides for the payment of simple interest at the rate of 4 per centum per annum on tribal funds, "upon which interest is not otherwise authorized by law."¹⁸⁹

When tribal funds held in the United States were segregated for pro rata distribution and deposited in banks, section 28 of the Act of May 27, 1918,¹⁹⁰ required as a condition of the deposit that the bank agree to pay interest on such funds "at a reasonable rate." Subsequently, section 324 (c) of the Banking Act of 1933¹⁹¹ prohibited payment of interest in member banks of the Federal Reserve System on demand deposits, and repeated "as much of existing law as requires the payment of interest with respect to any funds deposited by the United States . . . as is inconsistent with the provision of this section as amended." It was administratively determined that this statute superseded the requirement of interest payment on funds on demand deposit in such banks and that such funds might lawfully be deposited in banks not paying interest thereon.¹⁹² This holding was limited to banks which are members of the Federal Reserve System,¹⁹³ and had no application to tribal funds not segregated for pro rata distribution, as to which a fixed interest is due to the tribe.

The Act of June 24, 1938,¹⁹⁴ authorized the Secretary of the Interior to withdraw from the United States Treasury and to deposit in banks tribal funds "on which the United States is not obliged by law to pay interest at higher rates than can be procured from the banks."

Although the right of an Indian tribe to interest in connection with recovery against the United States is beyond the scope of this chapter, we may note the general rule laid down by Taft, *C. J.*, in *Cherokee Nation v. United States*,¹⁹⁵ based upon section 177 of the Indian Code:

. . . we should begin with the premise, well established by the authorities, that a recovery of interest

¹⁸⁴ See *Crow Indians of Montana, Modification of Agreement*, 20 Op. A. G. 517 (1908).

¹⁸⁵ *United States v. Blackfeather*, 155 U. S. 360 (1894), *see Blackfeather v. United States*, 23 C. Cl. 447 (1893), *but cf. Sioux Indians v. United States*, 277 U. S. 424 (1928), *affs* 88 C. Cl. 802 (1924).

¹⁸⁶ 21 Stat. 70, 25 U. S. C. 161.

¹⁸⁷ 45 Stat. 1214.

¹⁸⁸ 16 Stat. 184.

¹⁸⁹ See 2 of this text *acc.* the same interest rate for "Indian Money Proceeds of Labor Account," *over* \$500 (25 U. S. C. 161b). See, 3 and 4 *infra* to accumulation and to deposit of accrued interest. (25 U. S. C. 161c, 161d).

¹⁹⁰ 40 Stat. 301.

¹⁹¹ 48 Stat. 681, 714-715.

¹⁹² Op. Sol. I. D., 31 28231, March 12, 1910.

¹⁹³ Op. Sol. I. 31, 31 28210, May 27, 1910.

¹⁹⁴ 52 Stat. 3017.

¹⁹⁵ 270 U. S. 476, 187 (1928).

against the United States is not authorized under a special Act referring to the Court of Claims; I am founded upon a conflict with the United States, unless the conflict or the Act expressly authorizes such interest."

G CREDITORS' CLAIMS

The question of whether funds due to or held in trust for the tribe by the United States should be subjected to the claims of creditors, has been expressly covered in a number of special statutes relating to the disposition of such funds.¹⁹⁶ In a few cases general payment by the Secretary of the Interior to all of the creditors of a given tribe is authorized, but generally the statute authorizes payment of a designated claim, based either upon tribal agreement,¹⁹⁷ or upon depredations.¹⁹⁸ General legislation on depredation claims authorized the Court of Claims to adjudicate such claims in suits against the United States, with permission to interested Indians to appear as parties defendant.¹⁹⁹ Judgments rendered against Indian tribes were to be satisfied out of annuities, other funds, or any appropriations for the benefit of the tribe, and, if all these sources failed, from the Treasury of the United States, such payments to be repaid-salable out of future tribal annuities, funds, or appropriations. Thereafter the regular appropriation acts authorized the Secretary of the Interior to make payments to successful claimants under the Act of March 3, 1891, by defining such sums from tribal funds, having the regard for the educational and other necessary requirements of the tribe or tribes affected.²⁰⁰

The general rule is that tribal funds held by the United States, will not be subjected to claims of third parties unless payment of such claims is clearly authorized by statute or treaty,²⁰¹ or by lawful action of the tribe itself.²⁰²

¹⁹⁶ See, for example, on such expression *see United States v. Blackfeather*, 171 U. S. 130 (1894), *see Blackfeather v. United States*, 23 C. Cl. 117 (1893), (holding that while interest is due on the proceeds of land sold by the tribe to be sold by the Federal Government in public sale, and such lands are actually sold at private sale at lower price than that designated and subsequently under a special jurisdictional act, it is adjudicated that the tribe is entitled to the difference, the tribe is also entitled to interest thereon, the case being brought within the exception to the rule above cited by a treaty provision for the payment of "five per centum on the amount of such balance, as an annuity") (p. 138).

¹⁹⁷ Act of June 24, 1938, 50 Stat. 781 (See and *Foot.*), Act of June 10, 1930, 21 Stat. 259, 277 (Cherokee), Act of May 10, 1874, sec. 1, 18 Stat. 47 (Shoshone).

¹⁹⁸ Act of August 5, 1892, 25 Stat. 728 (Koyukuk), Act of April 4, 1898, 20 Stat. 719 (Fortavatonum), Act of May 27, 1902, 32 Stat. 207 (Akomme).

¹⁹⁹ Act of March 3, 1891, 22 Stat. 801 807 (Cherokee and Arapaho), Act of March 9, 1895, 21 Stat. 475 495 (Cherokee and Arapaho).

²⁰⁰ Act of March 1, 1893, 25 Stat. 531. For a discussion of the temporality of tribes for depredations, see Chapter 14, sec. 1, 6.

²⁰¹ Act of August 27, 1891, 23 Stat. 424, 470, Act of June 8, 1896, 20 Stat. 207, 306, Act of February 9, 1900, 31 Stat. 7, 20, Act of February 14, 1902, 32 Stat. 6, 27.

²⁰² Claim of Board of Foreign Missions under Treaty with the Cherokee, 9 Op. A. G. 208 (1860). The Cherokee Fund Not Liable for Damages, 66 Op. A. G. 431 (1897). *Cherokee v. Black v. the Chickasaw to the Cherokee Fund*, 9 Op. A. G. 591 (1810).

²⁰³ To the effect that a tribe may assume collective responsibility for debts incurred by individual members, and that the President, at the request of the tribe, may turn annuity funds over to the creditors, see *Contracts of the Potawatomi Indians*, 6 Op. A. G. 19 (1858), *Contracts of Indians*, 6 Op. A. G. 462 (1861).

SECTION 23. TRIBAL RIGHT TO RECEIVE FUNDS

The right of an Indian tribe to receive funds or other personal property from the United States or from third parties depends, of course, upon the language of the treaty, statute, or agreement, in which such promise of payment appears.²⁰⁴ In this section

²⁰⁴ The right of an Indian tribe to recover funds, apart from agreement, by reason of torts committed against it, is treated elsewhere, in

we shall attempt to determine the principal sources of tribal rights to income, and to analyze the manner in which such payments are handled.

Chapter 14. The right to compensation under eminent domain proceedings is devoted to in sec. 11 *supra*. Powers with respect to taxes and fees are treated in Chapter 7.

A. SOURCES OF TRIBAL INCOME

The principal source of tribal income, at least since the Revolution, has been the sale of tribal resources—chiefly land, timber, minerals, and water power. Since sale of such resources was, for more than a century, largely restricted to the United States, most of the tribal income received prior to 1863, when the first general leasing law was enacted,¹⁰⁰ was paid to the tribe by the United States. Failure to appropriate the bulk of such payments helped to create the popular misconception that all payments made by the United States to Indians were matters of charity. An illustration of this sentiment is found in section 3 of the Act of June 22, 1871,¹⁰¹ which provides that aboriginal-made Indians receiving supplies pursuant to appropriation acts should perform useful labor "for the benefit of themselves or of the tribe, at a reasonable rate, to be fixed by the agent in charge, and to an amount equal in value to the supplies to be delivered."

The popular outcry that would have followed the application of a similar rule to white holders of Government bonds or pensions may well be imagined.

It is important to recognize that funds due to Indian tribes under treaties and agreements were viewed by the Indians either as commercial debts for value received or as intensions due from a foe in war. The fact that such payments were often received by the public and by many administrators, helped to explain some of the latter controversies, which formerly were decided on the field of battle and are now decided in the Court of Claims.

In numerous treaties, agreements, and statutes, the United States has agreed to pay money to an Indian tribe, in consideration of land cessions or other disposition of Indian property.¹⁰² Where the tribal organization permitted, provision was frequently made that payment should go directly to the treasurer of the tribe, in other cases payments were to be made to chiefs, or to heads of families, or per capita to all adults, in some cases payment was to be made in goods or services.¹⁰³

¹⁰⁰ See note 10, *supra*.

¹⁰¹ 18 Stat. 146, 170, enacted as permanent legislation in Act 3 of the Act of March 3, 1875, 18 Stat. 420, 440, 26 U. S. C. 137. See Chapter 4, sec. 10, Chapter 12, sec. 4.

¹⁰² Art. 4 of Treaty of November 7, 1825, with Shawnee tribe, 7 Stat. 281, 285; Art. 4 of Treaty of October 27, 1832, with Potawatomi, 7 Stat. 309, 401; Art. 3 of Treaty of September 10, 1850, with Rogue River tribe, 10 Stat. 1018, 1019; Art. 8 of Treaty of May 12, 1854, with Menominee tribe, 10 Stat. 1001, 1004; Art. 6 of Treaty of May 30, 1854, with Kaskaskia and Peoria and Piankashaw and Wea tribes, 10 Stat. 1082, 1088; Art. 8 of Treaty of June 5, 1861, with Miami tribe, 10 Stat. 1068, 1084; Art. 4 of Treaty of September 30, 1864, with Chickasaw Indians of Lake Superior and the Mississippi, 10 Stat. 1109, 1110; Arts. 3 and 4 of Treaty of September 3, 1838, with Stockbridge and Muncie tribes, 11 Stat. 577, 578; Art. 7 of Treaty of August 7, 1860, with Creek and Seminole tribes, 11 Stat. 609, 702; Art. 3 of Treaty of March 10, 1855, with Ponce tribe, 14 Stat. 676, 678; Art. 40 of Treaty of April 29, 1866, with Choctaw and Chickasaw, 14 Stat. 709, 780; Art. 11 of Treaty of October 1, 1869, with Sac and Foxes of the Mississippi, 15 Stat. 467, 470; Treaty of February 23, 1867, with Seneca, mixed Seneca and Shawnee, Cayuga, Conondotago, Plover, Kaskaskia, Wea, and Piankashaw, Shawnee, Ottawa of Birchbark's Fork and Bohe de Boue, and certain Kickapoo, 15 Stat. 618; Art. of April 15, 1871, 18 Stat. 29 (Seminole), Act of February 10, 1878, 18 Stat. 820, 881 (Seneca Nation), Act of March 8, 1875, 18 Stat. 402, 418 (Choctaw); Act of February 28, 1875, 18 Stat. 506 (Cherokee); Act of June 12, 1880, 21 Stat. 238, 248 (Cherokee Nation), Act of July 7, 1884, 23 Stat. 184, 212 (Creek Nation); Act of March 1, 1880, 25 Stat. 737, 769 (Muscogee or Creek Nation), Act of August 10, 1880, 26 Stat. 828 (Catawba tribe), Act of October 15, 1891, 26 Stat. 749, 752 (Sac and Fox and Iowa); Joint Resolution of March 31, 1901, 28 Stat. 578, 586 (Cherokee Nation); Act of February 7, 1902, 32 Stat. 808 (Colville Indian Reservation); Act of August 30, 1902, 34 Stat. 838 (Aguila Chiricahua Band).

¹⁰³ On the scope of obligations thereby assumed by the United States, see *United States v. Omaha Tribe of Indians*, 263 U. S. 278, 281 (1920); and cf. *United States v. Bemissee Nation*, 200 U. S. 417 (1917).

Many of the early treaties provided for payments to be made in goods.¹⁰⁴

Ordinarily payments promised in a treaty and paid in annual installments called annuities¹⁰⁵ were due to the tribe, and like obligations of one nation to another, were deemed satisfied when the tribal authorities had received the funds in question.¹⁰⁶ For the United States to have presumed to satisfy its obligation by direct payment to the individual members of the tribe would have been a departure from the canons of international law to which the Federal Government was trying to assimilate its relationship with the Indian tribes. Furthermore, payments to tribal authorities saved the Federal Government from the necessity of making difficult adjudications that might lead to dissatisfaction. On the other hand, payments to tribal authorities sometimes led to worse dissatisfactions on the part of individual members of the tribes who considered themselves discriminated against, and so the practice grew up of receiving to the United States, by treaty provision, the right to distribute to the members of the tribe the moneys or goods owing to the tribe.¹⁰⁷ Occasionally the treaty provided that this distribution was to be made on the basis of an agreement between the tribal authorities and the agents of the Federal Government.¹⁰⁸

¹⁰⁴ See Chapter 7, sec. 36(3).

¹⁰⁵ Although it has long been the custom to make new appropriations each year, Congress has made appropriations to Indian tribes payable over extended periods. Act of April 21, 1906, 34 Stat. 407, of March 3, 1910, 36 Stat. 521 ("annually, for ever"); Act of January 9, 1887, 5 Stat. 133, Act of March 3, 1811, 2 Stat. 680 ("five hundred dollars . . . to be paid annually to the said nation, which annuity shall be permanent").

¹⁰⁶ This was so self-evident that most of the early treaties did not mention the fact. A few treaties, however, did make explicit the understanding that distribution of payments made to the tribe was to be in the hands of the tribal authorities. Treaty of September 3, 1838, with the Menominee Nation of Indiana, 7 Stat. 309, 401; Treaty of May 30, 1854, with the Mississippi bands of Chickasaw Indians, 10 Stat. 1103. Other treaties emphasized this understanding, without making it explicit, by providing that the United States reserve the right to apportion annuities among the different bands or tribes with which a single treaty was made, but reserving no similar right to apportion funds within a band or tribe. Treaty of July 27, 1853, with the Comanche, Kiowa, and Apache tribes or nations of Indian, 10 Stat. 1015; Treaty of September 30, 1864, with the Chickasaw Indians of Lake Superior and the Mississippi, 10 Stat. 1109.

¹⁰⁷ At last these treaties provided simply that the United States might "divide the land annuity among the individuals of the said tribe." Treaty of December 30, 1803, with the Piankashaw, 7 Stat. 100. In the Treaty of January 8, 1821, with the Choctaw, 7 Stat. 210, per capita distribution is promised in order to remove "any dissention which may have arisen in the Choctaw Nation, in consequence of an thousand dollars of their annuity having been appropriated annually, for sixteen years, by some of the chiefs, for the support of their schools." Other treaties promising equal distribution are Treaty of October 4, 1842, with the Chickasaw Indians of the Mississippi and Lake Superior, 7 Stat. 591; Treaty of January 4, 1843, with the Creek and Seminole Tribes of Indiana, 8 Stat. 821; Treaty of March 17, 1842, with the Wyandott Nation of Indiana, 11 Stat. 681. Later treaties generally reserved a more comprehensive right in the President of the United States to determine how moneys due to the Indian tribe should be paid to the members of the tribe or expended for their use and benefit. Treaty of March 18, 1851, with the Omaha tribe of Indians, 10 Stat. 1043; Treaty of May 9, 1851, with the Delaware tribe of Indians, 10 Stat. 1049; Treaty of June 5, 1861, with the Miami tribe of Indiana, 10 Stat. 1008; Treaty of October 17, 1855, with the Blackfoot and other tribes of Indians, 11 Stat. 607; Treaty of January 22, 1855, with the Delaware and other tribes of Indians in the Territory of Washington, 11 Stat. 627; Treaty of January 28, 1855, with the Flathead, 12 Stat. 685; Treaty of January 21, 1855, with the Makah tribe of Indians, 12 Stat. 680; Treaty of June 20, 1855, with the Confederated tribes of Indians in Middle Oregon, 12 Stat. 908; Treaty of July 1, 1855, with Quana-ait and Quil-ah-ut Indians, 12 Stat. 911; Treaty of February 18, 1861, with the Confederated tribes of Arapaho and Cheyenne Indians, 12 Stat. 1105; Treaty of March 8, 1865, with the Omaha Tribe of Indians, 14 Stat. 607; Treaty of September 20, 1865, with the Great and Little Osage Indians, 14 Stat. 687; Treaty of March 2, 1868, with the Flathead Indians, 14 Stat. 618.

¹⁰⁸ See, for example, Treaty of September 26, 1887, with the Sioux Nation of Indians, 7 Stat. 688; Treaty of October 18, 1848, with the

Generally such per capita payments comprised only a portion of the funds due to the tribe, the remainder of such funds being invested or expended in other ways.¹³¹ Occasionally an Indian treaty provided for complete per capita distribution of tribal funds.¹³² Since 1871, and particularly during the years following the General Allotment Act, when per capita distribution of property was looked upon as an effective means of destroying tribal organization, numerous statutes provided for per capita payment of tribal funds.¹³³

In recent decades compensation to Indian tribes for land or other property has generally taken the form of statutory provisions requiring that certain sums be placed "to the credit of" a given tribe.¹³⁴ Frequently specific provision is made covering the interest to be paid upon the fund and covering also the purposes for which and the manner in which the fund may be expended. Where a tribe has several different funds to its credit the statute, if clearly drafted, specifies the particular fund to which the sum in question is to be added.

Some statutes merely provide that funds shall be deposited in the United States Treasury and be subject to appropriations by the Congress for a designated group or tribe of Indians.¹³⁵

¹³¹Membrane Tribe of Indians, 9 Stat. 523, Treaty of May 10, 1854 with the Shawnees, 10 Stat. 1051, Treaty of June 10, 1854, with the Menominee and Wapikone bands of the Sioux tribe of Indians, 12 Stat. 1011, Treaty of June 10, 1854, with the Sioux and Wapikone bands of Sioux tribe of Indians, 12 Stat. 1011.

¹³²Treaty of January 11, 1837, with Shawnee Chippewas, 7 Stat. 528, Treaty of October 21, 1837, with Sac and Foxes, 7 Stat. 540, Treaty of October 19, 1839, with Ioways, 7 Stat. 568, Treaty of August 5, 1851, with Bands of Dakota, 10 Stat. 561, Treaty of March 15, 1851, with Ojibwa and Menominee, 10 Stat. 1018, Treaty of May 10, 1854, with Bands of Shawnees, 10 Stat. 1011, Treaty of April 10, 1858, with Yankton Sioux, 11 Stat. 741.

¹³³Treaty of January 31, 1855, with Wyandott Tribe, 10 Stat. 1169, Act of March 3, 1851, see 4, 21 Stat. 414, 423-431, Act of May 15, 1858, see 1, 25 Stat. 130 (Omaha), Act of July 4, 1858, 25 Stat. 240 (Winnebago Reservation), Act of October 10, 1858, 25 Stat. 608 (Cheerokee), Act of June 8, 1900, see 1, 31 Stat. 672 671 (Fort Hall Reservation), Act of March 1, 1901, 31 Stat. 818, 479 (Cheerokee), Act of March 1, 1901, 31 Stat. 861, 870 (Crow), Act of June 30, 1902, 32 Stat. 800, 503 (Crow), Act of March 4, 1909 37 Stat. 751 (Quapaw), Act of June 23, 1910, see 1, 36 Stat. 875, 881 (Saverton and Wapikone), Joint Resolution of August 22, 1911, 37 Stat. 44, Act of April 18, 1912, 37 Stat. 40 (Omaha Tribe), Act of May 17, 1914, see 4, 37 Stat. 111 (Omaha Tribe), Act of December 19, 1919, see 41 Stat. 751, 735 (Crow), Act of March 1, 1921, 41 Stat. 191 (Osage), Act of June 1, 1924, 43 Stat. 870 (Eastern Band of Cheerokee).

¹³⁴Act of December 15, 1874, 18 Stat. 291, 292 (Eastern band of Shawnees), Act of April 10, 1876, see 4, 19 Stat. 28, 29 (Pawnee tribe), Act of April 25, 1876, see 2, 19 Stat. 37 (Menominee Indians), Act of August 15, 1876, see 4, 19 Stat. 208 (Ojibwa and Menominee and Fox and the Menominee tribes), Act of June 28, 1879, 21 Stat. 40, 41 (Omaha Indians), Act of March 8, 1881, see 4, 21 Stat. 880, 881 (Ojibwa and Menominee Tribes), Act of March 8, 1885, see 5, 23 Stat. 840, 841 (Chippewa, Walla-Walla, and Umatilla Indians), Act of March 8, 1886, see 4, 23 Stat. 861, 862 (Sac and Fox and Iowa Indians), Act of September 1, 1888, see 5, 25 Stat. 452, 455 (Shoshone and Bannock tribes), Act of January 14, 1889, see 7, 25 Stat. 642, 648 (Chippewas), Act of June 18, 1890, see 4, 26 Stat. 140, 147 (Menominee), Act of October 1, 1890, see 4, 26 Stat. 558, 600 (Round Valley Indian Reservation), Act of March 8, 1901, 31 Stat. 1135 (Chippewas Indians), Act of June 18, 1902, 32 Stat. 584 (The Indian Reservation), Act of August 17, 1911, 37 Stat. 21 (Shoshone Indian Reservation), Act of July 1, 1912, 37 Stat. 198 (Umatilla Indian Reservation), Act of July 10, 1912, 37 Stat. 197 (Flathead Indians), Act of February 14, 1914, see 6, 37 Stat. 676, 677 (Standing Rock Indian Reservation), Act of August 22, 1914, see 1, 38 Stat. 934 (Quinnault Reservation), Act of March 3, 1917, see 2, 39 Stat. 904, 905 (Fort Peck Indians), Act of March 8, 1918, 40 Stat. 1851, 1853 (Rosebud Indians), Act of December 11, 1918, see 4, 41 Stat. 895, 896 (Fort Peck Indians), Act of May 31, 1924, see 1, 43 Stat. 247 (Quinnault Reservation), Act of February 28, 1925, 48 Stat. 1022 (Chippewas Indian), Act of August 26, 1927, see 8, 50 Stat. 511 (Agua Caliente or Palm Springs Band).

¹³⁵Act of June 7, 1924, see 1, 43 Stat. 598 (Pyramid Lake Indian Reservation).

Since 1847 the President has been empowered, in his discretion, to pay over money, due to Indian tribes to the members thereof, per capita, instead of to the officers or agents of the tribe.¹³⁶ Questions of interpretation, however, continued to arise even after the 1847 statute.

Where the manner of payment is in issue it has been said that a requirement of execution of a receipt or release by the tribe indicates that payment to tribal officers rather than heads of families is intended.¹³⁷

Again, it has been said

Ordinarily a debt due to a nation, by a treaty, ought to be paid to the constituted authorities of the nation, but where the treaty and the law appropriating the money both direct the payment to all the individuals of the nation *per capita*, the treaty and the statute must prevail.¹³⁸

The statutes dealing with payments due from the United States to Indian tribes represented, until the end of the nineteenth century, the chief source of tribal income, supplemented only sporadically by special statutes or treaties authorizing the leasing or sale of tribal lands to other Indian tribes,¹³⁹ or to non-Indians.

A further source of income of considerable importance during recent decades is constituted by judgment awards in suits against the United States.

In recent years, various jurisdictional acts have provided that no part of the judgment that may be awarded pursuant to the act shall be paid out in per capita payments to the Indians concerned.¹⁴⁰

This proviso represents a well established tendency to devote recoveries from judgments in claim cases to the rebuilding of the entire tribal estate rather than to temporary payments which are easily dissipated.

An important source of income due to Indian tribes from non-governmental sources developed with the building of railroads across Indian reservations.¹⁴¹

Most of the statutes which grant rights-of-way to railroads or other transportation or communication companies provide for payment of compensation to the Indian tribe. A majority of the statutes relating to railroads contain the phrase "that the

¹³⁶Act of March 4, 1847, see 8, 9 Stat. 208, amending Act of June 8, 1854, see 11, 4 Stat. 735, 737. The 1847 provision was subsequently embodied, with other material, in R. S. § 2096 and 25 U. S. C. 111.

¹³⁷"The direction that the money shall be paid to the Creek nation is not decisive, because payment to the heads of families is a mode of making payment to the nation. But the condition that a release of all claim for the whole sum shall first be executed by the Creek nation, is not equivocal, because such a release could not be executed by the heads of families or by individuals. And when the act directs that the payment shall be made to the Creek nation, and that the release shall be executed by the Creek nation, the inference would seem to be very strong against a distribution *per capita*. But when the act goes one step further, and requires that the persons to whom the money shall be paid shall make satisfactory proof that they have full power and authority to receive and receipt for the same, the inference becomes irresistible against a distribution and payment to heads of families, which would be entirely irreconcilable with this provision." (Pp. 46-48) Payment of Certain Monies to the Creeks, 5 Op. A. G. 46, 48-49 (1848). The later portion of this opinion, apparently inconsistent with the above quotation, was revised in 5 Op. A. G. 95 (1849). Cf. Payment of Certain Monies to the Cheerokees, 5 Op. A. G. 830 (1851).

¹³⁸Payment of Certain Monies to the Cheerokees, 5 Op. A. G. 830 (1851). Accord: Miami Indians, 6 Op. A. G. 440 (1854) (treaty provision, ambiguous, superseded by statute).

¹³⁹Various early statutes provided for payment by one Indian tribe to another in connection with intertribal land transactions. See, for example, Act of June 8, 1874, 17 Stat. 228 (payment by Kansas Tribe to Osage Tribe).

¹⁴⁰See, for example, Act of March 8, 1901, 48 Stat. 1487 (Pillager Bands of Chippewas Indians). And see Chapter 9, sec. 6, Ir. 145.

¹⁴¹See sec. 18-20, *supra*.

said railway company shall pay to the Secretary of the Interior, for the benefit of the particular nation or tribes through whose lands said line may be located," a specified sum,⁴² which is frequently fixed at \$50 per mile of road. In a few instances similar language referring to a definite tribe is used instead of the more general language above noted.⁴³ A few statutes provide that the railway company shall pay the required sum "to the Secretary of the Interior, for the benefit of the particular nation or tribes or individuals (through whose lands said line may be located)." A few statutes provide simply for payment directly to the tribe concerned.⁴⁴ Other statutes provide for payment without specifying the manner of such payment.⁴⁵

In 1881 the matter of railroad rights-of-way, hitherto dealt with in piecemeal legislation, was covered by a general statute⁴⁶ which provided:

Sec. 5. That where a railroad is constructed under the provisions of an Act through the Indian Territory there shall be paid by the railroad company to the Secretary of the Interior, for the benefit of the particular nation or tribe through whose lands the road may be located, such an annual bonus as may be prescribed by the Secretary of the Interior, not more than fifteen dollars for each mile of road, the same to be paid so long as said land shall be owned and occupied by such nation or tribe, which payment shall be in addition to the compensation otherwise required herein.

The various general statutes authorizing the leasing of Indian lands, and other forms of disposition of Indian tribal property which have been authorized in earlier sections of this chapter, generally provide that the proceeds from such transactions shall be deposited to the credit of the tribe concerned.

The following table shows the various general statutes directing that specified forms of tribal income be deposited to the credit of the tribe.⁴⁷

⁴² Act of July 4, 1881, 23 Stat. 60, 71; Act of July 4, 1884, 23 Stat. 73, 74; Act of February 19, 1889, 25 Stat. 31, 37; Act of May 24, 1892, 25 Stat. 140, 142; Act of May 30, 1890, 25 Stat. 102, 103; Act of June 26, 1898, 30 Stat. 201, 207; Act of June 21, 1900, 26 Stat. 170, 171; Act of June 30, 1890, 26 Stat. 394, 395-398; Act of September 20, 1890, 26 Stat. 468, 487; Act of February 24, 1901, 26 Stat. 758, 785; Act of March 3, 1901, 26 Stat. 811, 810; Act of February 27, 1903, 27 Stat. 487, 486; Act of February 27, 1903, 27 Stat. 482, 483; Act of March 1, 1903, 27 Stat. 524, 525-526; Act of December 21, 1903, 28 Stat. 22, 21; Act of August 4, 1881, 23 Stat. 220, 221; Act of April 3, 1890, 26 Stat. 87, 80; Act of January 20, 1907, 29 Stat. 602, 604; Act of March 24, 1898, 30 Stat. 341, 342. The provision in question is found in sec. 5 of each of the foregoing statutes.

⁴³ Act of January 16, 1880, sec. 5, 25 Stat. 617, 640 (White Earth land of Chippewas); Act of February 23, 1880, sec. 5, 25 Stat. 681, 683 (Yankton Indian Reservation); Act of March 2, 1886, sec. 5, 26 Stat. 40, 41 (Choctaw).

⁴⁴ Act of March 18, 1890, sec. 5, 26 Stat. 69, 71; Act of March 30, 1890, sec. 5, 26 Stat. 80, 81; Act of February 28, 1899, sec. 4, 30 Stat. 912, 913.

⁴⁵ Act of April 26, 1890, 26 Stat. 100 ("Deposit with the treasury of the tribe to which the lands belong").

⁴⁶ Act of April 24, 1889, sec. 4, 25 Stat. 90, 91; Act of July 26, 1888, sec. 4, 25 Stat. 350, 351 (Pawnee); Act of March 2, 1889, sec. 2, 26 Stat. 1010 (Leech Lake and White Earth Indian Reservations); Act of February 20, 1903, 27 Stat. 408 (Payson); Act of July 18, 1894, sec. 2, 28 Stat. 112 (White Earth, Leech Lake, Chippewa, and Fond du Lac Reservations); Act of August 28, 1894, sec. 2, 28 Stat. 489 (Leech Lake, Chippewa, and Winnebago Indian Reservations); Act of March 28, 1896, 30 Stat. 77.

⁴⁷ Act of March 2, 1886, 30 Stat. 900, 902.

⁴⁸ Special acts applying to particular tribes make similar provisions for depositing proceeds of leases etc. in the United States Treasury to the credit of the designated tribe. Act of April 15, 1912, 37 Stat. 33 (homesteaders' payments on Cœur d'Alene Reservation); Act of August 9, 1918, 39 Stat. 445 (sale of Kiowa town-site reserve); Act of May 28, 1908, 35 Stat. 308 (sale of Chippewa timber); Act of May 28, 1908, 35 Stat. 458 (sale of Spokane surplus lands). Cf. Act of February 18, 1906, 35 Stat. 639 (Kiowa, Comanche, and Apache); Act of June 17, 1910, 36 Stat. 688 (Cheyenne-Arapaho).

U. S. Stat. No.	Source of income	Date of act	Statute citation	Provision
21 211	Rechts of way	Mar. 2, 1889, sec. 5 amended by Feb. 28, 1903	26 Stat. 191	"Payment to the Secretary of the Interior for the benefit of the tribe or nation."
45 419	Rechts of way for telephone, etc.	Mar. 3, 1901	31 Stat. 198	"Pay to the Secretary of the Interior for the benefit of the tribe or nation."
27 421	Rechts of way for pipelines	Mar. 11, 1901, as amended by May 4, 1917, sec. 1	41 Stat. 673, 30 Stat. 773	"Pay to the Secretary of the Interior, for the benefit of the tribe or nation, such annual tax as he may determine."
25 420	Vegetation of lands for military and revenue	Mar. 3, 1899...	35 Stat. 781	"Deposited in the Treasury of the United States to the credit of the tribe or nation."
27 407	Rechts of land	June 30, 1910, sec. 7	36 Stat. 877...	"Shall be paid to the Secretary of the Interior for the benefit of the tribe or nation."
21 190	Sale of surplus lands, etc.	Apr. 12, 1921	41 Stat. 93	"Shall be paid to the Secretary of the Interior for the benefit of the tribe or nation."
35 400	Mineral lease of adjacent reserves	Apr. 17, 1920...	41 Stat. 900	"Shall be paid to the Secretary of the Interior for the benefit of the tribe or nation."
16 613	Sale of land for the benefit of the Indian Domain	Mar. 1, 1914, as amended by July 4, 1925	37 Stat. 1015, 41 Stat. 860	"Shall be paid to the Secretary of the Interior for the benefit of the tribe or nation."
80 80	Agricultural enterprise on surplus land	Feb. 27, 1917, sec. 1	39 Stat. 911, 913	"Shall be paid to the Secretary of the Interior for the benefit of the tribe or nation."
10 810	Water power license	June 10, 1900, sec. 17	41 Stat. 1067, 1072	"Shall be paid to the Secretary of the Interior for the benefit of the tribe or nation."

In addition to the foregoing specific provisions, there are other currently effective statutes relating to the leasing of Indian lands which do not specify the manner in which the receipts are to be handled.⁴⁸

The Act of March 8, 1883, as amended,⁴⁹ provides:

All unincumbered revenues derived from Indian reservations, agencies, and schools, except those of the Five Civilized Tribes, and not the result of any labor or any member of such tribe, which are not required by existing law to be otherwise disposed of, shall be received into the Treasury of the United States under the caption "Indian moneys, proceeds of labor," and are hereby made available for expenditure in the discretion of the Secretary of the Interior, for the benefit of the Indian tribes, agencies, and schools on whose behalf they are collected, subject, how-

⁴⁸ Act of February 28, 1891, sec. 8, 26 Stat. 705, 25 U. S. C. 8, 897 (leasing leases); Act of August 18, 1894, sec. 1, 28 Stat. 805, 25 U. S. C. 409 (farming leases); Act of July 3, 1908, 44 Stat. 894, 25 U. S. C. 402a (lease of irritable land); Act of May 11, 1938, 52 Stat. 847, 25 U. S. C. 303a (mining leases).

⁴⁹ Sec. 1, 22 Stat. 500, as amended by Act of March 2, 1887, 24 Stat. 462; Act of May 17, 1926, sec. 1, 44 Stat. 560; Act of May 28, 1928, sec. 1, 46 Stat. 989, 991, 25 U. S. C. 185 (Stupp).

ever, to the limitations as to tribal funds imposed by section 27 of the Act of May 28, 1916 (Thirty-ninth 81 statutes at Large, page 350) ⁴⁰.

That this act does not limit the power of an Indian tribe to receive payments based on use of tribal land was the view taken by the Department of the Interior in holding that tribes organized under section 16 of the Act of June 18, 1934, but not incorporated under section 17, might deposit such receipts in their own treasury. This conclusion was concurred in by the Comptroller General. The position of the Interior Department and of the Comptroller General is set forth in an Opinion of the Comptroller General dated June 30, 1947, ⁴¹ from which the following excerpts are taken:

"... the act of May 27, 1926 (44 Stat. 500), amending the act of March 1, 1881 (22 Stat. 790), governs the use of revenues received by officials or employees of the Interior Department, and has no application to such payments as may lawfully be made to tribal officers under the provisions of the act of June 18, 1934, and constitutions adopted thereunder and approved by the Secretary of the Interior. The legislative history of the act of 1881 and the act of 1926 shows that these statutes were designed to control and regulate departmental receipts and accounts. They were not intended to regulate or to prohibit payments made directly to tribal officers."

"The question of whether an organized tribe may enter into negotiations and agreements respecting the use of tribal land and require payment to a regularly bonded tribal officer, in the case of such agreements, as payment of an administrative question to be determined by the Secretary of the Interior in consideration of such factors as the experience of the Indian tribe in handling funds, the amount of the funds involved, the extent of the activity undertaken by tribal officers or other members of the tribe in developing sources of tribal revenue, and similar factors."

"Under Article IX, section 8 of the Constitution of the Gila River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community, those community lands which are not reserved to particular individuals for their private benefit or to groups of individuals operating as districts may be used by the community or may be leased by the council to members of the community, rentals to accrue to the community treasury to be used for the support of the highways or other public purposes. This provision supersedes prior administrative regulations requiring all leases to be approved by the superintendent of the agency and further requiring that all payments made on the leases should be deposited in the United States Treasury. Under the present constitutional provisions the receipts in question are not revenues or receipts of the United States, the agreements from which they arise are not agreements approved by the superintendent and consequently such receipts are not affected by the act of May 17, 1926, or regulations issued thereunder with respect to the accounting and deposit of tribal trust funds."

CASE NO. 3

"Article VIII, section 5 of the Constitution of the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe, above referred to, provides: 'Tribal lands may be leased by the tribal council, with the approval of the Secretary of the Interior, for such periods of time as are permitted by law.' Nothing is said in this section or in any other section of the constitution as to whether rentals paid under such leases shall be paid to the disbursing agent of the reservation or deposit in the United States Treasury or to the bonded treasurer of the tribe for deposit in the tribal treasury. Presumably this is left, like the other terms of the lease, to the discretion of the Tribal Council and the Secretary of the Interior."

"The additional powers granted in the new act do not expressly mention the control by the tribe of their own moneys, and there is, therefore, some doubt whether such authorization was intended. However, having in view the broad purposes of the act as shown by its legislative history, to extend to Indians the fundamental rights of political liberty and local self-government, and there having been shown the fact that some of the powers so granted by the new act would require the use of tribal funds for their accomplishment—being necessary incidents of such power—and the further fact that the act of June 27, 1934 (48 Stat. 362), providing that section 20 of the Permanent Appropriation Deposit Act, 48 Stat. 1228, shall not apply to funds held in trust for individual Indians, associations of individual Indians, or for Indian corporations chartered under the act of June 18, 1934, this office would not be required to object to the measures suggested in your memorandum for the handling of tribal funds of Indian tribes organized pursuant to the said act of June 18, 1934."

Whether the conclusion in which the Secretary of the Interior and the Comptroller General agreed, in the case of an organized tribe, applied equally to an unorganized tribe remains uncertain. Implicit in this problem is the question of whether legislation such as the 1934 act has any application to funds in the possession of an Indian tribe. To this question we shall return in the final section of this chapter.

B. MANNER OF MAKING PAYMENTS TO TRIBE

Although a good deal of the foregoing discussion has dealt inevitably with the manner as well as the source of payments made to an Indian tribe, it remains to note the various general statutes which have regulated the manner of making such payments. Generally such statutes have been limited to details of payment not covered by the treaty or act under which the payment is due. But in certain cases grave questions have arisen as to the compatibility between the statutes, creating the debt and the statutes determining the manner of its discharge.

For the most part, these statutes are designed to guard against fraud and embezzlement in the distribution of funds and supplies. The Act of June 30, 1894,⁴² contained two general provisions covering the payment of Indian annuities:

Sec. 11. *And he it further enacted*, That the payment of all annuities or other sums stipulated by treaty to be made to any Indian tribe, shall be made to the chiefs of such tribe, or to such person as said tribe shall appoint, or if any tribe shall appropriate their annuities to the purpose of education, or to any other specific use, then to such person or persons as such tribe shall designate.

Sec. 12. *And he it further enacted*, That it shall be lawful for the President of the United States, at the request of any Indian tribe to which any annuity shall be payable in money, to cause the same to be paid in goods, purchased as provided in the next section of this act. (P. 737.)

An subsequently amended,⁴³ these provisions are embodied in the United States Code in the following form:

§ 111. Payment of annuities and distribution of goods. The payment of all moneys and the distribution of all goods stipulated to be furnished to any Indians, or tribe of Indians, shall be made in one of the following ways, as the President or the Secretary of the Interior may direct:

First. To the chiefs of a tribe, for the tribe.

Second. In cases where the impetuous interest of the tribe or the individuals intended to be benefited, or any treaty stipulation, requires the intervention of an agency, then to such person as the tribe shall appoint to receive such moneys or goods; or if several persons be appointed, then upon the joint order or receipt of such persons.

⁴⁰ In its code form, the reference is to "secs. 128 and 142 of this title" 16 U. S. 959-960.

⁴¹ Material in quotation is quoted by the Comptroller General from the Interior Department letter of submission.

⁴² 4 Stat. 736.

⁴³ Act of March 9, 1847, sec. 3, 9 Stat. 203; Act of August 30, 1862, sec. 3, 10 Stat. 41; Act of July 18, 1870, sec. 2 and 3, 16 Stat. 536, 560, 22 U. S. C. 111.

Third To the heads of the families and to the individuals entitled to participate in the moneys or goods.

Fourth By consent of the tribe, such moneys or goods may be applied directly, under such regulations, not inconsistent with treaty stipulations, as may be prescribed by the Secretary of the Interior to such purposes as will best promote the happiness and prosperity of the members of the tribe, and will encourage able-bodied Indians in the habits of industry and peace.

Various other early statutes still in force require civil and military officers to certify to the actual delivery of goods owing to Indians,⁶⁰ authorize the President to require that payments and deliveries be made by the various superintendents,⁶¹ permit payment of annuities in rum,⁶² or goods (at the request of the tribe)⁶³ authorize Indians 18 years of age or over to receive annuities,⁶⁴ require the Secretary of the Interior to designate discharging officers handling per capita payments,⁶⁵ extend these safeguards to the payment of judgment moneys,⁶⁶ require the presence of the "original package" when goods are distributed,⁶⁷ and require reports as to the status of tribal head affairs generally,⁶⁸ "revenueable accounts,"⁶⁹ and attendance records for the occasions when goods are distributed.⁷⁰

The foregoing statutes are designed primarily to protect the Indians against lax or dishonest officials. A separate body of legislation is directed against immorality on the part of the Indians.

Section 8 of the Act of March 3, 1847,⁷¹ as it appears today in title 25 of the United States Code, provides:

§ 130 Withholding of moneys or goods on account of intoxicating liquors. No moneys, or moneys, or goods, shall be paid or distributed to Indians while they are under the influence of any description of intoxicating liquor, nor while there are good and sufficient reasons leading the officers or agents, whose duty it may be to make such payments or distribution, to believe that there is any species of intoxicating liquor within convenient reach of the Indians, nor until the chiefs and headmen of the tribe shall have pledged themselves to use all their influence and to make all proper exertions to prevent the introduction and sale of such liquor in their country.

The Act of March 2, 1847,⁷² still in force, forbids the payment of treaty funds to an Indian tribe which, since the last distribution of funds, "has engaged in hostilities against the United States, or against its citizens." *U. S. C.* The Act of April 10, 1850, also still in effect, forbids delivery of goods pursuant to treaty to chiefs who have violated a treaty.⁷³

We have already noted that the Act of June 22, 1874,⁷⁴ required

⁶⁰ Act of June 30, 1834, 4 Stat. 735, 737, R. S. § 2039, 25 U. S. C. § 112.

⁶¹ Act of March 3, 1857, sec. 1, 11 Stat. 169, R. S. § 2080, 25 U. S. C. § 118.

⁶² Act of March 3, 1855, sec. 3, 13 Stat. 541, 551, R. S. § 2081, 25 U. S. C. § 114.

⁶³ Act of June 30, 1834, sec. 12, 4 Stat. 735, 737, R. S. § 2039, 25 U. S. C. § 115.

⁶⁴ Act of March 1, 1890, sec. 8, 50 Stat. 924, 947, 25 U. S. C. § 118.

⁶⁵ Act of June 10, 1890, sec. 1, 26 Stat. 821, 836, 25 U. S. C. § 117.

⁶⁶ Act of March 3, 1911, sec. 28, 36 Stat. 1038, 1077, 25 U. S. C. § 118.

⁶⁷ Act of April 10, 1850, 10 Stat. 18, 89, R. S. § 2080, 25 U. S. C. § 132.

⁶⁸ Act of March 3, 1911, sec. 37, 36 Stat. 1038, 1077, 25 U. S. C. § 143.

⁶⁹ Act of April 4, 1910, sec. 1, 36 Stat. 230, 270, amended June 10, 1921, sec. 304, 42 Stat. 204, 24, 25 U. S. C. § 145.

⁷⁰ Act of February 14, 1875, 17 Stat. 487, 488, R. S. § 2100, 25 U. S. C. § 140.

⁷¹ 9 Stat. 208, R. S. § 2097, 25 U. S. C. § 130.

⁷² 12 Stat. 492, 515, R. S. § 2100, 25 U. S. C. § 127.

⁷³ 10 Stat. 18, 89, R. S. § 2101, 25 U. S. C. § 138.

⁷⁴ 18 Stat. 140, made permanent by Act of March 8, 1875, sec. 8, 18 Stat. 449; 25 U. S. C. § 137.

the beneficiaries of obligations from the United States, to perform useful labor in order to secure the sums or supplies owing them. At various times provisions were made that tribes at war with the United States should not receive annuities or appropriations. Thus, section 2 of the Appropriation Act of March 3, 1875,⁷⁵ provided:

That none of the appropriations herein made, or of any appropriations made for the Indian service, shall be paid to any band of Indians of any portion of any band while at war with the United States or with the white citizens of any of the States or Territories. (P. 449)

Section 1 of the same act, now embodied in the United States Code as section 129 of title 25, provides:

The Secretary of the Interior is authorized to withhold, from any tribe of Indians who may hold any captives other than Indians, any moneys due them from the United States until said captives shall be surrendered to the lawful authorities of the United States.

A third type of statute governing federal payments and distributions is concerned with the issue of tribal payments versus individual payments. During the allotment period a persistent effort was made to individualize annuities and funds, for approximately the same reasons that created the desire to individualize land.

The Appropriation Act of March 8, 1877,⁷⁶ contained a direction to each agent having supplies to distribute—

to make out rolls of the Indians entitled to supplies at the agency, with the names of the Indians and of the heads of families or lodges, with the number in each family or lodge, and to give out supplies to the heads of families, and not the heads of tribes or bands, and not to give out supplies for a greater length of time than one week in advance. *Provided, however,* That the Commissioner of Indian Affairs may, in his discretion, issue supplies for a greater period than one week to such Indians as are peaceably located upon their reservation and engaged in agriculture.

The purpose of this provision was apparently to break down the tribal cult of chiefs which might exercise through the distribution of food and clothing and to transfer the prestige attached to such offices to the Indian agents.

The Act of March 2, 1907,⁷⁷ authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to apportion "tribal or trust funds on deposit in the Treasury of the United States" among the members of the tribe concerned.⁷⁸

General segregation and distribution of tribal funds to members appearing on "final rolls" made by the Secretary of the Interior was authorized by section 28 of the Act of May 25, 1918,⁷⁹ and section 1 of the Act of June 30, 1919.⁸⁰ The repeal of the distribution features of the latter statute by the Act of June 24, 1938,⁸¹ parallels the termination of the allotment policy.

⁷⁵ 18 Stat. 420.

⁷⁶ Rec. 2, 19 Stat. 271, 268.

⁷⁷ 34 Stat. 1221, 25 U. S. C. § 119. See Chapter 4, sec. 13; Chapter 10, sec. 4.

⁷⁸ Sec. 2 of this act provides for payments to helpless Indians, 35 Stat. 1221, amended by Act of May 19, 1916, 39 Stat. 128, 25 U. S. C. § 121.

⁷⁹ 40 Stat. 551, 551, 25 U. S. C. § 102 (segregation of funds). To the effect that the preparation of a "final roll" under congressional direction cannot, in the nature of the case, prevent a later Congress from authorizing a new roll, see *Op. Sol. I. D.*, 277708, January 22, 1936 (Creek). And see Chapter 4, sec. 14; Chapter 10, sec. 4.

⁸⁰ 41 Stat. 6, 25 U. S. C. § 108 (enrollment).

⁸¹ 52 Stat. 1087, 26 U. S. C. § 152, 162a. See Chapter 4, sec. 10; Chapter 10, sec. 4.

Other miscellaneous statutes relating to the handling of funds due from the United States to Indian tribes relate primarily to

100 R. S. 4 2097, 25 U. S. C. 123 (Limitation on application of tribal funds); Act of May 28, 1906, sec. 37, 30 Stat. 12, 178, 25 U. S. C. 123 (Expenditure from tribal funds without specific appropriations); Act of April 11, 1920, 41 Stat. 212, 25 U. S. C. 1241 (Supp.) (Tribal funds, use to purchase cash used for production of tribal property); Act of May 4, 1918, sec. 1, 32 Stat. 291, 317, 25 U. S. C. 1236 (Supp.) (Tribal funds for traveling and other expenses); Act of May 24, 1922, 12 Stat. 752, 375, 25 U. S. C. 1231 (Expenditures from tribal funds of Five Civilized Tribes without specific appropriations); Act of June 30, 1919, sec. 37, 11 Stat. 1, 20, 25 U. S. C. 123 (Expenditure of amounts of tribes of Omagua Agency); R. S. 4 2097, 25 U. S. C. 119 (Advances to disbursing officers);

matter of accounting procedure and the enforcement of appropriation limitations.¹⁰⁰

Act of March 1, 1907, 11 Stat. 1037, 1036, 25 U. S. C. 111 (Appropriations for supplies available non-sharable); Act of 20 Nov. 1, 1877, 20 Stat. 120, 179, 25 U. S. C. 115 (Supplies distributed as to payment determinations); Act of July 1, 1898, sec. 7, 30 Stat. 771, 76, 25 U. S. C. 136 (Payment of tribes and other supplies); Act of March 1, 1907, 34 Stat. 1015, 1016, 25 U. S. C. 139 (Appropriations for subsistence); Act of March 1, 1907, 11 Stat. 1037, 1036, 25 U. S. C. 140 (Provision of appropriations for explosives and supplies); Act of January 12, 1927, sec. 1, 44 Stat. 934, 939, 25 U. S. C. 118 (Supp.) (Appropriations for supplies, transfers to Indian Service supply fund expenditure)

SECTION 24. TRIBAL RIGHT TO EXPEND FUNDS

Since the United States and the Indian tribe have each an interest in tribal funds held in the Treasury of the United States, the normal method of disposing of such funds has been by common consent of the tribe and the Federal Government. So far as treaty funds are concerned, treaty provisions, many of which are still in force, embodied a common agreement concerning the disposition of tribal money. Following the treaty period, agreements with Indian tribes, ratified by act of Congress served a similar purpose. In recent years various new formulae have made their appearance embodying, in one way or another, the agreement of the tribe and the United States concerning expenditure of tribal funds.

Judgment moneys awarded to the Blackfoot Indians by the Court of Claims have been made "available for disposition by the tribal council of said Indians, with the approval of the Secretary of the Interior, in accordance with the constitution and bylaws of the Blackfoot Tribe."¹⁰¹ Other statutes provided for the expenditure of tribal funds for objects designated or approved by the tribal council concerned.¹⁰² Perhaps the earliest of such provisions is found in section 3 of the Appropriation Act of February 17, 1879,¹⁰³ providing for the diversion of various appropriations to alternative uses "within the discretion of the President and with the consent of said tribes, expressed in the usual manner."¹⁰⁴ This provision was repeated in subsequent appropriation acts¹⁰⁵ and made permanent by the Act of March 1, 1907.¹⁰⁶

There is an implied agreement between federal and tribal authorities in acts authorizing the Secretary of the Interior to appropriate money for the expenses of tribal councils,¹⁰⁷ tribal delegates,¹⁰⁸ and tribal attorneys.¹⁰⁹

There are, of course, a great number of statutes authorizing the expenditure of tribal funds without express reference to the wishes of the tribe,¹¹⁰ and the problem of federal power to expend

tribal funds without Indian consent is dealt with elsewhere.¹¹¹ It may be noted, however, that the omission of express reference to tribal consent in appropriation provisions referring to tribal funds does not necessarily imply the absence of such consent. In fact, many provisions for the appropriation of tribal funds are sought at the request of the tribe concerned, although no reference to this fact appears on the face of the statute.

The present state of the law with respect to the power of an Indian tribe to expend funds or dispose of other personal property held by the United States in trust for the tribe is that any such expenditure must be authorized by act of Congress.¹¹² The situation is analogous to that of a private trust, where the trustee must consent to expenditures by the beneficiary out of the trust fund. In the case of the trust funds of an Indian tribe, the power to determine the propriety of expenditures is vested in Congress, and only in a very few cases has Congress delegated its power of decision to administrative authorities.¹¹³

The history of Indian appropriation legislation shows a continuous struggle between two principles: on the one hand, it is

June 29, 1906, 34 Stat. 547 (Menominee); Act of May 20, 1902, 41 Stat. 1255 (Five Civilized Tribes).

Expenditure from tribal funds for a wide diversity of purposes considered to be usual to the tribe are authorized in a vast number of statutes. See, for example, Act of February 14, 1877, 19 Stat. 221 (Ojibwa).

The trend of various improvements upon tribal lands has been met out of tribal funds, sometimes with a provision that the cost of the improvement shall be repaid to the tribe by the individual Indian benefited. Act of February 21, 1921, sec. 2, 41 Stat. 1105, 1108 (Red Lake Indian Reservation).

Federal appropriations for improvement upon tribal lands have frequently been made reimbursable obligations against future tribal funds or against such funds as might arise from disposal of the lands improved. Act of July 8, 1919, 39 Stat. 379 (Neimatt Indian Reservation); Act of March 1, 1921, sec. 8, 41 Stat. 1355, 1357 (Fort Belknap); Act of February 14, 1923, 12 Stat. 1240 (Paiute); Act of February 9, 1925, 42 Stat. 810 (Chippewa).

Various other statutes authorize payment from tribal funds to individual members of the tribe who have practical claims upon tribal bounty. Act of April 29, 1902, 32 Stat. 177 (Cheyenne Chickasaw); Act of June 1, 1924, 43 Stat. 857 (Red Lake Indians); of Joint Resolution of February 11, 1900, 30 Stat. 609.

Certain tribal funds have been made available for loans to individual members of the tribe. Act of March 4, 1923, 18 Stat. 1391 (Crow); Act of May 17, 1935, 49 Stat. 244 (Crow).

Between 1910 and 1921 a number of statutes were enacted appropriating tribal funds, or federal funds, to be reimbursed out of future tribal funds, for roads, bridges, public schools, and other public improvements. Act of June 20, 1910, 36 Stat. 287 (Ponca); Act of August 21, 1918, 39 Stat. 621 (Spokane); Act of February 20, 1917, 39 Stat. 928 (Navajo); Act of June 7, 1924, 43 Stat. 007 (Navajo); Act of February 26, 1925, 43 Stat. 984 (Navajo).

See Chapter 5, sec. 53, 10.

Funds other than trust funds may be expended without such authorization. See Chapter 6, sec. 10.

117 25 U. S. C. 180, 140.

¹⁰⁰ Joint Resolution of June 20, 1910, 49 Stat. 1568. Accord: Act of March 2, 1899, 26 Stat. 1012 (Yankton).

¹⁰¹ Act of June 20, 1910, 49 Stat. 1548 (Crow); Act of March 1, 1929, 47 Stat. 1489 (Klamath); Act of May 31, 1913, sec. 1, 18 Stat. 108 (Pueblo).

¹⁰² 30 Stat. 302, 315.

¹⁰³ See, for example, Act of May 11, 1880, sec. 5, 21 Stat. 114, 198.

¹⁰⁴ 34 Stat. 1018, 1019, 25 U. S. C. 140.

¹⁰⁵ Act of March 2, 1929, 45 Stat. 1490 (Crow); Act of June 1, 1908, 32 Stat. 906 (Klamath).

¹⁰⁶ Act of March 8, 1881, 21 Stat. 485, 488 (Miami, Pottaw, Men, Kickapoo, and Frankishaw); Joint Resolution of June 7, 1924, 42 Stat. 867 (Fort Peck); Joint Resolution of May 10, 1920, 44 Stat. 408 (Fort Peck); Act of June 14, 1926, 46 Stat. 741 (Klamath).

¹⁰⁷ Act of April 11, 1920, 46 Stat. 493 (Chippewa of Minnesota); Act of June 20, 1910, 49 Stat. 1542 (Nez Perce).

¹⁰⁸ See, for example, Act of March 4, 1873, 17 Stat. 627 (Nez Perce); Act of June 27, 1902, 32 Stat. 400 (Chippewa of Minnesota); Act of

insisted that Congress, in which is vested constitutional power over appropriations, must retain full control of the subject, and the other hand, it is argued that continually, prudent long-sight in the expenditure of funds, and true economy require the setting aside of tribal funds in definite purposes in a manner that will avoid the risk and delays of reappropriation.⁴²

Actual practice has always been a compromise between these two principles. In section 27 of the Act of May 18, 1916,⁴³ Congress provided:

§ 123 *Expenditure from tribal funds without specific appropriations*.—No money shall be expended from Indian tribal funds without specific appropriation by Congress except as follows: Repatriation of allotments, education of Indian children in accordance with existing law, per capita and other payments, all of which are hereby continued in full force and effect. *Provided further*, That this shall not change existing law with reference to the Five Civilized Tribes.

To this list of purposes for which expenditures may be made from tribal funds by administrative authorities without specific congressional appropriation, a specific addition was made by the Act of April 13, 1926,⁴⁴ which declares:

§ 124a *Tribal funds, not to purchase insurance for protection of tribal property*.—The funds of any tribe of Indians under the control of the United States may be used for payment of insurance premiums for protection of the property of the tribe against fire, theft, tornado, hail, earthquakes, and other elements and forces of nature.

Interior Department appropriation acts usually contain, in addition to specific appropriations out of designated tribal funds for specific purposes, general appropriations of the following form:⁴⁵

Expenses of tribal councils or committees thereof (tribal funds) For traveling and other expenses of members of tribal councils, business committees, or other tribal organizations, when engaged on business of the tribes, including supplies and equipment, not to exceed \$5 per diem in lieu of subsistence, and not to exceed five cents per mile for use of personally owned automobiles, and including not more than \$25,000 in salary to Washington, District of Columbia, when duly authorized or approved in advance by the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, \$750,000, payable from funds on deposit to the credit of the particular tribe interested.

Furthermore, as we have already noted, "miscellaneous revenues . . . the result of the labor of any member of such tribe" are deposited in a fund peculiarly named "Indian moneys, proceeds of labor," and are thereafter available for expenditure "in the discretion of the Secretary of the Interior, for the benefit of the Indian tribes, agencies, and schools on whose behalf they are collected . . . subject to the limitations as to tribal funds imposed by section 27 of the Act of May 18, 1916."⁴⁶

⁴²In other fields of Government the public purpose corporation has been created to facilitate businesslike handling of appropriations, and this same objective was a major factor in the scheme of tribal incorporation established by the Act of June 18, 1934, 48 Stat. 984, 25 U. S. C. 101 et seq.

⁴³49 Stat. 125, 130, 25 U. S. C. § 123 (Supp.) (incomplete in original edition). On the basis of this statute the Comptroller General has held that contracts with attorneys for payment of fees out of tribal funds should not be approved by the Secretary of the Interior in the absence of express statutory authorization. Comptroller's Decisions A 34681, November 8, 1928, A 27730, July 1, 1929, A 29178, May 8, 1930; A 34858, January 20, 1931; A 46001, October 20, 1932, A 81210, December 2, 1936; A 41289, October 11, 1932. The Interior Department takes the position, in view of the Comptroller General's Opinion of June 30, 1937, discussed *supra*, that these decisions do not apply to funds in the treasury of an organized tribe. Memo Sol I D, January 18, 1938.

⁴⁴44 Stat. 242, 25 U. S. C. § 124a.

⁴⁵Act of May 6, 1908, 35 Stat. 201, 815.

⁴⁶49 Stat. 124, 130, 25 U. S. C. § 153 (Supp.). And see *infra*, 23, *supra*. See also Memo Sol I D January 24, 1930.

In view of the present state of the law, an Indian tribe seeking a particular disposition of "tribal funds" or "trust funds" in the Treasury of the United States, must request a specific congressional appropriation unless "Indian Moneys, Proceeds of Labor" are available or the purpose is one of the four purposes for which Congress has given the Secretary of the Interior permanent spending authority, or the purpose is one to which the current Interior Department appropriation act vests temporary spending authority in that Department. Under any of these three exceptions administrative authority rather than congressional appropriation must be obtained.

These limitations upon the power of an Indian tribe to dispose of funds of other personal property in which it has an equitable interest do not extend to funds of personal property over which the tribe has full legal ownership, even though such funds or property are voluntarily deposited for safekeeping with a local superintendent and therefore technically under the Permanent Appropriation Repeal Act of June 26, 1934,⁴⁷ within the Treasury of the United States. The Act of June 26, 1936,⁴⁸ specifically provides:

"That section 20 of the Permanent Appropriation Repeal Act, approved June 26, 1934 (48 Stat. 1323), shall not be applicable to funds held in trust for individual Indians, associations of individual Indians, or for Indian corporations chartered under the Act of June 18, 1934 (48 Stat. 981).

Since funds so deposited by an incorporated tribe are not subject in congressional appropriation, it would be held *a fortiori* that funds not so deposited but retained by the tribe are not subject to congressional appropriations. All chiefs issued to incorporated tribes recognize that funds held in the treasury of an incorporated tribe are subject to disposition, in accordance with the limitations of the charter, by the corporation, and are not in any way subject to congressional appropriation. This conclusion may be based upon the narrow ground that section 17 of the Act of June 18, 1934, expressly authorizes a chartered tribe to "dispose of property . . . real and personal," but it seems more satisfactory to place the conclusion upon the broader ground that the various statutes relating to appropriations of "tribal funds" and "trust funds" use these words in a technical sense, as terms of art, to refer to a well-understood category of funds which are held in the Treasury of the United States to the credit of the tribe pursuant to some law or treaty, and that, therefore, these limitations are utterly inapplicable to funds in the actual possession of the tribe itself.

This view is in accord with the historic fact that Congress has never presumed to interfere with the expenditure of funds held in tribal treasuries, even when the collection of such funds by tribal authorities is regulated by specific legislation requiring reports to Congress by a tribal treasurer.⁴⁹

The difference between the power of an Indian tribe to dispose of personal property and its power over real property may be summed up in a sentence: A tribe may not validly alienate realty except with the consent of the Federal Government, given by Congress or by an official duly authorized by Congress to consent to particular forms of alienation, on the other hand, a tribe has complete power of disposition over tribal personal property, except in so far as such property has been removed from its control and placed in the possession of the Federal Government pursuant to some law or treaty.

Among the limitations voluntarily assumed by Indian tribes

⁴⁷48 Stat. 1224.

⁴⁸48 Stat. 1528.

⁴⁹See, for example, Act of February 28, 1901, 31 Stat. 819 (Seneca lease rentals).

with respect to the disposition of tribal moneys and other personality, we may briefly note:

- (1) Limitations contained in tribal constitutions⁴⁴
- (2) Limitations contained in tribal charters⁴⁵

⁴⁴ See, for example, the following, provisions of the constitution and bylaws of the Hopai tribe, approved December 17, 1928:

ART VI Section 1. The Hopai Tribal Council shall have the following powers:

(c) To deposit all Tribal Council funds in the credit of the Hopai Tribe in an Individual Indian Account, Hopai Tribe of the Division of Reclamation, such funds to be expended only upon the recommendation of the Tribal Council in accordance with a budget having been approved by the Secretary of the Interior.

BYLAWS OF THE HOPAI TRIBE OF THE DIVISION OF RECLAMATION, ARIZONA

ARTICLE I—Duties of Officers.

SEC. 4. *Treasurer*.—The Treasurer shall accept, receive, receipt for, invest, and safeguard all funds in the custody of the Tribal Council. He shall deposit all funds in such depository as the Council shall direct and shall make and preserve a faithful record of such funds and shall report on all receipts and expenditures and the money and nature of all funds in his possession and custody, at such times as requested by the Tribal Council. He shall not pay out or disburse any funds in his possession or custody, except in accordance with a resolution duly passed by the Council. The books and records of the Treasurer shall be audited at least once each year by a competent auditor employed by the Council and it shall on other times as the Council or the Commission of Indian Affairs may direct. The Treasurer shall be required to give a bond satisfactory to the Tribal Council and to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs. Until this Treasurer is bonded the Tribal Council may make such provision for the custody and disbursement of funds as shall guarantee their safety and proper disbursement and use.

⁴⁵ See, for example, the following provisions from sec. 5 of the corporate charter of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes of the Flathead Reservation, ratified April 25, 1926:

7. The tribe, subject to any restrictions contained in the Constitution and laws of the United States, or in the constitution and bylaws of the said tribe, shall have the following corporate powers, in addition to all powers already conferred or guaranteed by the Tribal constitution and bylaws:

(b) To purchase, by gift, bequest, or otherwise, own, hold, manage, operate, and dispose of property of every description, real and personal, subject to the following limitations:

3. No distribution of corporate property to members shall be in debt except out of net income.

(d) To borrow money from the Indian credit fund in accordance with the terms of section 10 of the act of June 18, 1924 (43 Stat. 951), or from any other governmental agency or from any municipal association of members of the tribe, and to use such funds directly for productive tribal enterprises, or to loan money, thus borrowed to individual members or associations of members of the tribe. *Provided*, That the amount of indebtedness to which the tribe may subject itself shall not exceed \$100,000 except with the express approval of the Secretary of the Interior.

(e) To make and perform contracts, and agreements of every description, not inconsistent with law or with any provisions of this charter, with any person, corporation, or corporation, with any municipality or any county or with the United States or the State of Montana, including agreements with the State of Montana for the rendition of public

(3) Limitations contained in tribal loan agreements⁴⁶

(4) Limitations contained in tribal trust agreements⁴⁷

The grant of funds to Indian tribes for particular uses, under the Emergency Appropriation Act of April 8, 1917⁴⁸ raised additional questions as to the powers of an Indian tribe in handling funds.

In response to the question put by the Commissioner of Indian Affairs whether an Indian tribe might use the proceeds of rentals of land improved through rehabilitation grants to finance additional construction projects or to meet general tribal expenses or to make per capita payments,⁴⁹ the Solicitor of the Interior Department ruled⁵⁰:

4. When money has been granted to an Indian tribe to be used for a particular purpose, e. g., the development of resources on tribal land or the construction of houses, the Presidential letter above set forth imposes an duty on the tribe when such the money has been properly expended. The fact that such expenditures may increase tribal income from the issuance of leases or permits on tribal land, or tribal income from other enterprises, does not subject a part of that income, or all of it, to any lien on the part of the Federal Government. Such income may, therefore, be received and disbursed by the Indian tribe in any manner not prohibited by Federal law or by the constitution, bylaws, or charter of the tribe unless the tribe has specifically agreed to use such rentals or income for a specific purpose. It is, of course, within the power of a tribe to authorize through its representative council or other officers that certain income available to the tribe shall be used only for designated purposes not inconsistent with law.

Following this determination, the Indian Office entered into trust agreements with various Indian tribes under which the Indian tribe became trustee of the funds granted and the proceeds thereof to the benefit of needy Indians entitled to the benefits of the act in question.⁵¹

Similar, and upholding contracts with the United States of the State of Montana or any agency of either for the development of water-power sites within the reservation. *Provided*, That all contracts involving payment of money by the corporation in excess of \$5,000 in any one fiscal year, involving the development of water-power sites within the reservation shall be subject to the approval of the Secretary of the Interior as his fully authorized representative.

(c) To produce or assign interests in future tribal income due or to become due to the tribe under any leases, licenses, or other contracts whether or not such leases or contracts are in existence at the time. *Provided*, That such interests are pledged or assigned shall not exceed more than 10 per cent of the net tribal income in any 1 year, and *provided further*, That any such agreement shall be subject to the approval of the Secretary of the Interior or his duly authorized representative.

(d) To deposit surplus funds, from whatever source derived, in any National or State bank, to the extent that such funds are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, or secured by a surety bond, or other security approved by the Secretary of the Interior, or to deposit such funds made in the Federal-Savings bank or a bonded disbursing office of the United States to the credit of the tribe.

⁴⁴ See Chapter 12, sec. 6.

⁴⁵ See Chapter 12, sec. 6.

⁴⁶ 49 Stat. 118.

⁴⁷ 49 Stat. 118, M. 28312, March 18, 1930.

⁴⁸ See Chapter 12, sec. 6.

INDIAN TRADE

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SECTION 1. HISTORY OF LEGISLATION

Trade was one of the inevitable activities that arose from contact between Indians and whites, two distinct races, engaged in unlike activities and possessed of different types of goods.

To supervise trade with the Indian tribes, and to discourage individual avarice under conditions which presented unlimited opportunities for corruption and extortion, colonial governments continuously from early pioneer days licensed traders dealing with the Indian tribes¹ and the Congress of the United States, since its first session has frequently been² with respect to Indian trade by virtue of its constitutional authority to regulate commerce with the Indian tribes.³

Provisions with respect to Indian trade were included in many treaties⁴ between the Indian tribes and the United States.

By the Act of July 22, 1790,⁵ the right to license traders was vested in the President or officers approved by him. All unauthorized persons⁶ trading with the Indians were liable to for-

feiture of their goods. By this act, Congress adopted the plan of leaving trading wholly to private enterprise and for a few years adhered exclusively to this policy. In 1790, however, the President was authorized to establish governmentally owned and operated trading posts along the far-flung western and southern frontiers or in Indian country within the limits of the United States.⁷

Trade for profit was not contemplated under this act and goods were sold to the Indians at cost. The trader in charge was an agent of the United States, paid by the Government and under oath to refrain directly or indirectly from private business or commercial relations with any Indian or Indian tribe.

In 1822,⁸ however, trading posts were closed. Accounts were rendered, and the system of governmental ownership and operation permanently abandoned. Indian trade again became for the most part private business under governmental supervision and license.

Until 1802 laws with reference to both private trading and Government trading posts were, by their terms, temporary. A permanent act to regulate private trade was enacted on March 30, 1802.⁹

¹The irregularities and improper conduct of the traders received the attention of the Federal Court of the colony of Massachusetts in 1629 (*Records of Mass.*, p. 48). A proclamation of George III set forth the claim of the Crown to regulate trade and licensed traders. (*American Archives*, 4th Series, 1774-1775, vol. I, Col. 174). On congressional power over trade, see Chapter 3, sec. 3.

²Act of July 22, 1790, 1 Stat. 137, Act of March 1, 1793, 1 Stat. 429; Act of April 28, 1796, 1 Stat. 452, Act of May 31, 1796, 1 Stat. 480, Act of March 3, 1799, 1 Stat. 743, Act of March 30, 1802, 2 Stat. 180; Act of April 21, 1800, 2 Stat. 402; Act of March 2, 1811, 2 Stat. 692, Act of June 30, 1834, 4 Stat. 720, P. S. A. 2127-2139, Act of August 15, 1870, 16 Stat. 170, 200, 23 U. S. C. 201, Act of July 31, 1882, 22 Stat. 158, 1900, 25 U. S. C. 202, Act of March 3, 1903, 32 Stat. 982, 1906, 23 U. S. C. 202, Act of May 26, 1908, 35 Stat. 444.

³*United States v. Bullman*, 7 Fed. 304 (D. C. Ore. 1893); *Oreca v. Menominee Tribe of Indians of Wisconsin*, 233 U. S. 638 (1914), *Worcester v. Georgia*, 6 Pet. 515 (1832), *Hester v. Wright*, 135 Fed. 847 (C. C. A. 8, 1905), *United States v. Owen*, 25 Fed. Cls. No. 14795 (C. C. 8th Cir. 1887); *United States v. Douglas*, 190 Fed. 182 (C. C. A. 8, 1911). See Chapter 5 sec. 3.

⁴See Chapter 3, sec. 3B(2).

⁵1 Stat. 137. By the provisions of this statute, any proper person could obtain a license for 2 years to trade with the Indians upon giving bond for faithful observance of governmental regulations. The Act of March 1, 1793, 1 Stat. 429, was a statute similar in its provisions with an additional prohibition against purchase of horses in Indian country without a special license.

The Act of May 19, 1804, 1 Stat. 400, declared, according to existing practice, "Indian country" where trading licenses were required. In subsequent definitions see Chapter 1, sec. 8.

⁶A provision relative to requiring licenses to trade with Indians was considered as interfering with a treaty of amity, commerce, and navigation between Great Britain and the United States, dated November 19, 1794, 8 Stat. 118. A Presidential proclamation of February 20, 1790, declared that trade regulations were not applicable to British subjects

⁷Act of April 18, 1790, 1 Stat. 132. This act was a temporary measure succeeded by similar statutes enacted April 21, 1800, 2 Stat. 402, March 2, 1811, 2 Stat. 652, March 1, 1815, 3 Stat. 280, March 3, 1817, 3 Stat. 701, April 10, 1818, 3 Stat. 428, March 3, 1819, 3 Stat. 614; March 4, 1820, 3 Stat. 544, March 3, 1821, 3 Stat. 641. The Act of April 18, 1790, 1 Stat. 132, after two or three rejections, was enacted upon the insistence of President Washington. He recognized trade as a factor in the maintenance of peaceful Indian relations. The congressional debates on this statute reveal a blending of benevolent desire to protect the Indians from the cupidity and venous avarice of more commercially experienced whites and Yankee shrewdness, anxious to prevent British and Canadian interests from reaping increasing profits from lucrative Indian trade. Furthermore, the vast outlay of capital required to establish even a portion of the needed posts, presented too large a venture for private capital. See *Annals of Congress*, 4th Cong., 1st sess., 1790-97, pp. 220, 230.

⁸Act of May 6, 1822, 3 Stat. 682.

⁹Act of April 18, 1790, 1 Stat. 132. This act was a temporary measure succeeded by similar statutes enacted April 21, 1800, 2 Stat. 402, March 2, 1811, 2 Stat. 652, March 1, 1815, 3 Stat. 280, March 3, 1817, 3 Stat. 701, April 10, 1818, 3 Stat. 428, March 3, 1819, 3 Stat. 614; March 4, 1820, 3 Stat. 544, March 3, 1821, 3 Stat. 641. The Act of April 18, 1790, 1 Stat. 132, after two or three rejections, was enacted upon the insistence of President Washington. He recognized trade as a factor in the maintenance of peaceful Indian relations. The congressional debates on this statute reveal a blending of benevolent desire to protect the Indians from the cupidity and venous avarice of more commercially experienced whites and Yankee shrewdness, anxious to prevent British and Canadian interests from reaping increasing profits from lucrative Indian trade. Furthermore, the vast outlay of capital required to establish even a portion of the needed posts, presented too large a venture for private capital. See *Annals of Congress*, 4th Cong., 1st sess., 1790-97, pp. 220, 230.

¹⁰2 Stat. 189. Contrasted in *United States v. Douglas*, 190 Fed. 482 (C. C. A. 8, 1911); *United States v. Owen*, 25 Fed. Cls. No. 14795 (C. C. 8th Cir. 1887), *Worcester v. Georgia*, 6 Pet. 515 (1832); *United States v. Lewis*, 25 Fed. Cls. No. 3565 (D. C. Nov. 1879), *State v. Clark*, 93 U. S. 204, 206 (1877).

This statute³⁰ made it unlawful for any citizen or other person to reside in Indian towns or hunting camps as a trader or to carry on commercial intercourse with Indians without a license. Suitable trading sites, it was later provided, were to be designated by Indian agents.³¹

On June 30, 1834 (Congress passed an Act revising and repealing the former legislation on the subject and particularly defining the term "Indian country" for the purposes of that act).³²

Congress has not seen fit to regulate Indian traders outside of "Indian country." By the Act of August 15, 1876,³³ the Com-

³⁰ This Act was supplemented by the Act of April 29, 1836, 3 Stat. 132, so as to restrict issuance of trading licenses to citizens of the United States, and to prohibit the transportation of foreign goods for purposes of Indian trade. The Act of May 6, 1822, 1 Stat. 682 amended administrative provisions of this act.

³¹ Act of May 25, 1824, 4 Stat. 75.

³² Act of June 30, 1834, 1 Stat. 179. On definitions of Indian country see Chapter I, sec. 1.

³³ Trade carried on from houses or stores adjacent to a reservation was held not to be trading in Indian country. *United States v. Taylor*, 11 F. 2d 608 (11 C. W. D. Wash. 1929), 10-11.

In a state case involving land within the limits of a reservation to which Indian title had been extinguished was not considered as Indian country so that traders located thereon were not required to be licensed before trading with Indian tribes. *Indio v. LaOrea*, 148 Pac. 8 (1914).

³⁴ *United States v. Indian Property*, 23 Pac. 37, 319-319 (1871) also held that no license is required to trade with Indians outside of Indian country. The opinion in this case stated that no other class of ordinary federal legislation is so full of pains, penalties, and forfeitures as that

concerning trade with Indian Affairs was vested with sole authority to license traders to the Indian tribes and to make requisite rules and regulations. By the Act of July 31, 1882,³⁵ requirements for a license to trade were extended to include all but "an Indian of the full blood." The Act of March 3, 1901³⁶ as amended by the Act of March 3, 1903³⁷ provides that a person desiring to trade with Indians on an Indian reservation must satisfy the Commissioner of Indian Affairs that he is a proper person to engage in such trade.³⁸ In addition from time to time Congress amended appropriation or legislative Acts in connection with Indian trade.³⁹

which regulates trade with the Indians. Indian country is the place and no other, both in all past and present as applied.

³⁵ 22 Stat. 179, k. s. 2313, 25 U. S. C. 261.

³⁶ 31 Stat. 1078, 1066 (11 C. W. D. Wash. 1929), 25 U. S. C. 262.

³⁷ 32 Stat. 982, 1069, 25 U. S. C. 262. This act amended the proviso in the 1901 act so as to make it applicable to all reservations.

³⁸ Acts appropriating funds for detaining and punishing violators of the Intercourse Acts or Congress. Act of March 1, 1891, 27 Stat. 752, Act of March 2, 1897, 29 Stat. 410, Act of April 4, 1907, 34 Stat. 11, Act of July 1, 1909, 36 Stat. 597, Act of March 1, 1909, 36 Stat. 1074, Act of June 6, 1909, 36 Stat. 290, Act of March 1, 1901, 31 Stat. 1311. The phrase of May 7, 1901, with the phrase "of the Mississippi and the Potomac and Lake Winnebago and of the Potomac and Indians in Alaska" 1 Stat. 691, 695, 11 U. S. C. 261 provided that no trader shall be licensed, who shall not have a family residing with him, or whose moral habits, or shall be reported upon unfavorably by a board of visitors. A similar provision is found in the Act of February 28, 1977, 19 Stat. 251, 256, Act of 7, 1890s Nation and Northern Arapahoe and Cheyenne Indians).

SECTION 2. PRESENT LAW

At the present time the Commissioner of Indian Affairs continues to exercise sole power and authority in the appointment of traders in the Indian tribes.⁴⁰ Under existing regulations,⁴¹ any person who proposes in the satisfaction of the Commissioner that he is a proper person may secure a trader's license.⁴² Ordinarily the Commissioner will not issue a license without the approval of the tribal council. Bond with approved sureties⁴³ must accompany the application.⁴⁴ Any person other than an

Indian of full blood,⁴⁵ who attempts to reside in the Indian country on any Indian reservation as a trader without a license, or to introduce goods or trade therein, forfeits all merchandise offered for sale to the Indians or found in his possession and is liable to a penalty of \$300. Licenses are granted for 1 year,⁴⁶ and, at the end of that time the Commissioner is satisfied that all rules and regulations have been observed, a new license may be issued.⁴⁷ Introduction of liquor into the Indian country is a statutory ground for the revocation of a trader's license.⁴⁸

In order to prevent the acquisition of a share of the trade without approval of the Indian Service, Congress established the present rule that no appointed Indian trader could sell, share, or convey, in whole or in part, his right to trade with the Indians.⁴⁹ A sale of a license, being void, has been held not to

³⁹ Act of August 17, 1876, 19 Stat. 176, 200, Act of March 1, 1901, 31 Stat. 1078, 1066, Act of March 3, 1903, 32 Stat. 982, 1069, 25 U. S. C. 262-262.

⁴⁰ Regulations Governing Traders of Indian Tribes, 25 C. F. R. at 278. Regulations Governing Traders on Navajo, Zuni, and Hopi Reservations, ibid., pl. 277.

⁴¹ See Act of August 15, 1876, sec. 5, 15 Stat. 176, 200, Act of March 7, 1901, 31 Stat. 1078, 1066, Act of March 4, 1903, sec. 10, 32 Stat. 982, 1069, 25 U. S. C. 261, 262. The view was expressed in 2 Op. A. G. 412 (1850), that no citizen of the United States can obtain exemption from laws of United States by entering Indian Territory and becoming an Indian by adoption and thereby claim the privilege of trading without a license. In 16 Op. A. G. 404 (1879) it was stated that a trader at a military post in Indian country must be licensed and licenses cannot be issued by military authorities.

⁴² The Act of July 25, 1890, sec. 4, 24 Stat. 235, 280, which required traders to give a bond to the United States in the sum of not less than \$5,000 nor more than \$10,000 was incorporated in sec. 2158, Revised Statutes, but omitted from the United States Code of 1926. See 2128 was repealed by the Act of March 3, 1903, 32 Stat. 1428. The regulations require a bond in the sum of \$10,000 with at least two approved sureties or a bond of a qualified surety company, 25 C. F. R. 276.30.

⁴³ 25 U. S. C. 281. The words "of the full blood" and the words "on any Indian reservation" were added to the Revised Statutes by the Act of July 31, 1882, 22 Stat. 179.

⁴⁴ Sections 261 and 262 of title 25, United States Code, giving the Commissioner of Indian Affairs authority to regulate trade with Indians, and requiring any person desiring to trade with the Indians on any Indian reservation to do so under the regulations of the Commissioner, are general in scope and would include the Indians themselves. Section 264 of title 25 excludes from the enforcement provisions Indians of the full blood. Section 264

of the full blood, who attempts to reside in the Indian country on any Indian reservation as a trader without a license, or to introduce goods or trade therein, forfeits all merchandise offered for sale to the Indians or found in his possession and is liable to a penalty of \$300. Licenses are granted for 1 year, and, at the end of that time the Commissioner is satisfied that all rules and regulations have been observed, a new license may be issued. Introduction of liquor into the Indian country is a statutory ground for the revocation of a trader's license.

⁴⁵ The only statute which provides a method of enforcement of the laws governing trade with the Indians, since the laws and regulations are unenforceable against Indians of the full blood, such Indians cannot be said to be required to operate under the regulations. Congress has evidently left to the tribe the regulation of the Indians who are Indians restricting the term "Indian" for this purpose to persons with full Indian blood. The tribe itself could require that full-blooded Indians trade with the Federal laws and regulations. (Memo 801 J. D., April 29, 1940.)

⁴⁶ See 11 U. S. C. 261.

⁴⁷ 18 U. S. C. 2127-2128. The Act of July 31, 1882, 22 Stat. 179, amended 18 U. S. C. 2127, 25 U. S. C. 264, by excluding the Five Civilized Tribes from its application. It also made nonapplicable to these tribes its provision that unlicensed white clerks could not be hired by Indian traders. The forfeiture provision has been regarded by the Department of Justice as not permitting forfeiture for forfeiture of an automobile used by an unlicensed trader to transport merchandise. D. J. No. 90-3-5-528, Memorandum by O. J. R., July 13, 1939.

⁴⁸ Under the special regulations for the Navajo, Hopi, and Zuni Reservations, a 3-year term is allowed. See 20 U. S. C. 276.11-277.11.

⁴⁹ 25 U. S. C. 246, derived from Act of March 12, 1861, 13 Stat. 29, 28 U. S. C. 240.

⁵⁰ *United States v. De Buffalo Robes*, 1 Mont. 480 (1872).

constitute consideration for a sale.¹ A contract by a holder of a trading license to pay a third person a portion of the proceeds of the trade, in consideration of the third person actually running the business, was considered by the courts as simoniac, a subterfuge, violating the spirit and intent of the trading statutes.² The court, however, approved an arrangement whereby a licensed trader formed a partnership and the nonlicensed member of the partnership secured a permit to live on the reservation, to sell to the Indians and to share in the profits.³

While the general policy is to encourage resident ownership of Indian trading posts, in some instances the lack of local capital necessitates absentee ownership. At the present time, as a matter of actual practice, a license may be held by a resident manager instead of by a nonresident owner.⁴

To insure integrity of conduct on the part of persons employed in the Indian Service and to protect the Indians, no license is issued to any person employed in Indian affairs by the United States.⁵

A license to trade is not required in Alaska. The Act of June 30, 1834,⁶ was not extended, *ex proprio vigore*, to that Territory upon its cession to the United States.⁷

The court, in *United States v. Scheuch*,⁸ in 1852, decided that this new possession was not Indian country, as defined and limited by the Trade and Intercourse Act. After this decision, on March 8, 1874,⁹ Congress extended to Alaska the provisions of sections 21 and 22 of this statute relating principally to the interdiction of liquor traffic. The presumption seems clear that by singling out, mentioning, and extending two sections only, the intention of Congress was to withhold or exclude from the Territory all other sections of the Act. Apparently Alaska was intended to be considered "Indian country," in connection with Indian trade only to the extent of that specifically prohibited trade.

By the regulations of the Department of the Interior, products sold to the Indians are required to be good and merchantable, and the prices must be fair and reasonable.¹⁰ The President, whenever in his opinion public interest requires, is authorized to prohibit the introduction of goods, in any particular article, into the country of any tribe.

For many years the sale to the Indians of means of warfare has been restricted and regulated.¹¹ At the present time the Secretary of the Interior may adopt such rules as may be necessary to prohibit the sale of arms and ammunition in any district occupied by uncivilized or hostile Indians.¹² Arms and ammunition may not be sold to the Indians by traders except upon permission of a superintendent of an Indian agency who has clearly established that the weapons are for a lawful purpose.¹³

Congress has provided that no person other than an Indian may, within Indian country, purchase or receive of an Indian

in the way of barter, trade, or pledge a gun, trap, or other article commonly used in hunting, any instrument of husbandry or cooking utensil of the kind commonly obtained by Indians in their intercourse with whites, or any article of clothing, except skins or furs.¹⁴

It is against the rules laid down by the Commissioner of Indian Affairs to sell tobacco, cigars, and cigarettes to minor Indians under 18 years of age.¹⁵ Likewise, liquor traffic is suppressed.¹⁶

Sale of speckled harmful drugs is illegal.¹⁷ Gambling is prohibited in trading posts.¹⁸ Trading on Sunday presents sufficient cause for revocation of a license.¹⁹

At the present time credit is given at the trader's risk.²⁰ Traders may not accept loans or pledges of personal property to Indians to obtain credit or loans, and Indians may not be paid in state orders, in tokens, or in any other way than in money.²¹

To protect the Indians, traders are forbidden to buy, trade for, or have in their possession any munition or other goods which have been purchased or furnished by the Government for the use or welfare of the Indians.²² The business of a trader must be conducted on premises specified in the license.²³ Tribal or individual lands used by traders must be leased in the usual manner.²⁴

No trader will be allowed to sublet or rent buildings which he occupies without the approval of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs,²⁵ and, where the tribe is organized, without the consent of the tribal council.

The personal property, including the stock in trade of a licensed trader, is ordinarily subject to state taxation, although the privilege of doing business with Indians would appear to be exempt from state taxation.²⁶ As an Indian trader was not an officer of the Government, and as his goods are his own private property, which he may sell indiscriminately to Indians or non-Indians, a state tax on the personal property of a licensed trader is not a tax on an agency of the Federal Government, or an interference with the regulation of commerce with the Indian tribes.²⁷

¹ 25 U. S. C. 205, R. S. § 2163. For other restrictions on trade see Chapter 3, sec. 8.

² 25 C. F. R. 276.17.

³ See Chapter 17, Indian Liquor Laws.

⁴ 25 C. F. R. 276.31.

⁵ *Ibid.*, 276.21.

⁶ *Ibid.*, 276.20.

⁷ In *Tucker v. United India Co.*, 251 U. S. 981 (1914), it was held that a provision in the Indian Appropriation Act of June 21, 1906, 34 Stat. 255, 466 under which individual Indians had to pay for any amount exceeding 75 per centum of his next quarterly allowance. Treaties with various tribes bear ample evidence of the gross traders acquired by exchange of credit to their customers. A large portion of the money from the sale of ceded land passed directly to the trader for debts, and these debts in several instances necessitated cessations of land. See Chapter 8, sec. 7C.

⁸ 25 C. F. R. 276.24.

⁹ *Ibid.*, 276.10.

¹⁰ *Ibid.*, 276.14.

¹¹ See Chapter 5, sec. 3B and 11E, Chapter 11, sec. 5, and Chapter 15, sec. 10.

¹² 25 C. F. R. 276.15.

¹³ See Chapter 13, sec. 4 and 5.

¹⁴ *Thomas v. Gay*, 160 U. S. 264 (1895). This case involved a tax on cattle owned by a lessee of Indian land. The court stated: "It is not perceived that local taxation, by a State or Territory, of property of others than Indians would be an interference with Congressional power." Accord: *Wagoner v. Mann*, 170 U. S. 588 (1898), *Catholic Mission v. McIntosh County*, 200 U. S. 118 (1906); *Surplus Trading Co. v. Cook*, 281 U. S. 647 (1930). In the *Surplus Trading Co.* case the opinion states: "Such assessments are part of the State within which they lie and her laws, civil and criminal, have the same force therein as elsewhere within her limits, save that they can have only restricted appli-

¹ *Hobbs v. Faughell*, 17 Neb. 530, 23 N. W. 614 (1885).

² *Quill v. Kendall*, 15 Neb. 540, 10 N. W. 183 (1884).

³ *Dunn v. Carter*, 30 Kan. 204, 1 Pac. 60 (1883).

⁴ Some traders' stores have licensed resident managers who are not the owners.

⁵ 25 C. F. R. 276.5-277.4.

⁶ 4 Stat. 720.

⁷ *Waters v. Campbell*, 29 Fed. Cl. No. 17264 (C. C. Ore. 1878), *Ku v. United States*, 27 Fed. 351 (C. C. Ore. 1880); *Jay v. Sah Quah*, 31 Fed. 317 (D. C. Alaska 1880), 18 Op. A. G. 141 (1878).

⁸ 27 Fed. Cl. No. 10252 (D. C. Ore. 1872).

⁹ 17 Stat. 530.

¹⁰ 25 C. F. R. 276.22.

¹¹ Act of August 6, 1870, 16 Stat. 210, R. S. § 2190, 25 U. S. C. 206.

¹² 25 U. S. C. 206, R. S. § 4167, 2188.

¹³ 25 C. F. R. 276.8.

In view of the fact that Congress has conferred upon the Commissioner of Indian Affairs exclusive jurisdiction with respect to Indian traders,⁷ and since tribal constitutions generally provide that ordinances dealing with traders shall be subject to departmental review, tribal tax levy may not be made upon

cation to the Indian wards. Private property within such a reservation is not held under such Indians as subject to taxation under the laws of the State" (at 631). Some State cases in accord are *Monte v. Bureau*, 51 Pa. 377 (1858); *Chase v. McMillen*, 76 Pa. 965 (1899); *Hoble v. Louisville Tl. Par. Rty.* (1904). Cf. *Chief Justice v. Board of Miss.* 110 (1862).

⁸ 26 U. S. C. 261-262, derived from Act of August 15, 1876, 19 Stat. 290, and the Act of March 3, 1903 (O-ago Reservation), 41 Stat. 1056, 1906 as amended by Act of March 3, 1909, 12 Stat. 922, 1009.

⁹ 52 U. S. 14, 16 (1941); 3 Op. A. G. 645 (1824). As the Treaty of November 28, 1785, with the Cherokee, 7 Stat. 18, and the Treaty of July 2, 1791, with the Cherokee Nation, 7 Stat. 19, provided that the

licensed traders unless such tax is authorized by the Commissioner of Indian Affairs.¹⁰

United States has the sole and exclusive right of regulating trade with the Indians the Attorney General herein expressed the opinion that the Cherokees had no right to impose a tribal tax on traders. 37 Op. A. G. 141 (1894) and 38 Op. A. G. 11 (1884) upheld the validity of permit laws of Cherokees and Chickasaws imposing a fee upon licensed traders under the provision of the treaties of June 22, 1855, 17 Stat. 612 and April 28, 1856, 11 Stat. 769 between the Cherokee and Chickasaw and the United States. Also see Chapter 23, sec. 1.

Cf. Graham v. Madden, 54 Fed. 126 (C. C. A. 8, 1894). The opinion in this case held a tax imposed by the Creek tribe upon licensed traders could not be sustained by the United States courts but recognized the power of the Department of the Interior to remove from Indian Territory any licensed trader who failed to pay taxes as lawfully levied by Indian tribes. *Morris v. Hitchcock*, 194 U. S. 181 (1904). On tribal power to tax see Chapter 7, sec. 7.

CHAPTER 17

INDIAN LIQUOR LAWS

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SECTION 1. HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Proscriptions on traffic in liquor among the Indians began in early colonial times, in a few of the colonies.¹ The Indians themselves at various times sought to curb their consumption of "strong drink," and it is worthy of note that the first federal control measure² was enacted, at least in part, in response to the verbal plea of an Indian chief to President Thomas Jefferson on January 4, 1802.³

On January 28, 1802, President Jefferson called upon Congress to take some step to control the liquor traffic with the Indians in the following language:

These people [the Indians] are becoming very sensible of the baneful effects produced on their morals, their health, and existence, by the abuse of ardent spirit: and

¹ *Mass Colonial Laws, 1690-72* (Whitcomb 1890), p. 101, The "Charter of the Province of Pennsylvania and City of Philadelphia" (Franklin 1732), c. 108, p. 41, Acts of the General Assembly of the Province of New Jersey, 1703-61 (Nevill 1761), sec. 2, p. 125.

² See P. W. Hodge, *Handbook of American Indians*, II Doc. No. 938 pt. 2, 80th Cong., 1st sess. (1905-6), p. 700, *American State Papers*, vol. 7 (Indian Affairs, class II, vol. I) (1789-1815), p. 665.

³ Act of March 30, 1802, sec. 21, 2 Stat. 139.

⁴ In the course of his talk to the President, the Indian chief, Little Turtle, among other things, said:

"... But farther, nothing can be done to advance unless the great council of the Sixteen Fires, now assembled, will prohibit any person from selling any spirituous liquors among their red children."

Farther: Your children are not wanting in industry, but it is the introduction of this fatal poison which keeps them poor. Your children have not that common evil, themselves, which you have, therefore, before anything can be done to advantage, this evil must be remedied.

Farther: When our white brethren came to this land, our forefathers were numerous and happy, but, since their intercourse with the white people, and owing to the introduction of the fatal poison, we have become less numerous and happy. (American State Papers, vol. 7 (Indian Affairs, class II, vol. I) (1789-1815) p. 665.)

SECTION 2. SOURCES AND SCOPE OF FEDERAL POWER RE LIQUOR TRAFFIC

The power of the Federal Government over traffic in intoxicating liquors with the Indians may be said to be derived from "several sources." Among these may be mentioned, first, the

¹ *In United States v. Ferguson*, 191 Fed. 878 (C. C. 8, 1911), rev'd 180 Fed. 1008 (D. C. W. D. Ark. 1910), the power is said to be derived from five sources, as follows:

First, the treaty-making power. Second, the power to regulate interstate commerce. Third, the power to regulate commerce with the Indian tribes. Fourth, the ownership, as sovereign, of lands to which the Indian title has not been extinguished. Fifth, the plenary authority arising out of the guardianship of the Indians as an alien but dependent people. (At p. 874.)

some of them earnestly desire a prohibition of that article from being carried among them. The Legislature will consider whether the effectuating that desire would not be in the spirit of benevolence and liberality, which they have hitherto professed toward these, our neighbors, and which has had so happy an effect towards continuing their friendship. It has been found, too, in experience, that the same abuse gives frequent rise to incidents tending much to commit our peace with the Indians."

Congress forthwith adopted legislation which authorized the President of the United States "to take such measures, from time to time, as to him may appear expedient to prevent or restrain the vending or distributing of spirituous liquors among all or any of the said Indian tribes, anything herein contained to the contrary thereof notwithstanding."

With control over treaty-making, the licensing of traders, and the management of Government trading houses, the Executive had ample power to control the situation without a general Indian prohibition law, and 80 years passed before such a law was enacted.⁴

The considerations of benefit to the Indians and protection to the whites thus suggested in Jefferson's message have since continued to influence the deliberations of Congress in its efforts to suppress the traffic in liquor with the Indians.⁵

⁴ *American State Papers*, vol. 7 (Indian Affairs, class II, vol. I) (1789-1815) p. 663.

⁵ Act of March 30, 1802, sec. 21, 2 Stat. 139, 140. An excellent account of the development of Indian liquor laws from 1802 to 1911 will be found in Ann. Com. 1912-8, 1909, 1601.

⁶ See 10, 35, infra.

⁷ 28 Cong. Rec., pt. 8, p. 2187 (1892); 28 Cong. Rec., pt. 2, p. 803-806 (1907). The view that began control acts in maintaining the peace is supported in the Annual Report of Louis C. Modier, Chief Special Officer of the Office of Indian Affairs, March 28, 1908. The contention that practically every Indian was since the discovery of America has been caused directly or indirectly, by the liquor traffic is put forward by William E. Johnson, *The Federal Government and the Liquor Traffic* (1911) pp. 183-188.

clauses in the Constitution investing Congress with authority to regulate commerce with the Indian tribes,⁶ and to dispose of and make all useful rules and regulations respecting the ter-

See also *Worcester v. Georgia*, 6 Pet. 515 (1832), where Chief Justice Marshall intimated that the authority of the Federal Government to control "all intercourse" with the Indians is traceable to the clauses in the Constitution relative to war and peace, or making treaties and of regulating commerce with foreign nations and among the several states and with the Indian tribes. For a further discussion of the sources and limits of federal power, see Chapter 5, sec. 1.

⁸ U. S. Const., Art. I, sec. 8, cl. 3.

itory and other property of the United States," second, the clause in the Constitution relative to the making of treaties,⁴¹ and third, the recognized relation of tribal Indians to the United States.⁴² The first, of course relates to the powers of Congress, the second to those of the treaty-making department, and the third the broadest and most important of all, refers to the powers of both.

The treaty-making power has been exercised, in conjunction with the congressional power to carry out the terms of treaties, by legislative enactments, to impose prohibitions against the liquor traffic by direct treaties with the Indians, as was done, for example, in the Treaty of October 2, 1863,⁴³ with the Chippewas, and by the Convention with Russia of April 5, 1824.⁴⁴ Treaties and legislative enactments of the United States are of equal dignity, so that the restrictions against intoxicants in the former have the force of law.⁴⁵ Similar in effect to treaties with the Indian tribes are "agreements," which were resorted to after the policy of dealing with the Indians in treaty was abandoned.⁴⁶ These agreements, however, received their legal force from acts of Congress ratifying and adopting them. They are exemplified by the agreements with the Nez Percé Indians and the Yankton Sioux.⁴⁷

The power to regulate commerce with the Indian tribes is really the constitutional backbone of federal legislation against traffic in liquor with the Indians. The courts have upheld this power with respect to tribal Indians, and the Indian country.⁴⁸

⁴¹ U. S. Const., Art. IV, sec. 2, cl. 2.

⁴² U. S. Const., Art. II, sec. 2, cl. 2.

⁴³ See *United States v. Kagawa*, 118 U. S. 375, 383-84 (1886). See also *United States v. Ritz*, 211 U. S. 871 (1916), *United States v. Bandook*, 211 U. S. 88 (1914), *rev'd* 196 U. S. 610 (1914), *United States v. Johnson*, 302 U. S. 717 (1938), *rev'd* 89 U. S. 20 (1875) (C. C. A. 9, 1937), *aff'd* *United States v. One Chinook Robb*, 36 F. Supp. 483 (D. C. Nev. 1959).

⁴⁴ Ratified with amendments March 1, 1824, amendments assented to April 12, 1824, proclaimed May 5, 1824. 11 Stat. 617. Other treaty provisions containing prohibitions against the sale or introduction of liquor are: Treaty of April 6, 1824, with Osage, 8 Stat. 702, Art. 6; Treaty of May 15, 1816, with the Comanche, 10 Stat. 104, *Chadco*, *Lepan*, *Lone-wind*, *Keeble*, *Tah-ah*, *Carra*, *Whitla*, and *Waco* Tribes of Indians, 9 Stat. 411, Art. XII; Treaty of July 21, 1823, with the *See-tsee-tan* and *Way-pai* bands of Indians at *Osage* Indians, 10 Stat. 1199, Art. 6; Treaty of August 6, 1821, with *Medo-wee-koon* and *Wah-pai* bands of Indians at *Osage* Indians, 10 Stat. 974, Art. VI; Treaty of May 31, 1824, with the united tribes of *Kaskaskia* and *Peoria*, *Pankashaw* and *Wes* Indians, 10 Stat. 1082, Art. 10; Treaty of October 17, 1825, with *Blackfoot* and other tribes of Indians, 11 Stat. 637, Art. 11; Treaty of February 11, 1826, with the *Menominee* tribe of Indians, 11 Stat. 679, Art. 3; Treaty of April 19, 1825, with the *Yankton* Tribe of *Sioux* or *Desian* Indians, 11 Stat. 713, Art. XII; Treaty of October 11, 1824, with the *Klamath* tribe of Indians, *Modoc* tribe of Indians and the *Yahookin* band of *Snake* Indians, 16 Stat. 707, Art. IX.

⁴⁵ Ratified with amendments March 1, 1824, amendments assented to April 12, 1824, proclaimed May 5, 1824. 11 Stat. 617.

⁴⁶ U. S. Const., Art. VI, cl. 2, *Wilmington*, The Constitutional Law of the United States (2d ed. 1929), sec. 504, p. 548. See Chapter 4, sec. 1.

⁴⁷ Act of March 3, 1871, 10 Stat. 614, 616. See Chapter 4, sec. 6.

⁴⁸ See Act of August 16, 1894, 28 Stat. 280. The selling or giving away of intoxicants upon ceded territory is forever prohibited by Art. XVII of the Yankton agreement (p. 318). Introduction of intoxicants is prohibited for 25 years by Art. IX of the Nez Percé agreement (p. 330).

⁴⁹ *United States v. Fortino-Gale Whiskey*, 108 U. S. 401 (1883), *rev'd* 138 U. S. 188 (1891). See also *Whiskey*, 225 U. S. 603 (1912), *United States v. Wright*, 220 U. S. 220 (1913), *United States v. Bandook*, 211 U. S. 88 (1914), *Perin v. United States*, 282 U. S. 478 (1914), *United States v. Shaw-Allen*, 27 Fed. Cas. No. 16288 (D. C. Ore., 1873),

The power over commerce with the Indians is distinct from that over interstate commerce in that traffic with the Indian tribes and may be regulated regardless of state lines. Thus, the Indian commerce power covers traffic which may be wholly within one state.⁵⁰

It is to be noted that regulation under this power is not limited to transactions in which a tribe acts as an entity but extends to transactions with individual members of such tribe.⁵¹ The Supreme Court has stated this principle in the following terms:

Commerce with foreign nations, without doubt means commerce between citizens of the United States and citizens or subjects of foreign governments, as individuals. And so commerce with the Indian tribes means commerce with the individuals composing those tribes.⁵²

In connection with the power to regulate commerce with the Indian tribes there exists also the authority granted by the Constitution to do all things necessary and proper by way of carrying out its provisions.⁵³ Pursuant to this power and the power over the territory and other property belonging to the United States,⁵⁴ the Federal Government has imposed liquor restrictions on lands ceded to it by the Indians when these lands adjoined Indian country.⁵⁵ The purpose of this measure was to prevent sale of liquor on the boundaries of the land returned to the Indians. Except for these extensions of the Indian liquor laws to "buffer" areas the states would have had the exclusive police power thereon. Such extensions have been repeatedly upheld by the United States Supreme Court.⁵⁶ The power lasts only so long as Indians are present on the retained reservation lands and certain wards of the Government.⁵⁷ In 1933, Congress withdrew liquor restrictions from the "buffer" lands.⁵⁸

Congress may also enact such measures to aid in the enforcement of the prohibition statutes, as are "directed at the means and methods used in the accomplishing of the violation of the

Perin v. United States, 110 Fed. 942 (C. C. A. 8, 1901), *United States v. Ritz*, 211 U. S. 88 (1914), *United States v. Bandook*, 211 U. S. 88 (1914), *United States v. Johnson*, 302 U. S. 717 (1938), *rev'd* 89 U. S. 20 (1875) (C. C. A. 9, 1937), *aff'd* *United States v. One Chinook Robb*, 36 F. Supp. 483 (D. C. Nev. 1959).

⁵⁰ *Perin v. United States*, 110 Fed. 942 (C. C. A. 8, 1901), *United States v. Ritz*, 211 U. S. 88 (1914), *United States v. Bandook*, 211 U. S. 88 (1914), *United States v. Johnson*, 302 U. S. 717 (1938), *rev'd* 89 U. S. 20 (1875) (C. C. A. 9, 1937), *aff'd* *United States v. One Chinook Robb*, 36 F. Supp. 483 (D. C. Nev. 1959).

⁵¹ *Perin v. United States*, 110 Fed. 942 (C. C. A. 8, 1901), *United States v. Ritz*, 211 U. S. 88 (1914), *United States v. Bandook*, 211 U. S. 88 (1914), *United States v. Johnson*, 302 U. S. 717 (1938), *rev'd* 89 U. S. 20 (1875) (C. C. A. 9, 1937), *aff'd* *United States v. One Chinook Robb*, 36 F. Supp. 483 (D. C. Nev. 1959).

⁵² *United States v. Holliday*, supra, p. 417. Also see *Chaplin*, 3, sec. 1.

⁵³ U. S. Const., Art. I, sec. 8, cl. 18.

⁵⁴ U. S. Const., Art. IV, sec. 3, cl. 2.

⁵⁵ Act of December 19, 1850, 10 Stat. 598 (Unapproved), Act of March 1, 1867, 28 Stat. 603 (Indian Territory), Act of March 20, 1900, 34 Stat. 807 (Kiowa, Comanche, and Apache), Act of June 16, 1906, 34 Stat. 297 (Oklahoma, Indian Territory, New Mexico, and Arizona), Act of May 6, 1916, 39 Stat. 348 (Nakoma), Act of June 30, 1916, 39 Stat. 597 (New Mexico and Arizona), Act of May 31, 1917, 37 Stat. 111 (Omaha), Act of July 25, 1917, 37 Stat. 197 (Coville), Act of February 14, 1918, 37 Stat. 075 (Stranding Rock), Act of May 31, 1915, 40 Stat. 802 (Fort Hall), Act of June 4, 1920, 41 Stat. 731 (Crow).

⁵⁶ *Perin v. United States*, 110 Fed. 942 (C. C. A. 8, 1901), *United States v. Ritz*, 211 U. S. 88 (1914), *United States v. Bandook*, 211 U. S. 88 (1914), *United States v. Johnson*, 302 U. S. 717 (1938), *rev'd* 89 U. S. 20 (1875) (C. C. A. 9, 1937), *aff'd* *United States v. One Chinook Robb*, 36 F. Supp. 483 (D. C. Nev. 1959).

⁵⁷ *Perin v. United States*, supra.

⁵⁸ Act of June 27, 1934, 48 Stat. 1215, 25 U. S. C. 254.

statute.²⁰ Statutes providing for search and seizure, and label and forfeiture have been mutually upheld.²¹ As possession of

intoxicants in Indian country leads to infractions of the Indian liquor laws, Congress may forbid possession.²²

²⁰ *Commercial Importation Trust v. United States*, 201 Fed. 330, 533 (C. C. 8, 1923).

²¹ Act of March 2, 1917, 19 Stat. 969, 970 was upheld in *Commercial Importation Trust v. United States*, supra, and *United States v. One Buckle*, *Boatright v. Informants*, 244 Fed. 661 (D. C. E. D. Ohio, 1917).

²² Acts of May 25, 1918, 16 Stat. 561, 562, and June 30, 1919, 11 Stat. 74 both did so in the following cases: *Kaweah v. United States*, 265 U. S. 314 (1924); question certified from *Kaweah v. United States*, 25 F. 2d 507

(C. C. 8, 1924). *Reynolds v. United States*, 48 F. 2d 782 (C. C. 8, 1924); *Morris v. United States*, 19 F. 2d 113 (C. C. 8, 1927); *Rhapp v. United States*, 16 F. 2d 576 (C. C. 8, 1926); *Edla v. United States*, 11 F. 2d 671 (D. C. N. D. Ohio, 1926); *Lucas v. United States*, 17 F. 2d 12 (C. C. 8, 1926); *Burroughs v. United States*, 15 F. 2d 408 (C. C. 8, 1926); *Reynolds v. United States*, 15 F. 2d 991 (C. C. 8, 1926).

SECTION 3. EXISTING PROHIBITIONS AND ENFORCEMENT MEASURES

Pursuant to the foregoing federal powers, Congress has evolved a system of prohibition and enforcement measures against trade in liquor with the Indians, and in the Indian country.²³

The most important of these measures is the Act of July 23, 1920,²⁴ as amended in 1938 to read as follows:²⁵

Any person who shall sell, give away, dispose of, exchange, or barter any malt, spirituous, vinous, liquor, including beer, ale, and wine, or any alcohol or other intoxicating liquor of any kind whatsoever, or any essence, extract, butters, preparation, compound, composition, or any article whatsoever, under any name, label, or brand, which produces intoxication to any Indian to whom an allotment of land has been made while the title to the same shall be held in trust by the Government, or to any Indian who is a ward of the Government under charge of any Indian superintendent or agent, or to any Indian, including mixed bloods, to whom the Government, through its departments, exercises guardianship, and any person who shall introduce in attempt to introduce any malt, spirituous, or vinous liquor including beer, ale, and wine, or any alcohol or intoxicant or compound or composition into the Indian country which term shall include any Indian allotment while the title to the same shall be held in trust in the Government, or while the same shall remain inalienable by the allottee without the consent of the United States, shall be punished for the first offense by imprisonment for not more than one year, and by a fine of not more than \$500, and for the second offense and each offense thereafter by imprisonment for not more than five years, and by a fine of not more than \$2,000. *Provided*, however, That the person convicted shall be committed until fine and costs are paid. *And provided further*, That first offenses under this section may be prosecuted by information, but no person convicted of a first offense under this section shall be sentenced to imprisonment or be committed to a reformatory or to perform hard labor. It shall be a sufficient defense to any charge of introducing or attempting to introduce ardent spirits, ale, beer, wine, or intoxicating liquors into the Indian country that the acts charged were done under authority, in writing, from the War Department or any other duly authorized department by the War Department. All complaints for the arrest of any person or persons made for violation of any of the provisions of this section shall be made in the county where the offense shall have been committed, or it committed upon or within any reservation not included in any county, then in any county adjoining such reservation, but in all cases such arrests shall be made before any United States court commissioner residing in such adjoining county, or before any magistrate or judicial officer authorized by the laws of the State in which such reservation is located to issue warrants for the arrest and examination of offenders by section 1014 of the Re-

vised Statutes [§ 1178 (C. C. 601)] as amended. And all persons so arrested shall, unless discharged upon examination, be held to answer and stand trial before the court of the United States having jurisdiction of the offense.²⁶

This statute defines two distinct prohibitions. The first is directed against any disposition of intoxicants to any Indian who has an allotment, title to which is restricted or held in trust by the Federal Government, or to any Indian who is a ward or under the guardianship of the United States.²⁷ The Indians included may be located in Indian country or outside of it.²⁸ Indians as well as whites and others may commit this crime,²⁹ but apparently an Indian purchasing or otherwise receiving illicit liquor is not offending against this law.³⁰

The person disposing of liquor to an Indian allottee or ward is not excused because he did not know the recipient was an

²³ Act of June 15, 1934, 48 Stat. 490, 25 U. S. C. 241. The first general statutory prohibition against liquor in Indian country was approved June 8, 1884, 23 Stat. 474, 4 Stat. 264. Two earlier laws (Congress, 44th Cong., 1st Sess., of the Act to Regulate Trade and Intercourse with the Indian Tribes of June 16, 1834, 4 Stat. 729) the substance from which the above act was derived, by amendment of February 14, 1912, 34 Stat. 138 Indians affected by the law were defined as those under charge of a superintendent or agent, and persons for selling and introducing were made the same.

The Act of March 15, 1904, c. 13, 33 Stat. 297 added the words "in any allotment giving title to said person concurrently with the direct costs."

As the substance of this law was carried in the R. S. § 4219, Indians in the Indian country were excepted from its penalties. This excepted was taken out by the Act of February 27, 1917, 16 Stat. 210, 211 which was an act to correct errors in the Revised Statutes.

The words "ale, beer, wine, or intoxicating liquors of any kind" were added by the Act of July 23, 1920, 27 Stat. 200. This broadening was made necessary by decisions holding beer not to be within the earlier definition. See *Ames v. United States*, 162 U. S. 670 (1895), *In re McGonough*, 40 Fed. 869 (D. C. Mont., 1902).

Again, by the Act of February 30, 1907, 29 Stat. 505, the collection of liquor was extended to read as in the 1938 amendment above.

The acts of 1903 and 1907 were read together by *Reid v. United States*, 5 F. 2d 177 (C. C. 8, 1925); *Morgan v. United States*, 698 (C. C. 8, 1916), and *United States v. Hildner*, 112 Fed. 698 (C. C. 8, 1916), and *United States v. Hildner*, 112 Fed. 698 (C. C. 8, 1916), and *United States v. Hildner*, 112 Fed. 698 (C. C. 8, 1916).

The actions at the 1938 amendment which are now the primary provisions and the provisions allowing prosecution by information for the first offense.

²⁶ Wardship of the Indians and termination of wardship is discussed in sec. 9 of Chapter 8. It may be noted here, however, that the granting of citizenship did not take away Indians out of the working of the liquor laws. *United States v. Hildner*, 112 Fed. 698 (C. C. 8, 1916) (overruling *United States v. Hildner*, 107 U. S. 488 (1903)), *Katzman v. United States*, 253 Fed. 628 (C. C. 7, 1915), *Morgan v. United States*, 108 Fed. 64 (C. C. 8, 1912), and *United States v. Hildner*, 112 Fed. 698 (C. C. 8, 1916). The privilege of having liquor is not one of the privileges of citizenship. *Mathews v. United States*, 120 Fed. 608 (C. C. 8, 1903), *Forster v. United States*, 110 Fed. 642 (C. C. 8, 1903).

²⁷ *United States v. Bell*, 128 Fed. 88 (D. C. M. D. Pa. 1904).

²⁸ *United States v. Miles*, 105 Fed. 644 (D. C. Nev. 1901); *United States v. Hildner*, 112 Fed. 698 (C. C. 8, 1916).

²⁹ *Levi v. United States*, 205 Fed. 28 (C. C. 9, 1913) (under Alaska liquor law). But see Acts of May 25, 1918, 40 Stat. 561, 568, and June 30, 1919, 41 Stat. 84, prohibiting possession.

²⁴ For a definition of "Indian country" see Chapter 1, sec. 8. For the purpose of the liquor laws it means all lands and reservations, Indian title to which has not been extinguished. The leading cases are applicable to this definition are *United States v. De Bra*, 121 U. S. 276 (1887), *Beas v. Clark*, 88 U. S. 204 (1874). See also the Act of June 27, 1904, c. 546, 43 Stat. 1240, 25 U. S. C. 264.

²⁵ 27 Stat. 200.
²⁶ Act of June 15, 1938, 52 Stat. 696, 25 U. S. C. 241. This act apparently repealed similar provisions in the Act of January 30, 1907, 29 Stat. 506.

Indian or a "ward of the Government," or because he introduced him for a Mexican or white."¹⁰

The second prohibition defined in the statute is directed against the introduction or attempt to introduce any intoxicants into Indian country.¹¹ "To offend against the ban on introducing liquor it is enough that one is the means of carrying the liquor within the limits of Indian country knowing of its presence and transportation."¹² The person so introducing alcohol need not have any interest in it.¹³ Nor need he have any intent to introduce, that is, he need not know that he has entered Indian country.¹⁴ But an intent is necessary to constitute the crime of attempting to introduce liquor into Indian country.¹⁵ In both the introduction and the attempt to introduce, the destination, intentionally or unwittingly, must be the Indian country. The mere transportation through Indian country is not within this act when the destination is beyond.¹⁶

As the courts repeatedly held that possession of liquor in Indian country was not alone sufficient to show introduction,¹⁷ Congress in 1916 enacted the following law to bolster this weak spot:

"... possession by a person of intoxicating liquors in the country where the introduction is prohibited by treaty or Federal statute shall be prima facie evidence of unlawful introduction."¹⁸

In 1918, as an addition and to enforcement, Congress provided that possession in Indian country shall be an independent offense.¹⁹ "The statute reads:

"... possession by a person of intoxicating liquors in the Indian country where the introduction is or was prohibited by treaty or Federal statute shall be an offense and punished in accordance with the provisions of the Acts of July twenty-third, eighteen hundred and ninety-two (Twenty-seventh Statutes at Large, page two hundred and sixty), and January thirtieth, eighteen hundred and ninety-seven (Twenty-ninth Statutes at Large, page five hundred and six)."²⁰

The elements of this offense are possession, which means physical control and power to dispose of liquor, knowledge of possession,²¹ and location of the liquor within the limits of Indian country.²² Apparently, knowledge of possession in another is not enough, nor is drinking from the bottle of another enough.²³ But where the accused is found with a full liquor

bottle which he breaks, it has been held that these facts are evidence of possession, knowledge, and control.²⁴ The wording of this statute, though not as detailed in defining prohibited liquors as the Act of June 13, 1938,²⁵ is apparently as broad, since it covers any intoxicant.²⁶

The early Trade and Intercourse Act of 1834 contained a measure to facilitate enforcement of the liquor prohibitions, which is still in force. It provided:

"That if any person whatever shall, within the limits of the Indian country, set up or continue any distillery for manufacturing and selling spirits, wines, and other intoxicating liquors named in the Act of January thirtieth, eighteen hundred and ninety-seven (Twenty-ninth Statutes at Large, page five hundred and six),²⁷ he shall forfeit and pay a penalty of one thousand dollars, and it shall be the duty of the superintendent of Indian affairs, Indian agent, or sub-agent, within the limits of whose agency the same shall be set up or continued, forthwith to destroy and break up the same."²⁸

Other enforcing acts, including provisions for search, seizure, and forfeiture of goods and vehicles, have been enacted from time to time as conditions required. This legislation also had its inception in the Trade and Intercourse Acts of May 6, 1822,²⁹ and of June 30, 1834,³⁰ and then modified provisions are as follows:

Sec. 2140 "If any superintendent of Indian affairs, Indian agent, or sub-agent, or commanding officer of a military post, for reason of suspect or is informed that any white person or Indian is about to introduce or has introduced any spirituous liquor or wine (bees and other intoxicating liquor named in the Act of January thirtieth, eighteen hundred and ninety-seven (Twenty-ninth Statutes at Large, page five hundred and six))³¹ into the Indian country in violation of law, such superintendent, agent, sub-agent, or commanding officer, may cause the beads, stores, packages, wagons, sleds, and places of deposit of such person to be searched, and if any such liquor is found thereon, the same, together with the beads, furs, wampum, and sleds used in carrying the same, and also the goods, packages, and peltries of such person, shall be seized and delivered to the proper officer, and shall be proceeded against, by libel in the proper court, and forfeited, one-half to the informer and the other half to the use of the United States, and if such person be a trader, his license shall be revoked and his bond put in suit. It shall moreover be the duty of any person in the service of the United States, or of any Indian, to take and destroy any and all spirits or wine found in the Indian country, except such as may be introduced thereon by the War Department. In all cases arising under this and the preceding sections [27 Stat. 611, 260 and 261 Stat. 800, as amended by 32 Stat. 801], Indians shall be competent witnesses."³²

Under this statute federal enforcement officers have the right to search and seize the beads, stores, packages, wagons, etc., without warrant. But federal officers may not make unreasonable searches as they are subject to the Fourth Amendment to the United States Constitution. And the Act of August 27,

¹⁰ *Reich v. United States*, 48 F. 2d 203 (C. C. S. 1920); *Preley v. United States*, 286 Fed. 904 (C. C. S. 1910); *Zett v. United States*, *supra*, *United States v. McElroy*, 54 Ala. 161, 70 Fed. 611 (1901). Officers of the Indian Service, however, are instructed to testify doubts in favor of the vendor in cases involving Indians, resembling other nationalities.

¹¹ An Indian may be convicted of introducing liquor into Indian Territory. *Chambers v. United States*, 225 U. S. 851 (1912). See also fn 10, *supra*.

¹² *Alchard v. United States*, 212 Fed. 140 (C. C. S. 1914).

¹³ *Id.*

¹⁴ *United States v. Leather*, 20 Fed. Cas. No. 36581 (D. C. Nev. 1879).

¹⁵ *United States v. Bishop*, 12 Fed. 51 (C. C. One 1882).

¹⁶ *Battenfeld v. United States*, 243 Fed. 950 (C. C. S. 1917); *Townsend v. United States*, 205 Fed. 610 (C. C. S. 1912); *United States v. Yashub*, 211 Fed. 100 (D. C. Ala. 1913).

¹⁷ *Orlery v. United States*, 222 Fed. 64 (C. C. S. 1915); *Chambliss v. United States*, 218 Fed. 154 (C. C. S. 1914); *Paika v. United States*, 225 Fed. 860 (C. C. S. 1915); *Owen v. United States*, 225 Fed. 368 (C. C. S. 1915); *Goff v. United States*, 237 Fed. 204 (C. C. S. 1910).

¹⁸ Act of May 18, 1916, 39 Stat. 124, 321, 25 U. S. C. 245.

¹⁹ *Brown v. United States*, 205 Fed. 628 (C. C. S. 1912), holds this act constitutional.

²⁰ Act of May 25, 1918, 40 Stat. 591, 593, and the Act of June 30, 1910, 41 Stat. 9, 4, 25 U. S. C. 244.

²¹ *Buchanan v. United States*, 15 F. 2d 400 (C. C. S. 8, 1906); *Colough v. United States*, 15 F. 2d 959 (C. C. S. 8, 1906).

²² *Alchard v. United States*, 212 Fed. 140 (C. C. S. 1914).

²³ *Colough v. United States*, *supra*.

²⁴ *Marion v. United States*, 6 F. 2d 800 (C. C. S. 8, 1920).

²⁵ 52 Stat. 690, 25 U. S. C. 241.

²⁶ *Reap v. United States*, 18 F. 2d 876 (C. C. S. 8, 1920), aff'g *Beauregard*, 13 F. 2d 651 (D. C. N. D. 1920).

²⁷ The bracketed clause was added to this act by the Act of May 18, 1916, 39 Stat. 124, 124, 25 U. S. C. 262.

²⁸ Act of June 30, 1834, 4 Stat. 720, 724, 731, 25 U. S. C. 251.

²⁹ 8 Stat. 892.

³⁰ 4 Stat. 720.

³¹ The bracketed clause was made to apply to this act by the Act of May 18, 1916, 39 Stat. 124, 124, 25 U. S. C. 262.

³² Bracketed as it now appears in the U. S. C. 244, which is derived from the Act of March 15, 1864, 18 Stat. 36. This act changed the provisions of the Act of June 30, 1834, by omitting necessity for search and regulations provided by the President, and by making it a duty to destroy illicit liquor found in Indian country.

1935,⁴⁵ imposes criminal liability for unreasonable search of dwellings without a warrant. In case of such unreasonable search the officer, civil or military, also becomes civilly liable.⁴⁶ The early decision of the United States Supreme Court in *Indian Pa. Co. v. United States*,⁴⁷ determined that this act gave authority to search and seize only in Indian country.⁴⁸ As to what might be seized and subject to civil action there was some doubt. The courts decided that the goods forfeited should be only those which were the property of the offender, and forfeited only to the extent of his interest.⁴⁹ When the automobile became perfected and widely used, it began to play an important role in the illicit liquor trade. The Government sought to subject it to civil proceedings under the foregoing statute. The courts determined that automobiles were not known to the legislators who passed the law in 1834, and that automobiles did not fit into the enumeration of wagons, boats, and sleds.⁵⁰ Congress quickly remedied this defect by the Act of March 2, 1917, which provided:

"That automobiles or any other vehicles or conveyances used in introducing, or attempting to introduce, intoxicants into the Indian country, or where the introduction is prohibited by treaty or Federal statute, whether used

⁴⁵ 46 Stat. 872, 877, sec. 201.

⁴⁶ *Estes v. Olson*, 95 U. S. 264 (1877), holding a military officer liable though acting under superior's orders.

⁴⁷ 2 Peters 232 (1829).

⁴⁸ See also *Romero v. Victor*, 201 Fed. 361 (C. C. A. 8, 1913) and 100 Fed. 104 (D. C. F. D. Okla., 1912); *United States v. Twelve Bales of Whiskey*, 202 Fed. 131 (C. C. Mont., 1912); *Patterson v. Cox*, *Copied Bales*, 11 Fed. 330 (C. C. Minn., 1882), aff'd *Twelve Bales of Whiskey*, 11 Fed. 37 (C. C. Minn. 1882); *United States v. Four Bales of Whiskey*, 90 Fed. 720 (C. C. Wash., 1898).

⁴⁹ *Shawnee Nat. Bank v. United States*, 210 Fed. 583 (C. C. A. 10, 1913); *United States v. One Automobile*, 237 Fed. 891 (C. C. Mont., 1918); *United States v. Two Gallons of Whiskey*, 211 Fed. 988 (C. C. Mont., 1911).

⁵⁰ *United States v. One Automobile*, *supra*; *Shawnee Nat. Bank v. United States*, *supra*.

by the owner thereof or other person, shall be subject to the seizure, libel, and forfeiture provided in section twenty-two hundred and forty of the Revised Statutes of the United States.⁵¹

This act is broader than the search and seizure provision in the Act of 1834 in those respects: (1) Search and seizure may be made outside Indian country when the vehicle taken is used in the attempt to introduce liquor into Indian country; (2) automobiles and any other vehicles are included; (3) "the thing involved [automobile or other vehicle], and not its owner is the offender"; (4) "The vehicle is forfeited without regard to ownership." Finally, it should be noted that these enforcement measures apply solely to Indian liquor laws and cannot be used as a basis for search, seizure, and libel of goods, vehicles, etc., used in any other illicit traffic.⁵²

The passage of the Eighteenth Amendment, the National Prohibition Act, and repeal of both had no effect to supplant or repeal any of the special Indian liquor laws.⁵³

⁵¹ 30 Stat. 590, 970.

⁵² *One Bales Automobile v. United States*, 275 Fed. 800 (C. C. A. 8, 1921); *United States v. One Ford Fire-Passenger Automobile*, 250 Fed. 645 (D. C. E. D. Okla. 1919).

⁵³ *United States v. One Buick Roadster Automobile*, 211 Fed. 901 (D. C. E. D. Okla. 1917); see also *Hawley v. United States*, 15 F. 2d 621 (C. C. A. 8, 1925).

⁵⁴ *United States v. One Chevrolet Coupe Automobile*, 58 F. 2d 235 (C. C. A. 9, 1932). As to constitutionality in this legislation, see see 1 *supra*, and *Commercial Investment Trust v. United States*, 201 Fed. 390 (C. C. A. 8, 1912).

⁵⁵ *United States v. One Cadillac Night Automobile*, 255 Fed. 173 (C. C. M. T. Tenn., 1918).

⁵⁶ *Plan v. United States*, 7 F. 2d 847 (C. C. A. 8, 1925); *Hawley v. United States*, 15 F. 2d 621 (C. C. A. 8, 1925); *Kroner v. United States*, 265 F. 2d 314 (1921); questions raised from *Kroner v. United States*, 2 F. 2d 307 (C. C. A. 8, 1921); *St. Charles v. United States*, 258 Fed. 781 (C. C. A. 8, 1922); *Alfonsen v. United States*, 6 F. 2d 800, 811 (C. C. A. 8, 1925); *Hawley v. United States*, 6 F. 2d 401 (C. C. A. 8, 1925); *cert den* 260 F. 2d 508 (1925).

SECTION 4. LOCALITY WHERE THESE MEASURES APPLY

The statutes examined above comprise the existing prohibitions and enforcement measures concerning the Indian liquor traffic. But the picture is not complete without an understanding of the locality where these measures apply. Recent statutes have made this fully clear with regard to lands within the United States proper. First, the Act of June 27, 1934, provides:

"That hereafter the special Indian liquor laws shall not apply to former Indian lands now outside of any existing Indian reservation in any case where the land is no longer held by Indians under trust patents or under any other form of deed or patent which contains restrictions against alienation without the consent of some official of the United States Government. *Provided, however*, That nothing in this Act shall be construed to discontinue or repeal the provisions of the Indian liquor laws which prohibit the sale, gift, barter, exchange, or other disposition of beer, wine, and other liquors to Indians of the classes set forth in the Act of January 30, 1907 (39 Stat. L. 508), and section 241, title 25, of the United States Code."

The purpose of this act is to repeal old treaty and statutory provisions whereby lands ceded to the United States, but adjoining Indian lands retained, were subjected to the Indian liquor laws.⁵⁴

⁵⁴ 48 Stat. 1245, c. 846. Accord, Act of June 11, 1934, 48 Stat. 927 (Minnesota Chippewa). But cf. Act of August 31, 1937, 50 Stat. 894 (Crow).

⁵⁵ 76th Cong., 2d sess., Sen. Rept. No. 1323 (1934). And see Memo. Ser. L. D., September 28, 1939, holding that the 1894 act exempts from laws prohibiting introduction of liquor into Indian country certain surplus lands of the Colville Reservation sold to non-Indians.

Second, ordinarily fee patented, unreserved lands are not subject to the liquor laws. Congress has sometimes continued the Indian liquor laws in such lands.⁵⁵

Third, the Act of March 2, 1917, brought Osage County, Oklahoma, within the Indian liquor laws.⁵⁶

Fourth, by the Act of March 5, 1934⁵⁷ that part of Oklahoma, formerly known as "Indian Territory," in which all liquor traffic was forbidden by the Act of March 1, 1895,⁵⁸ was released from the restrictions of the Indian liquor laws except as to lands on which Indian schools are or may be located. Reservation lands, allotted lands under restrictions as covered by trust patents outside of Indian reservations, and Osage County, in Oklahoma, remain as Indian country in the enforcement of liquor laws.

An interesting question arises with regard to reservation lands newly purchased and set aside for the Indians. Are these lands subject to the Indian liquor laws? This question has been decisively settled in the affirmative in the recent opinion of the United States Supreme Court in *United States v. M'Clintock*.⁵⁹

⁵⁶ See for example Act of June 4, 1920, sec. 6, 41 Stat. 751, 754 ("New Reservation").

⁵⁷ 48 Stat. 930, 933, amended to except the manufacture and sale of industrial and beverage alcohol for lawful purposes, Act of June 15, 1932, c. 245, 47 Stat. 802.

⁵⁸ 48 Stat. 205, c. 48.

⁵⁹ 38 Stat. 633, 637, sec. 8.

⁶⁰ 309 U. S. 635 (1938), rev'g 89 F. 2d 201 (C. C. A. 8, 1937), aff'd *United States v. One Chevrolet Sedan*, 10 F. Supp. 453 (D. C. Nev. 1936). See Chapter 1, sec. 8.

Only two statutory exceptions exist to the prohibitions against liquor in Indian country. The first relates to the use of sacramental wine, as follows:

"...it shall not be unlawful to introduce and use wines solely for sacramental purposes, under church authority, at any place within the Indian country or any Indian reservation, including the Pueblo Reservations in New Mexico."

The second exception permits liquor for lawful purposes in Oregon County, Oklahoma.³¹

Perhaps still another exception may be found in the provisions of the Act of June 16, 1938,³² making "32 beer" a matter of local option in Oklahoma.

Alaska is not covered by the Indian liquor laws. Congress has always legislated specially for that territory with regard

³¹ Act of August 24, 1912, 37 Stat. 755, 610, 23 U. S. C. 259.

³² Act of June 16, 1938, c. 245, 77 Stat. 102, amending the Act of March 2, 1917, 40 Stat. 690, 651, 27 U. S. C. 212.

³³ 48 Stat. 311, c. 102.

³⁴ The legal status of Alaskan natives is discussed in Chapter 21, sec. 6. The Act of July 27, 1904, 33 Stat. 244, 211, 18 U. S. C. 1079, gave the President power to regulate importation and sale of distilled spirits in Alaska. Four years later the case of *United States v. Seifert*, 27 Fed. Cl. No. 10262 (D. C. Ore., 1912) decided that Alaska was not

to liquor and has granted the power to control the liquor traffic to the Territorial Legislature by the Act of April 13, 1901.³⁴

Indian country and that the special Indian liquor laws did not extend to the new territory. In the following year, Congress extended the Indian liquor laws to Alaska by the Act of March 4, 1897, 37 Stat. 610, 686. Again by the Act of May 27, 1891, 25 Stat. 21, Congress prohibited importation, manufacture, and sale of intoxicants to all of Alaska and its inhabitants. This law was amended by the Act of March 3, 1899, sec. 112, 30 Stat. 1258, 1271, to limit the prohibition to selling to Indians.

As amended by the Act of February 6, 1909, 35 Stat. 600, 604, the Act of 1899 remains in force. In answer to the question of the Secretary of the Interior as to whether the Indian liquor laws applied to Alaska the Acting Solicitor of the Department of the Interior in 1907 gave his opinion that they do not. His opinion reached the following conclusion:

"It is evident, therefore, that Congress did not intend those provisions [i. e., the Indian liquor laws] as having application to the natives of Alaska, otherwise, the enactment of Section 112 above [10 Stat. 1271] would not have been necessary. That the territorial legislature contained a like provision is shown by the fact that it has also seen fit to deal specially with the subject of liquor control among the Alaska natives. (See section 1961, Comp. Cons. Laws of Alaska, 1913.) In any event, the enactment by Congress of a special liquor law for the natives of Alaska makes the general enactment found in Section 21 [27 U. S. C. 21] locally inapplicable."

On Sol. I. D. M. 29747, May 6, 1917, pp. 14, 10.

³⁵ 48 Stat. 658, 654 (Alaska).

SECTION 5. ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES, JURISDICTION, AND PROCEDURE

The work of the Office of Indian Affairs in the field of prohibition enforcement was thus described by the Supreme Court, *per Hughes, J.*, in the case of *United States v. Budzill*:³⁵

"...From an early day, Congress has prohibited the liquor traffic among the Indians, and it has been one of the important duties of the Indian Office and in the enforcement of this legislation. (See Act of June 30, 1894, c. 101, sec. 20, 4 Stat. 720, 722; Rev. Stat., sec. 2139, 2140, 2141, Act of July 24, 1892, c. 274, 27 Stat. 260, Act of January 20, 1897, c. 101, 29 Stat. 600.) It has furnished such aid by the detection of violations, by the collection of evidence, and by appropriate steps to secure the conviction and punishment of offenders. The regulations of the office, adopted under statutory authority (Rev. Stat., sec. 465, 2058), have been explicit as to the duties of Indian agents in this respect. In recent years Congress has made special appropriations "to enable the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, under the direction of the Secretary of the Interior, to take action to suppress the traffic of intoxicating liquors among Indians." (34 Stat. 928, 1037, 86 Stat. 74, 782, 86 Stat. 274, 1061, 87 Stat. 819), and an organization of special officers and deputies, serving in various states, has been created in the department. Through these efforts numerous convictions have been obtained. The results have been reported in Congress annually by the Commissioner and the appropriations for the continuance of this service have been increased."

¹ 11 Dec. Vol. 27, 90th Cong., 1st sess., pp. 29-31, 11 Dec. Vol. 41, 60th Cong., 2d sess., pp. 34-40, 11 Dec. Vol. 44, 63rd Cong., 2d sess., pp. 12-15, 11 Dec. Vol. 32, 65th Cong., 2d sess., pp. 13-18; 11 Dec. Vol. 41, 62d Cong., 2d sess., pp. 82-83.

² The nature and extent of this authorized service of the department are shown by the following extract from the Commissioner's report for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1912: "Until 1906

"...enforcement of these statutes and subsequent enactments" (as to the liquor traffic) was left to Indian agents and superintendents and then Indian police, awarded as they might be by local police officers and by representatives of the Department of Justice. In 1906 criminal clerks in Indian Territory became so crowded and the possibility of early flight so remote that dismissal of the statutes prohibiting importation of intoxicants assumed large importance. To meet the emergency Congress, in the Act of June 25, 1906, appropriated \$25,000 to be used to suppress the traffic in intoxicating liquors among Indians, and in August 1906, a special office was commissioned and sent to Oklahoma, that he and his subordinates might, through detective operations, supplement the efforts of superintendents in charge of reservations. In the fiscal year 1909, when the appropriation had grown to \$10,000, this service began to operate throughout all States where Indians were prohibited. In 1911 the service had grown until it had an appropriation of \$70,000 and an organization including 1 chief special officer, 1 assistant chief, 2 constables, 32 special officers, and 111 local deputies stationed in 21 States. The increasing success of the service appears in the fact that in 1906, 561 cases were when the service started came to rest in court, resulting in 516 convictions, whereas in 1911, 1,302 cases came to court, 1,108 defendants were convicted, and but 84 defendants were acquitted by juries. In 1911 fines imposed amounted to \$46,163, or more than the appropriation for the service." 11 Dec. No. 928, 62d Cong., 2d sess., pp. 11, 12.

In the Act of March 1, 1907,³⁶ Congress empowered special officers to search and seize, and in 1912 gave them the powers of the United States marshals and deputy marshals.³⁷

Criminal or libel proceedings are cognizable in the Federal District Court in the district where the offense was committed.³⁸ The manner of complaint and arrest is governed by the Act of June 15, 1893, set out in full in section 3 of this chapter.

³⁶ 34 Stat. 1015, 1017.

³⁷ *Ibid.*

³⁸ Act of August 24, 1912, 37 Stat. 618, 619.

³⁹ Judicial Code, sec. 24, 28 U. S. C. 41.

³ 233 U. S. 228 (1914) (holding that prohibition enforcement was such an official responsibility as would provide basis for salary indictment).

CHAPTER 18

CRIMINAL JURISDICTION

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SECTION 1. INTRODUCTION

Criminal introduction¹ in Indian law involves an allocation of authority among federal, tribal, and state courts. This allocation of authority depends in general upon three factors: subject matter, locus, and person.

Jurisdiction of the federal courts must be based, in every instance, upon some applicable statute, since there is no federal common law of crimes. From the standpoint of areas of application, the federal criminal statutes relating to Indian affairs are of three types:

- (a) Those that apply regardless of the locus of the offense, such as the crime of selling liquor to an Indian.²
- (b) Those that apply within areas under the exclusive

jurisdiction of the Federal Government, such as the offense of receiving stolen goods,³ and

(c) Offenses punishable only when committed within the "Indian country" or within "an Indian reservation," such as, for example, the offense of possessing intoxicating liquors in the Indian country.⁴

The jurisdiction of tribal courts depends also upon the factors of subject matter, locus, and person, and the same may be said of state court jurisdiction. Since this study is primarily devoted to federal Indian law, only incidental attention will be paid to tribal and state penal laws relating to Indian affairs. Limitations upon the application of such laws contained in federal statutes will, however, be examined.

¹ 18 U. S. § 5557, Act of March 4, 1909, sec. 288, 35 Stat. 1088, 1143, 17 U. S. C. 407.

² See 26 U. S. C. 241, and see Chapter 17, note 7.

SECTION 2. CRIMES IN INDIAN COUNTRY

Since there is a considerable body of federal legislation punishing various acts committed on Indian reservations or within Indian country, the question may be raised in any case involving such legislation whether the offense charged was in fact committed within an Indian reservation or in the Indian country. The definition of these terms has been considered elsewhere.⁵ For present purposes it is enough to summarize general conclusions which are elsewhere noted.

- (1) Tribal land is considered Indian country for purposes of federal criminal jurisdiction.⁶
- (2) An allotment held under patent in fee and subject to restraint against alienation is likewise considered Indian country for purposes of federal criminal jurisdiction.⁷
- (3) An allotment held under trust patent, with title in the Government, is likewise considered Indian country during the trust period.⁸

(4) Rights-of-way across an Indian reservation are considered "Indian country" for some or all purposes of federal criminal jurisdiction.⁹

⁵ The Act of June 28, 1932, 47 Stat. 330, amended sec. 418 of title 18 of the United States Code, which originally applied "within the limits of any Indian reservation" so as to apply "on and within any Indian reservation under the jurisdiction of the United States Government, including rights of way running through the reservation."

Interpreting this phrase, the Solicitor of the Interior Department declared:

"It is my opinion that the amendment should be given its apparent and natural meaning, namely, that the specific reference to rights-of-way was intended to provide for federal jurisdiction over all rights-of-way running through any Indian reservation. This is advanced as the proper position for this Department to take in view of the following considerations: 1. The probable federal constitution of the amendment would be that the amendment was intended to include within Federal jurisdiction all rights-of-way because at the previous division of jurisdiction over rights-of-way in Indian reservations. Prior to the passage of the amendment the courts had concluded that rights-of-way to which the Indian title had not been extinguished remained part of the reservation and within Federal jurisdiction, whereas other rights-of-way to which such title had been extinguished was subject to state jurisdiction. A court would presume that in view of this state of the law any amendment referring to rights-of-way generally would be intended to provide a uniform rule. If only a statement of existing law had been intended, the reference in the amendment would rather have been to rights-of-way to which the Indian title had not been extinguished, or no mention of the subject would have been made at all.

Moreover, it would be presumed by a court that this Depart-

⁶ See Chapter 1, sec. 3, Chapter 6; Chapter 6.

⁷ See Chapter 1, sec. 3.

⁸ *United States v. Ramsey*, 271 U. S. 407 (1926).

⁹ *United States v. Sutton*, 216 U. S. 8, 201 (1909), rev'd 105 Fed. 283 (D. C. E. D. Wash., 1908); *Holladay v. United States*, 221 U. S. 8, 317 (1911); *United States v. Peterson*, 332 U. S. 445 (1944); *See also* *Perez*, 96 F. 2d 28 (C. C. A. 7, 1938), *See also* *Van Moore*, 221 Fed. 904 (D. C. D. 1915).

(5) It is questionable whether land held by an Indian under a fee patent without restriction is Indian country for purposes of federal criminal jurisdiction, the weight of authority is that the land is not "Indian country" within the meaning of federal penal statutes.²⁰

The territorial limits of the jurisdiction of infant courts and courts of Indian offences¹¹ have not been considered in detail in any reported case. The following discussion is taken from an administrative ruling by the Solicitor for the Interior Department dealing with the question.¹²

May an Indian court exercise jurisdiction over acts committed by Indians on unresurveyed lands within an Indian reservation, where the Indians concerned are properly before the court?

Questions of court "jurisdiction" frequently turn on open analysis to be a confused mixture of questions dealing with international law, constitutional law, statutory construction and common law principles. It is important, therefore, that we define the question that concerns us as clearly and realistically as possible. In asking whether an Indian court has "jurisdiction" over acts committed in certain areas we are concerned to ascertain whether such a court community is competent to act. This is to say, an act is not "jurisdictional" at all, but it is possible to state in Federal court, if it orders the trial and punishment of an Indian who is before the court, on the basis of an act which that Indian has performed in the area designated

A question of jurisdiction arises when an Indian who is held to be an Indian civil claims that the judges of such a court are acting without proper authority and that such action, therefore, constitutes assault, false imprisonment, trespass, or some similar offense under State or Federal law. It is, therefore, necessary in passing upon such a jurisdictional question to inquire into the basis of authority upon which an Indian court acts. This is a subject which has been dealt with elsewhere at some length.¹¹

Whether the Indian Court is an administrative Court of Indian Offenses or a trial court, it appears that each has sufficient authority to include in its jurisdiction the trial

pent and Congress would have been concerned to do away with the unsatisfactory situation resulting from the uncertain status of the Indians. The bill would have been a simple measure, and would have been in conformity with the basic principle of statutory construction that legislation is intended to correct existing conditions. The bill would have been a simple measure, and would have been in conformity with the basic principle of statutory construction that legislation is intended to correct existing conditions. The bill would have been a simple measure, and would have been in conformity with the basic principle of statutory construction that legislation is intended to correct existing conditions.

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and punishment of offenses by Indians which were committed on unrestricted land

11. On the one hand, *Cont. of Indian Offenses* be considered, as suggested in the *Chaparral* case, to be not regular judicial bodies but "mere educational and disciplinary agencies" intended to inculcate in the Indian mind the principles of discipline which such "contests" undertake will depend upon the relationship between the court and the person disciplined. On this view the location of the offense in which the discipline is inflicted becomes unimportant. It is the nature of the offense which determines the guidelines under which the discipline was acquired. An Indian Service teacher may control the conduct of his pupils and administer discipline on a railroad car traveling through Texas, as well as on restricted Indian land. (See *Peak* 100, 101.) If a person is disciplined on Indian land, the offense is treated as committed on restricted Indian land, and, if the offender is married or divorced, a member of a given tribe, an eligible candidate for a certain position or office, regardless of where the acts leading to such a personal status may have taken place. So, if action of a Court of Indian Offenses is to be considered as disciplinary in emphasis rather than strictly judicial, such action is not restricted in its location to a given location. The Indiana who assaults his fellow-Indian on an ice patented land within the reservation is subject to disciplinary action by the Court of Indian Offenses. If the assault is committed outside the reservation, the offense had been committed on restricted Indian land. Perhaps the closest analogy to this "educational and disciplinary" theory of the functions of a Court of Indian Offenses is to be found in the common law of domestic violence. The husband is not permitted to exercise his power upon persons with respect to their children. To a certain extent guardians generally may exercise such power over their wards. In none of these cases is the exercise of such authority limited by any consideration of location. (See *People v. Williams*, 109 *Cal.* 127, 80 *Pac.* 292, 4 *Ann.* 412, 77 *Ampr.* 68, 573.)

In *United States v. Bank 17 Ed. 71*, it was held that an Indian ward of the reservation nevertheless was in the charge of an Indian agent within the meaning of a statute (including the sale of land) to such Indians. In *Peters v. United States*, 17 Ed. 73, it was held that the United States Indians are maintaining their tribal relations, the control and management of their affairs is in the Federal Government irrespective of the title to the land upon which they might, at the time being, be located. In that case the Government was held to be bound to apply to the tribal Indians either as an individual school or as a reservation or on a reservation the title to which was in the Government of Iowa. Moreover, the State criminal law was held not to apply to the removal of a child from a reservation and his detention from a Government school, institution, or hospital, and the Government was held to be concerned only to the Federal Government because of the personal relationship between the Government and its wards. "The relation of dependency existing between tribal Indians and the national government does not grow out of the relation of dependency existing between the Indians and the environment." (Page 73).

This principle has been followed in administrative practice since the beginning. The Superintendents and the Courts of Indian Offenses have not in the past refrained from issuing corrective measures for violations of the regulations. It may be doubted whether the Indian courts have ever made a practice of inquiring into the title of the land where the violation occurred. Nor have the departmental regulations required such inquiry and restraint. The 1891 Act, 26 Stat. 109, and the 1904 Act, 33 Stat. 2257, §§ 654-591, Regulations of the Indian Office, 1904 gave the Com. of Indian Offenses original jurisdiction over Indian offenses, including participation in the Sun Dance, conducting a plural marriage, procuring the attendance of children at a religious or social institution maintained by Indians, "belonging to the reservation," without any limitation as to where the offense might be committed. It was not intended that Indians could dance the Sun Dance and practice polygamy with impunity simply because they did so on nonreservation land. Such a sanction would have been in direct violation of the intent of the regulations. On the contrary, the 1904 regulations were so far as to

¹⁰ *Of Eugene Sol Lome v United States*, 271 Fed 47 (C C A 9, 1921), *State v Monroe*, 88 Mont 530, 271 Pac 840 (1929)

¹¹ See for regulations on Law and Order on Indian Reservations, 25 C.F.R. 1811-181308.

¹⁹ Memo Sol I D, April 27, 1938

²³ See Chapter 7, sec. 9.

authorize police surveillance of the Indians leaving the reservation and to contemplate their arrest and punishment for infraction of the rules outside the reservation (section 855-589).

However, whatever may be the disciplinary authority of the Secretary of the Interior over the conduct of Indian wards outside an Indian reservation, the Indian reservation itself has been considered an area peculiarly set apart as a domain within which the Federal Government exercises guardianship over the Indians. This guardianship is extended to all the Indians within the reservation, regardless of their residence or temporary location on unrestricted land. In the early days of the allotment act there was a tendency to withdraw protection from citizen and fee-patented Indians. This tendency was later reversed and Federal guardianship over tribal members has been recognized in spite of citizenship, possession of fee patents or residence on unrestricted land. A recent and far-reaching recognition of administrative supervision over all Indians within the boundaries of the reservation is found in the case of *United States v. Deery County*, 24 F. (2d) 784 (D. C. 8 D., 1928), *aff'd Deery County v. United States*, 26 F. (2d) 455 (C. C. 8 D., 1928). The following quotations which uphold the authority of the Department to make rules and regulations governing all the Indians on the reservation, particularly fee-patented Indians residing on fee-patented lands, are set forth because of their peculiar applicability to the questions involved:

"In the light of the plain determination of the question of the right, the power, and the duty of Congress to terminate this relation of guardian and ward, [the fee patent] Indians named in the complaint must be held to be wards of the government, unless there is legislation of Congress plainly indicating the intent and purpose to terminate the relation. Defendant urges consideration of the Act of June 25, 1910 (36 Stat. 853).

"This, in any event, is far short of a congressional declaration that the relationship of guardian and ward shall, by the issuance of the [fee] patent, cease. It is simply a step recognizing some progress by the Indian as being competent to handle the particular piece of land, and the act grants to him only the power to manage and dispose of the particular land. There is neither language plainly expressing, nor from which it may be reasonably inferred, that there is any intent or purpose that they should be taken out of the tribe of Indians, that their tribal relations should cease, and they should have no further interest in the tribal lands or in the moneys to be paid for such lands, that they should, from that time forward, not be subject to the agent provided for the band of Indians to which they belong, nor to the rules and regulations promulgated by the Indian Department as to the government of the reservation and all of the Indians thereon, the education of their children, and the policy that the agent is required to work out with and for the members of the tribes."

"In the absence of further declaration on the part of Congress that the guardianship of the government shall terminate as to these Indians, it seems clear that it must be so held as to those Indians to whom [fee] patents have been issued, who are found by this record to be members of the Cheyenne band of Sioux Indians; that they all had their allotments, that they all resided on their [fee patent] allotments or near them within the original limits of the Cheyenne River reservation, and some of them within the diminished portions thereof; that all of said Indians, at all times mentioned in the complaint, appeared on the rolls at the Cheyenne River agency, that they are entitled to participate and benefit of tribal funds and of the rents and profits of all tribal lands, together with the fact that the government maintains an agency and agent in charge of said tribe of Indians, including those particular Indians named in the complaint, are still wards of the government; that the government is still the guardian of all of these Indians, with control of their property, except in so far as that

control of their property is released by the legislation above referred to, and the Indians are thereby granted the power to manage and control the particular piece of land involved in the fee-simple patent." [Italics supplied.]

The foregoing authorities make it clear that if Indian courts are viewed as administrative agencies of the Interior Department, their authority is not limited to offenses committed on restricted land.

If, on the other hand, the Indian courts are viewed as tribal courts, deriving their power from the unmingled fragments of tribal sovereignty, it must be recognized that this sovereignty is primarily a personal rather than a territorial sovereignty. The tribal court has no jurisdiction over non-Indians unless they consent to such jurisdiction. Its jurisdiction is solely a jurisdiction over persons. We must therefore beware of reading into the measure of this jurisdiction the common law principle of the territoriality of criminal law. As was said in the case of *Ex parte Tiger*, 47 S. W. 304, 2 Ind. T. 41:

"If the Creek Nation derived its system of jurisprudence through the common law, there would be much plausibility in this reasoning. But they are strangers to the common law. They derive their jurisprudence from an entirely different source, and they are as unfamiliar with its tenets and definitions as they are with Scotch or Hebrew."

We must recognize that the general common law doctrine of the territoriality of criminal law has validity in practice only insofar as it is embodied in our criminal statutes. It is not a principle of logic or eternal reason. There are numerous well-recognized exceptions to this doctrine.

There are, in the first place, certain offenses for which citizens of the United States are punishable in United States courts, no matter where the offenses are committed (e. g., 18 U. S. C. Secs. 1, 5). The power of the Federal government to govern the conduct of its citizens abroad by subjecting them, when they return to this jurisdiction, to trial and punishment for offenses committed abroad, has never been successfully challenged (See *The Apollon*, 9 Wheat. 362, at 370). If this power has been exercised, in fact, only in exceptional cases, that is because *as a matter of policy* it is generally believed that the power to punish for extraterritorial offenses should be invoked only under special circumstances.

A second departure from the general rule of territoriality is presented by the jurisdiction vested in Congress over Indian affairs. It is well settled that this Congressional jurisdiction does not apply simply to the "Indian country" but applies to offenses no matter where committed.

"The question is not one of power in the national government, for, as has been shown, Congress may provide for the punishment of its citizens wherever committed in the United States. Its jurisdiction is co-extensive with the subject-matter—the intercourse between the white man and the tribal Indian—and is not limited to place or other circumstances." (*United States v. Rattahall*, 22 Post. 288.)

Again, it is a matter of policy, and not of law, to say how far Congress should extend its laws over Indians "on the reservation." The Indian laws are the outstanding instance of a jurisdiction not limited to offenses committed within the reservation (25 U. S. C. Sec. 241.)

A third recognized departure from the territorial principle is found in the application of Federal laws to our citizens in certain Eastern countries. American committing offenses in unincorporated colonies, for instance, are liable before United States consuls (22 U. S. C. Sec. 150), and Americans committing offenses in China are liable in the United States courts for China (22 U. S. C. Sec. 156 and 767) over which the Circuit Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit exercises appellate jurisdiction (22 U. S. C. Secs. 101-202).

A fourth important limitation upon the doctrine of territoriality is the rule that in civil cases a court, while its jurisdiction over the parties may consider all the elements of the case regardless of geographical considerations,

If, then, an Indian court is to be considered a judicial organ of Indian tribal sovereignty, it must recognize that this sovereignty is not a strictly territorial sovereignty, but primarily a personal sovereignty. We may therefore approach the problem of defining the scope of this sovereignty without begging the question by assuming in advance that the sovereignty is limited to any particular kind of land. The recognized exceptions to the usual rule of territoriality are closer to the situation here presented than the rule itself.

In defining the powers of an Indian tribe we look to Federal laws and treaties, not to the basis of sovereignty, but to the limitations on tribal powers.¹¹

In the absence of Federal law to the contrary, it is for the tribe to decide as a matter of its own public policy whether members of the tribe who may properly appear before the public agency of the tribe, shall be liable and punishable for acts committed on unincorporated land. The answer given to the question in the Law and Order Regulation, approved by the Secretary of the Interior November 26, 1945, and approved by numerous tribal councils before and after that date, is unmistakable. Section 1 of Chapter 1 reads:

A Court of Indian Offenses shall have jurisdiction over all offenses enumerated in Chapter 5 when committed by an Indian, within the reservation or reservations for which the Court is established.

With respect to any of the offenses enumerated in Chapter 5 over which Federal or State courts may have lawful jurisdiction the jurisdiction of the Court of Indian Offenses shall be concurrent and not exclusive. It shall be the duty of the said Court of Indian Offenses to order delivery to the proper authorities of the State or Federal Government of any other tribe at reservation, for prosecution, any offender, liable to be dealt with according to law or regulation, authorized by law, where such offenders refused to exercise jurisdiction lawfully vested in them over the said offender.

"For the purpose of the enforcement of these regulations, an Indian shall be deemed to be any person of Indian descent who is a member of any recognized Indian tribe now under Federal jurisdiction, and a 'reservation' shall be taken to include all territory within reservation boundaries, including fee patented lands, trusts, waters, bridges, and lands used for agency purposes."

The question remains, then, whether this statement of authority is in conflict with any Federal law.

That the original sovereignty of an Indian tribe extended to the punishment of a member by the proper tribal officers for depredations or other forms of misconduct committed outside the territory of the tribe cannot be challenged. Certainly we cannot read into the laws and customs of the Indian tribes a principle of territoriality of jurisdiction with which they were totally unfamiliar, and which no member has adopted as an absolute rule. That Indian tribes friendly to the United States acted to punish their members for depredations committed against whites outside of the Indian country is a matter of historical record. Will any one claim that such punishment was unconstitutional? The fact is that the United States, over a long period, encouraged the Indian tribes to help in controlling the conduct of their members outside of the Indian country, and in order to encourage such control made the tribe responsible for such individual offenses.

The absence of Federal laws applicable to the situation under consideration indicates that the right of Indian tribal authorities to punish errant members of the tribe never been denied but has been positively recognized. The act of June 30, 1854 (1 Stat. 781), which is still in many respects the basis of Indian administration, placed upon the Indian "nation or tribe" the responsibility of securing redress for depredations committed by individual

members of the nation or tribe outside of, as well as within, the Indian country.¹²

This provision placing responsibility upon the tribal authorities for the wrongs of individual Indians committed outside of the reservation clearly contemplates that the tribal authorities will deal in proper fashion with such individual Indians. While the reason that gave rise to this legislation may have disappeared the tribal basis of tribal action which the legislation assumed has never been challenged.

Provisions similar to that above quoted are found in many treaties with Indians. (See, for instance, Treaty with the Kiowas, et al., May 26, 1857 (7 Stat. 553) Secs. 3, 5, Treaty with the Comanches, et al., July 27, 1851 (13 Stat. 1013), Art. 5, Treaty with the Rogue River Indians, September 10, 1853 (10 Stat. 1078), Art. 6, Treaty with the Blackfeet, October 17, 1857 (11 Stat. 977), Art. 11.)

Federal laws affecting the personal status of Indians have no direct bearing upon our present problem. The General Allotment Law of February 8, 1887 (24 Stat. 390), as amended in the act of May 8, 1906 (34 Stat. 182), provides:

"At the expiration of the trust period and when the lands have been conveyed to the Indians by patent in fee, as provided in section 448, then each and every allottee shall have the benefit of the laws of the State in which he shall live civil and criminal, of the State or Territory in which they may reside." (25 U. S. C. Sec. 101.)

Because of this provision fee patent allottees have been held to be subject to the laws of the State wherever they may be within the reservation. *Reynolds v. United States*, 274 Fed. 47 (C. C. 9, 1921). *Stuart v. Monroe* 81 Mont. 556, 274 Pac. 810 (1929). However this fact does not mean that so long as the fee patent Indians live within the outer boundaries of the reservation and maintain tribal relations they are not also subject to the rules and regulations of the Department and to the tribal ordinances governing tribal members. That they are so subject is stated in the recent case of *United States v. Denny County*, from which extensive quotation to this effect is given above.

Moreover, the allotment act certainly did not make a fee patented allotment a place of sanctuary on which even an unallotted member of the tribe may commit offenses without the risk of future punishment by his tribe. Fee patented lands are undoubtedly subject to State jurisdiction but in the words of the Supreme Court, there is "no denial of the personal jurisdiction of the United States" (*United States v. Eshelman*, 215 U. S. 278, 251), and neither is there any denial of the personal jurisdiction of the tribe. It is for the Federal Government itself to decide whether it shall retain jurisdiction over certain offenses by Indians, e. g., liquor offenses on fee patented land, and relinquish to the State jurisdiction over certain other offenses. Likewise, it is in the Indian tribe itself, subject only to limitation by Congress, to decide whether it shall retain jurisdiction over certain offenses committed by members of the tribe on such land.

The fact that Federal courts have refrained from taking jurisdiction of Indian offenses on fee patented lands does not negate the jurisdiction of the Indian courts. Since the fallacy of identifying the jurisdiction of the one with the other is a ready one, an analysis of the fundamental distinctions between them is desirable.

The Federal District Courts have been authorized by Congress to exercise jurisdiction over specific crimes committed by Indians or white people against Indians in the "Indian country" and in "Indian reservations." The Federal courts have no jurisdiction other than that granted by Federal statute. On the other hand, the Indian tribes retain all their original jurisdiction over their members except as may be limited by Federal statute. Likewise, the authority of the Department to exercise administrative supervision over Indians is not based

¹¹ See Chapter 7, sec. 2.
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¹² See R. S. § 2150, 25 U. S. C. 220.

upon a statutory specification of crimes and criminal jurisdiction but, as previously indicated, upon a statutory duty of guardianship and Congressional authority thus to maintain order on Indian reservations. See *United States v. Quire*, 241 U. S. 802, at 805.

The Federal court exercises an absolute and exclusive jurisdiction over Indians when their crimes fall within the circumstances covered by the statutes. There is no statutory authority for concurrent jurisdiction of State and Federal courts when an Indian or Indian land becomes subject to State jurisdiction.²⁸ If the Federal courts have jurisdiction, the State courts do not, and vice versa. However, there is no prohibition on a determination by the Interior Department to exercise corrective measures over Indians within the reservation when the State has jurisdiction but refuses to handle the case or upon a similar determination by the title that members unconnected by State action shall be subject to correction by the tribal court.

Furthermore, the Federal courts are exercising judicial power as courts established by Congress pursuant to the United States Constitution, whereas the Department through the Court of Indian Offenses is not exercising judicial power but administrative guardianship powers, and the tribe is exercising tribal powers over the persons of its members. The establishment of an Indian court and the extent of its jurisdiction is, therefore, in both cases an administrative policy question. No court is established where there is little restricted land. Courts are established, however, where there is much restricted land within a reservation. The Federal courts are obligated to take jurisdiction of crimes coming within the Federal statutes upon restricted lands regardless of administrative need. It would not be argued that there is any obligation on the part of the Department to take corrective measures on such restricted lands if it is not advisable or necessary. In other words, it has often been recognized that the jurisdiction of the Federal courts and of the Indian courts does not coincide, since they derive their authority from different powers and function for different purposes.

I have reviewed the Federal laws which might be viewed as restricting or limiting the power of an Indian court to try and punish an Indian for an offense committed on unrestricted land within a reservation. I find no Federal law imposing any such limitation.

In there any provision of the Federal Constitution that precludes such exercise of jurisdiction? Would such an exercise of authority, in an area where the State may exercise a concurrent jurisdiction, constitute "double jeopardy" and violate the Fifth Amendment to the Federal Constitution?

Even if it could be maintained, in the face of the decision in *Tolson v. May*, 108 U. S. 370, that constitutional limitations under the "due process" clause are applicable to an Indian court, there is no force in the argument that the exercise of jurisdiction by such a court in these cases would subject the offender to "double jeopardy." The fact that an offense committed outside of restricted Indian lands may be subject to punishment in State courts does not make it unconstitutional for the court of another sovereignty to punish the same person for the same act. The decided cases clearly establish the principle that an individual who in a single act offends against the laws

of several jurisdictions may be constitutionally punished by the agencies of each jurisdiction.²⁹

In view of these decisions of the United States Supreme Court it is clear that the fact that an act is punishable in State courts is no bar to punishment in an Indian court. There remains, of course, a question of public policy to be considered in asserting jurisdiction over acts which are subject to another jurisdiction. This question is not in a specific provision in the Law and Order Regulations above set forth, under which cases in which Indian tribal jurisdiction be concurrent with State jurisdiction are to be turned over to State authorities, if such authorities are willing to exercise jurisdiction. This is undoubtedly a reasonable provision in view of the fact that the State may lie, in many cases, unwilling to exercise even an admitted jurisdiction over Indians with respect to acts committed on unrestricted Indian lands within a reservation.

It should further be noted that the Law and Order Regulations do not attempt to cover offenses committed outside of Indian reservations. There is therefore no immediate occasion to consider the legal and administrative problems that would be raised by any such exercise of jurisdiction. It is enough for our present purposes to note that the exercise of jurisdiction by an Indian court, under the departmental law and order or tribal codes, does not diminish the jurisdiction of State courts, does not subject the offender to "double jeopardy," and is not prohibited by any known Federal statute.

There remains the final question whether the action of an Indian court in trying and punishing an Indian for an offense committed within the jurisdiction of the State courts may violate any State law. While it is impossible to decide an issue of this sort in the abstract with entire certainty, it is enough to say that I know of no State legislation which would interfere with such exercise of jurisdiction by an Indian court, and since the matter is one that concerns the relations between an Indian and his tribe it would appear to be a matter on which State legislation would be ineffective. *See United States v. Quire*, 241 U. S. 802; *United States v. Hamilton*, 238 Fed. 625; *In re Blackbird*, 100 Fed. 130; *In re Envelin*, 120 Fed. 247; and see Opinion M. 28569, approved December 11, 1898, on the right of State game wardens to make seizures on an Indian reservation.

In view of the foregoing authorities I am of the opinion that an Indian court which orders the trial and punishment of an Indian before the court, on the basis of acts committed on unrestricted lands within an Indian reservation, does not offend against any State or Federal law.³⁰

In certain offenses the nature of the offense and the character of the laws in question establish Federal jurisdiction without reference to the question whether the accused or the injured party is an Indian.³¹ In other offenses, jurisdiction depends among other things upon the persons involved. In the following sections (3-8) we shall deal with jurisdiction over offenses in Indian country as affected by the character of the parties.

²⁸ See *United v. May*, 108 U. S. 10 (1852); *United States v. Lanza*, 260 U. S. 377, 379-380, 822 (1922).

²⁹ Further discussion in the monograph cited reaches the conclusion that Indian police may make arrests of Indians on unrestricted lands within a reservation.

³⁰ In this offense (Intoxication liquor into Indian country) neither race or color are significant. *United States v. Sutton*, 215 U. S. 8, 201, 205 (1909). Accord: *Perin v. United States*, 293 U. S. 478 (1934).

³¹ This statement must now be qualified because of the passage of the Act of June 8, 1940, Public Law 668—70th Cong., which extended jurisdiction on the State of Kansas over offenses committed by or against Indians on Indian reservations in the state.

SECTION 3. CRIMES IN INDIAN COUNTRY BY INDIAN AGAINST INDIAN

Offenses committed by Indians against Indians within the Indian country are ordinarily subject to the jurisdiction of tribal courts. This is a consequence of the doctrine of tribal self-government.³² In determining whether an offense by an Indian against an Indian falls within the jurisdiction of tribal

courts, we look to federal laws and treaties only for the limitations on tribal authority. The most important of such limitations is found in the Act of March 8, 1885.³³ This act brought

³² 29 Stat. 882, 385, 19 U. S. C. 548. Later amendments of this act and problems raised in its application are discussed in Chapter 7, secs. 2 and 9.

³³ See Chapter 7, sec. 9.

under federal jurisdiction certain offenses committed by Indians against Indians, notably murder, manslaughter, rape, assault with intent to kill, arson, burglary, and larceny. In later years robbery, incest, and assault with a dangerous weapon were added to this list.¹ A few other federal statutes relating, mostly to non-Indians as well as Indians, are applicable to offenses by Indians against Indians committed on an Indian reservation.

It has been held that where jurisdiction over murder or manslaughter is thus conferred upon the federal courts such jurisdiction is exclusive and the tribal courts may not act to punish a member of the tribe who has killed another member.² Authority on this point, however, is not conclusive, and it would be a

¹ Act of March 4, 1909, see 328, 33 Stat. 1088, 1161, Act of June 28, 1932, 47 Stat. 316, 337.

² See Chapter 7, to 223.

³ United States v. *Wahluke*, 37 Fed. 145 (C. C. S. D. Cal. 1888), and see Chapter 7, to 227.

SECTION I. CRIMES IN INDIAN COUNTRY BY INDIAN AGAINST NON-INDIAN

An Indian committing offenses in the Indian country against a non-Indian is subject to the Act of March 3, 1885, section 9,³ which, with an amendment, became section 328 of the United States Criminal Code of 1910 and now is section 548 of title 18 of the United States Code,⁴ providing for the prosecution in the federal courts of Indians committing, within Indian reservations, any of 10 (formerly 7, then 8) specially mentioned offenses whether against Indians or against non-Indians.⁵ Apart from

³ 23 Stat. 361, 365, 18 U. S. C. 545. Interpreted *Gon-Shay Be Pon-tun*, 110 U. S. 113 (1889).

⁴ Under this section, as originally enacted, the enumerated crimes were within the jurisdiction of territorial courts when sitting as such, and not when sitting as federal district or circuit courts. *Gon-Shay Be Pon-tun*, 110 U. S. 113 (1889). This was true regardless of whether the offense was committed within an Indian reservation. *Crofton Jack, Pelham*, 110 U. S. 163 (1889). For a complete history of this act see *United States v. Koonsee*, 118 U. S. 875 (1886).

⁵ Murder committed by an Indian against a non-Indian on a United States Indian reservation is a crime against the authority of the United States and within the equivalence of federal courts without reference to the citizenship of the accused. *Appes v. United States*, 229 U. S. 557 (1914). For the purposes of enforcement of 18 U. S. C. 548, the son of an Indian mother and a half-breed father, both of whom were recognized as Indians and maintained tribal relations, and who himself lived on a reservation and maintained tribal relations and was recognized as an Indian, was an "Indian" within the meaning of the federal statute. *Be Pairi Peto*, 90 U. S. 218 (C. C. A. 1, 1885), cert. den. 306 U. S. 642. Also see *Cherry v. United States*, 102 U. S. 499 (1880).

It is not clear whether or how far the Act of 1885 applied to the so-called "Indian Territory." By Art. 18 of the Cherokee Treaty of July 10, 1866, 11 Stat. 709, 803 (see Chapter 1, sec. 2), the establishment of a court of the United States in the Cherokee territory was provided for. * * * with such jurisdiction and organized in such manner as may be prescribed by law. Provided, That the judicial tribunals of the nation shall be allowed to retain exclusive jurisdiction in all civil and criminal cases arising within their country, in which members of the nation, by nativity or adoption, shall be the only parties, [italics added] or where the cause of action shall arise in the Cherokee nation, except as otherwise provided in this treaty.

Further, sec. 20 of the Act of May 2, 1890, 26 Stat. 81, 94, providing a temporary government for the Territory of Oklahoma and enlarging the jurisdiction of the United States court in the Indian Territory, provided:

* * * That the judicial tribunals of the Indian nations shall retain exclusive jurisdiction in all civil and criminal cases arising in the country, in which members of the nation by nativity or by adoption shall be the only parties [italics added]. * * *

and sec. 81 declared that:

* * * nothing in this act shall be so construed as to deprive any of the courts of the civilized nations of exclusive jurisdiction over all cases arising between members of said nations, whether by treaty, blood, or adoption, are the sole parties, [italics added] nor so as to interfere with the right and power of said civilized nations to make laws for the regulation of the relations of the states and laws enacted by their national councils where such laws are not contrary to the treaties and laws of the United States.

such inference that it is precluded from dealing with such matters as petty larceny between members of a tribe.

While, as noted, the jurisdiction of the tribe over offenses between Indians does not depend upon federal statutory authority, it may be noted that the policy of the Federal Government to respect such tribal jurisdiction is embodied in a series of statutes stretching back to the Act of March 3, 1817,⁶ which, after establishing federal jurisdiction over Indian offenses, declared:

Provided, That nothing in this act shall be so construed as to affect any treaty now in force between the United States and any Indian nation, or to extend to any offense committed by one Indian against another, within any Indian boundary.

Early treaties guaranteeing tribal jurisdiction over matters affecting only Indians have been elsewhere discussed.⁷

⁶ Stat. 343. See sec. 1 in *passim*.

⁷ See Chapter 4, sec. 30, 31 and 32.

These "ten major crimes," an Indian committing offenses in the Indian country against a non-Indian is subject to the code of federal territorial offenses,⁸ except in two situations: (a) Where he "has been punished by the local law of the tribe" and (b) "where, by treaty stipulations, the exclusive jurisdiction over such offenses is or may be secured to the Indian tribes respectively." The substance of the present law on this subject goes back to early treaties, some of which antedated the Federal Constitution, stipulating that Indians committing offenses against citizens of the United States should be delivered up to their tribes to be tried, or to be punished according to the ordinances of the United States.⁹

The first federal enactment dealing generally with crimes by Indians against non-Indians in Indian country was the Act of March 3, 1817.¹⁰ This provision was subsequently incorporated in section 25 of the Trade and Intercourse Act of 1884.¹¹

It will be noted that this act omits that portion of the thirteenth article of the treaty, wherein is reserved to the judicial tribunals of the nation (exclusive jurisdiction) "where the cause of the action shall arise in the Cherokee Nation," and that to extent apparently supercedes the treaty. Construing the word "arising" as meaning not only to the crime and not simply to the prosecution of the crime, it would appear that the Act of 1817 would apply to the "Indian Territory" only in cases where the offense was one of an Indian against a non-Indian. So construed in *Adley v. United States*, 102 U. S. 400 (1880). Followed in *Woffe v. United States*, 104 U. S. 337 (1880). In a indictment for murder in the Cherokee Nation, Indian Territory, averring both deceased and accused were white men, proof that the deceased was a white man establishes the jurisdiction, and the averment as to the citizenship of the accused is surplusage. *Henson v. United States*, 26 Fed. 100 (C. C. A. 5, 1878), *rev'd* 102 U. S. 11 (1880). In a case where the Indian defendant is treated as the sole party, the Indian courts would have jurisdiction whether the victim of the crime was Indian or non-Indian. This was done in a case of adultery, in which the name of the prosecuting witness did not appear and since there was no adverse party, the woman being a consenting party, the Indian defendant was regarded as the sole party to the proceeding. *In re Knutfield, Peterson*, 141 U. S. 107 (1891).

⁸ 25 U. S. C. 311-318. See sec. 7, *infra*.

⁹ See *supra*, Art. IX of Treaty of January 21, 1785, with the Waponts and others, 7 Stat. 10, 17; Art. VI of Treaty of November 28, 1785, with the Cherokee, 7 Stat. 18. And see Chapter 1, sec. 8, at 48.

¹⁰ Stat. 828, designating as a crime any act committed by any person in the Indian country, under the laws of the United States, would be a crime if committed in a place where which the United States had sole and exclusive jurisdiction. That this act comprehended crimes by Indians is indicated by the fact that the general language was qualified by a proviso excepting crimes by Indians against other Indians. The proviso further declared that existing treaties were to remain unimpaired.

¹¹ Act of June 30, 1884, 4 Stat. 726, 738. Section 25 of this act contained a repeal of the 1817 act. Murder committed by an Indian

and became part of section 8 of the Act of March 27, 1854,¹ from which section 2145 of the Revised Statutes, now 25 U. S. C. 217, was derived.

The first of the two exceptions noted—that relating to Indians punished by the local law of the tribe—first appears in the 1851 act:

§ 1031. a non-Indian without the limits of the state and district of Arkansas and within Indian country, in the absence of a state attaching the Indian country west of Arkansas thereto, was held not to fall within the jurisdiction of the recent court, which had no jurisdiction over such country. *United States v. Liberty*, 24 Fed. Cas. No. 13486 (C. C. Ark. 1843). The child of an Indian mother and white father was considered to be of the condition of the mother for the purposes of the criminal provisions of the 1841 Intercourse Act. *United States v. Seaver*, 27 Fed. Cas. No. 10629 (C. C. Ark. 1847).

§ 1031a. 28th, 27th. An offender is amenable for the crime of adultery with the laws of the nation in accord with Art. 13 of Treaty of July 18, 1866, with the Cherokees, 14 Stat. 709. *In re Mayfield Petitioner*, 141 U. S. 107 (1891). Also see *Alberry v. United States*, 112 U. S. 489

"The second of the exceptions noted—involving cases where treaties have provided for exclusive tribal jurisdiction—has its origin in the 1817 act:

(1816), *Yager v. United States*, 104 U. S. 657 (1897), *Famous Smith v. United States*, 131 U. S. 50 (1884) [discussing Indian citizenship in reference to applicability of treaty]. A white man incorporated with an Indian tribe at a mature age, by adoption, does not thereby become an Indian, so as to cease to be amenable to the laws of the United States, but he may become entitled to certain privileges to the tribe and also make himself amenable to their laws and usages. Therefore, an article of a treaty pardoning all offenses committed by citizens of the Cherokee Nation against the nation had the effect of pardoning an Indian who had previously committed murder in Cherokee country against a white man who had been adopted by that tribe. *United States v. Ragsdale*, 27 Fed. Cas. No. 16113 (C. C. Ark. 1847). Murder committed by an Indian against a non-Indian in the Indian country, within the boundaries of the territory, not coming within any of the exceptions, is within the exclusive jurisdiction of the United States branch of the territorial district court. *United States v. Monte*, 3 N. M. 173 3 Pac. 16 (1884). *But cf. United States v. Towell*, 28 Fed. Cas. No. 14522 (C. C. Ark. 1840).

SECTION 5. CRIMES IN INDIAN COUNTRY BY NON-INDIAN AGAINST INDIAN

Generally speaking, offenses by non-Indians against Indians are punishable in federal courts where the offense is one specified in the federal code of territorial offenses.²

This was not always the rule. Early treaties frequently provided that non-Indians committing offenses in the Indian country against Indians should be subject to punishment by tribal authorities.³ This rule, which followed the usual practice in international treaties, was abandoned after a few years of treaty-making, and many of the later treaties expressly provide that white offenders shall be delivered up to the federal authorities for prosecution.⁴

The exercise of federal jurisdiction over non-Indian offenders against Indians in the Indian country was first put on a statutory basis by the original Trade and Intercourse Act, the Act of July 22, 1790.⁵ The relevant sections declared:

Sec. 5 That if any citizen or inhabitant of the United States, or of either of the territorial districts of the United States, shall go into any town, settlement or territory belonging to any nation or tribe of Indians, and shall there commit any violence upon, or trespass against, the person or property of any peaceable and friendly Indian or Indians, which, if committed within the jurisdiction of any state, or within the jurisdiction of either of the said districts, against a citizen or white inhabitant thereof, would be punishable by the laws of such state or district, such offender or offenders shall be subject to the same punishment, and shall be proceeded against in the same manner as if the offence had been committed within the jurisdiction of the state or district to which he or they may belong, against a citizen or white inhabitant thereof.

Sec. 6 That for any of the crimes or offences aforesaid, the like proceedings shall be had for apprehending, imprisoning or hauling the offender, as the case may be, and for recognizing the witnesses for their appearance to testify in the case, and where the offender shall be committed, or the witnesses shall be in a district other than that in which the offence is to be tried, for the removal of the offender and the witnesses or either of them, as the case may be, to the district in which the trial is to be had, as by the act to establish the judicial courts of the United States, are directed for any crimes or offences against the United States.

These provisions were reenacted with minor modifications in the later territorial Trade and Intercourse Acts of 1793, 1796,

and 1799,⁶ and were embodied in the first permanent Trade and Intercourse Act of 1802⁷ in sections 2 to 10, inclusive. The general rule established by these statutes was continued in the Act of March 3, 1817,⁸ which provided:

That if any Indian, or other person or persons, shall, within the United States, and within any town, district, or territory, belonging to any nation of nations, tribe or tribes, of Indians, commit any crime, offence, or misdemeanor, which, if committed in any place or district of country under the sole and exclusive jurisdiction of the United States, would, by the laws of the United States, be punished with death, or any other punishment, every such offender, on being thereof convicted, shall suffer the like punishment as is provided by the laws of the United States for the like offences, if committed within any place or district of country under the sole and exclusive jurisdiction of the United States.

Sec. 2 That the superior courts in each of the territorial districts, and the circuit courts and other courts of the United States, of similar jurisdiction in criminal cases, in each district of the United States, in which any offender against this act shall be first apprehended or brought for trial, shall have, and are hereby invested with, full power and authority to hear, try, and punish, all crimes, offences, and misdemeanors, against this act, such courts proceeding therein, in the same manner as if such crimes, offences, and misdemeanors, had been committed within the bounds of their respective districts, *Provided*, That nothing in this act shall be so construed as to affect any treaty now in force between the United States and any Indian nation, or to extend to any offence committed by one Indian against another, within any Indian boundary.

Sec. 3 That the President of the United States, and the governor of each of the territorial districts, whose any offender against this act shall be apprehended or brought for trial, shall have, and exercise, the same powers, for the punishment of offences against this act, as they can severally have and exercise by virtue of the fourteenth and fifteenth sections of an act, entitled "An act to regulate trade and intercourse with the Indian tribes, and to preserve peace on the frontiers," passed thirtieth March, one thousand eight hundred and two, for the punishment of offences therein described.

The Trade and Intercourse Act of June 30, 1834,⁹ reenacted the rule developed in the earlier statutes. This rule was subsequently

¹ See sec. 7, *infra*.

² See Chapter 7, sec. 8, in 212; Chapter 8, sec. 3D(1).

³ *Id.*

⁴ Secs. 5 and 6, 1 Stat. 187, 188. See Chapter 4, sec. 2; Chapter 15, sec. 10A.

⁵ Acts of March 1, 1790, 1 Stat. 320; May 10, 1790, 1 Stat. 460; March 3, 1799, 1 Stat. 748. See Chapter 4, sec. 2, Chapter 15, sec. 10A.

⁶ Act of March 30, 1802, 2 Stat. 180. See Chapter 4, sec. 3, Chapter 15, sec. 10A.

⁷ 1 Stat. 583.

⁸ 4 Stat. 720. See Chapter 4, sec. 6; Chapter 15, sec. 10A.

incorporated in the Revised Statutes as section 2443 and in title 27 of the United States Code as section 217. The exceptions contained in title 25 of the United States Code, section 218, relating to offenses by Indians against Indians and to offenders punished by tribal law have no application to offenses committed by non-Indians against Indians. The third exception in section 218 dealing with the case of a treaty where the exclusive jurisdiction over such offenses is secured to the Indian tribes might

have current application but no such treaty provisions appear to be now in force.

Apart from the foregoing general statutes, Congress has from time to time enacted various laws to punish particular offenses committed by non-Indians against Indians within the Indian country.¹¹

¹¹ See Chapter 7, sec. 9 to 225.

SECTION 6. CRIMES IN INDIAN COUNTRY BY NON-INDIAN AGAINST NON-INDIAN

Ordinarily offenses committed by a non-Indian against a non-Indian in the Indian country are of no concern to the Federal Government and are punishable by the state.¹² For purposes of criminal jurisdiction where Indians are not involved, an Indian reservation is generally considered to be a portion of the state within which it is located.¹³ Exceptions to this rule exist where

Congress has specifically provided for exclusive federal jurisdiction over certain areas.¹⁴

That of the Congress of the United States¹⁵ does not amount to a reservation by the United States of jurisdiction over crimes committed on such lands by non-Indians against non-Indians and does not deprive the state of its power to try such offenses. *Thompson v. United States*, 164 U. S. 240 (1896).

¹⁶ 18 U. S. C. § 749. Act of February 2, 1901, 12 Stat. 791; Act of March 1, 1909, sec. 329, 35 Stat. 1085 (171); Act of March 1, 1911, sec. 291, 36 Stat. 1087 (1167). In this connection also see 11 Rept. No. 2704, vol. 13, 57th Cong., 1st sess.

¹² *United States v. McPherson*, 104 U. S. 621 (1881). And see Chapter 6.

¹³ The provision in the enabling act of Montana that all Indian lands within the state "shall remain under the absolute jurisdiction and con-

SECTION 7. CRIMES IN AREAS WITHIN EXCLUSIVE FEDERAL JURISDICTION

Section 217, title 25,¹⁶ extends to Indian reservations with exceptions already noted, "the general laws of the United States as to the punishment of crimes committed in any place within the sole and exclusive jurisdiction of the United States, except the District of Columbia."¹⁷ A list of such offenses will be found in chapters 11 and 18 of title 18, United States Code.¹⁸

This list is meager and inadequate in comparison with most state codes. It is supplemented by section 468 of title 18, United States Code,¹⁹ which makes acts, not made penal by any other laws of Congress, committed upon land within the exclusive jurisdiction of the United States subject to federal prosecution whenever made criminal by state law.

¹⁷ Act of June 30, 1911, sec. 27, 1 Stat. 743 as amended by the Act of March 27, 1951, sec. 3, 10 Stat. 289, 270, U. S. § 2145.

¹⁸ The first of the statutes embodied in this list appears to be the Act of April 30, 1790, 1 Stat. 132.

¹⁹ U. S. § 7101, Act of July 7, 1908, sec. 2, 30 Stat. 717, Act of March 4, 1909, sec. 299, 35 Stat. 1086, 1113 as amended by the Act of June 16, 1947, 18 Stat. 102. See Chapter 6, sec. 2A.

SECTION 8. CRIMES IN WHICH LOCUS IS IRRELEVANT

There are certain offenses covered by federal statutes regarding Indian affairs which are subject to federal jurisdiction regardless of the locus of the offense. Several such offenses are

purchasing 1 D. cattle without permission,²⁰ selling liquor to Indians,²¹ making prohibited contracts with Indian tribes.²²

The power of Congress to punish such crimes outside the Indian country is well established.²³

¹⁹ Act of March 3, 1867, sec. 8, 18 Stat. 641, 663, U. S. § 2138, as amended by the Act of June 30, 1919, sec. 1, 41 Stat. 3, 9, 26 U. S. C. 214.

²⁰ See Chapter 17, sec. 3.

²¹ Act of March 3, 1867, sec. 3, 16 Stat. 714, 570, U. S. § 2106, 26 U. S. C. 83.

²² See Chapter 5, sec. 3.

CHAPTER 19

CIVIL JURISDICTION

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SECTION 1. INTRODUCTION

As applied to the courts, jurisdiction may be defined as the power of a court to hear and determine matters or controversies of a justiciable nature arising within the limits to which the

¹On criminal jurisdiction, see Chapter 18. On the constitutional power of federal, state, and tribal governments, see Chapters 5, 6, and 7.

judicial power of those courts extends. We may consider the subject of civil jurisdiction² from the standpoint of the federal courts, including constitutional and legislative courts, such as the Court of Claims, and federal administrative tribunals, and also from the standpoint of the state courts, and the tribal courts.

SECTION 2. FEDERAL COURTS

Speaking generally, it may be said that the judicial power of the United States is vested by the Constitution in the Supreme Court and such other courts as Congress shall from time to time ordain and establish.³

In considering the jurisdiction of the federal courts, it may be observed that under the Constitution⁴ and laws⁵ of the United States the federal courts exercise jurisdiction in two different classes of cases: cases where the jurisdiction depends upon the character of the parties, and cases where the jurisdiction depends upon the subject matter of the suit. The distinction between these two classes of cases has been recognized from the beginning. Thus, in *Coke's v. Virginia*⁶ the Supreme Court of the United States, speaking through Mr. Justice Marshall, said:

In one description of cases, the jurisdiction of the court is founded entirely on the character of the parties; and the nature of the controversy is not contemplated by the constitution—the character of the parties is everything, the nature of the case nothing. In the other description of cases, the jurisdiction is founded entirely on the character of the case, and the parties are not contemplated by the constitution—in those, the nature of the case is everything, the character of the parties nothing.⁷ (P. 393.)

Taking this proposition as a point of departure, we shall consider the subject briefly, in so far as the Indians are concerned, under the following headings:

A Cases where the jurisdiction of the court depends on the character of the parties, including the United States as plaintiff, defendant or intervenor, cases where an Indian tribe is plaintiff, defendant or intervenor, cases where individual Indians are plaintiffs, defendants or intervenors.

B Cases where the jurisdiction of the court depends on the character of the subject matter.

A. JURISDICTION DEPENDENT UPON PARTIES

(1) United States as plaintiff.

(a) *Generally*.—It may be stated as a general proposition (that under subdivision 1 of section 41 of title 28 of the United States Code, the district courts of the United States have jurisdiction of all suits of a civil nature, at common law or in equity, in which the United States is the plaintiff. Ordinarily the general jurisdiction of the district court is established by the mere fact that the United States is plaintiff. Thus, in *United States v. Board of County Commissioners of Grady County, Oklahoma*,⁸ wherein the United States sought to enjoin the defendants from

²U. S. Const., Art. III, sec. 1.

³Art. III, sec. 2.

⁴28 U. S. C. § 41.

⁵6 Wheat. 264 (1821).

⁸54 F. 2d 599 (C. C. A. 10, 1931).

diverting surface drainage water from a state public highway over an Indian allotment, the Circuit Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit, notwithstanding the claim of the defendants and the decision of the court that the suit was virtually one against the State of Oklahoma and could not be maintained, upheld the jurisdiction of the district court, saying:

"There was no tenable objection to the general jurisdiction of the District Court. It was expressly conferred by title 28, § 41, and 1, of the U. S. Code, 28 U. S. C. § 41 (1), in providing that the District Courts shall have jurisdiction "first, of all suits of a civil nature, at common law or in equity, brought by the United States . . ."

"Nevertheless, as suggested above, in order for the United States to maintain a suit and that the court may pass upon the merits of the case and enter a valid judgment therein it must be a suit which the United States is authorized to maintain.¹ In cases where the United States is seeking to enforce a measure of government enacted in the exercise of its constitutional powers, there is no question as to the authority of the United States to apply to its own courts for relief.² In cases where the United States sues for the benefit of a third party, it may be stated that as a general rule it must have an interest in the subject matter or purpose of the suit and the relief sought. This interest does not necessarily have to be a pecuniary one, it is sufficient if it is a governmental one.³

"(b) *Indian cases*.—A pecuniary interest of the United States itself need not exist in cases involving restricted Indian lands⁴ or land in which the United States is trustee.⁵ It is well settled that the United States, by virtue of its peculiar relations with the Indians—often called "guardianship"⁶—or as trustee of their property, has the capacity and the duty to effectuate Government policies by protecting and enforcing their rights in property held by it as trustee,⁷ or by the Indians themselves in fee simple, subject to restrictions on alienation.⁸

"The United States acts in behalf of itself and as trustee on behalf of the Indians.⁹ When proceeding on its own behalf the United States is (a) protecting its guardianship over the Indian, and (b) removing unlawful obstacles to the fulfillment of its obligations.¹⁰ In *United States v. Fitzgerald*¹¹ the court said:

"The United States may lawfully maintain suits in its own courts in present interference with the means it adopts to exercise its powers of government and to carry into

effect its policies. It may maintain such suits, although it has no pecuniary interest in the subject-matter thereof, for the purpose of protecting, and enforcing its governmental rights, and to aid in the execution of its governmental policies." (P 294-297.)

"The right of maintaining a suit arises pursuant to provisions in treaties with Indian tribes¹² or congressional laws, or by virtue of the fact that legal title to land is vested in the United States, subject to the Indian right of occupancy or by reason of the fact that the Indian enjoys a vested right, granted by the Government to hold land tax-exempt for a specified period.¹³ Usually the property involved is restricted land held by an Indian under a trust or other patent from the United States, or purchased for an Indian out of lands derived from the sale of allotted lands and restricted by the Secretary of the Interior,¹⁴ or by a mere right of occupancy, title being in the United States. Sometimes the case involves personal property furnished by the Government to the Indian, to be used by him in connection with an allotment, without the right of disposal except to other Indians, or held in trust by the United States for him, or affected by such trusts.

"(c) *Nullity involving land*.—It has often been held that the United States lacks the capacity to sue regarding lands held by Indians which have been taken from restrictions,¹⁵ because it is under no duty to the Indians and has no interest in the matter.¹⁶ However, the Government has a duty and an interest to protect the right of the Indian to hold his land free from taxation for the trust period of 25 years, and the relationship between the United States and the Indian with respect to this vested right is regarded as the legal relationship of trusteeship which gives the United States the capacity to sue on behalf of the Indians,

¹ *The Supreme Court of the United States, in United States v. Minnesota, 210 U. S. 181, 191 (1908) said:*

" . . . the United States has a real and direct interest in the matter presented in examination and adjudication. Its interest arises out of its guardianship over the Indians, and out of its right to invoke the aid of a court of equity in removing unlawful obstacles to the fulfillment of its obligations, and in both respects the interest is one which is vested in it as a government. *Johnson v. United States, 251 U. S. 413, 437-441; United States v. Ogea County, 271 U. S. 128, 135-141; Lone Wolf v. United States, 244 U. S. 670, 677; Crow v. United States, 201 U. S. 216, 232, United States v. Birch, 127 U. S. 419, 425-426; United States v. New Orleans Parish Levee Co., 218 U. S. 507, 518.*

And see United States v. Nashville, Chattanooga & St. Louis Ry. Co., 118 U. S. 120, 126 (1886).

² 201 U.S. 205 (C. C. A. 8, 1912). This case was quoted with approval in *Owens v. United States, 261 U. S. 216, 239-241 (1923).*

³ *See United States v. Winters, 298 U. S. 971 (1936); Skiffet-Dee Co. v. United States, 249 U. S. 174 (1919) (suits brought to prevent interference with Indian fishing rights secured by treaty).*

⁴ The Circuit Court of Appeals in the case of *United States v. O'Leary, 60 F. 2d 312 (C. C. A. 4, 1937) said:*

" . . . even if the suit were not in the United States, there can be no question as to the right of the United States to institute suit for the protection of the rights of these wards of the nation as to their property." (P 314.)

But cf. Johnson v. United States, 251 U. S. 401 (1904).

⁵ *United States v. Brown, 8 F. 2d 504 (C. C. A. 8, 1925), cert. den. 270 U. S. 614 (1926); but cf. McCurdy v. United States, 246 U. S. 283 (1918).*

⁶ *Dequay Investment Co. v. United States, 224 U. S. 471 (1912); Mallon v. United States, 224 U. S. 448 (1912); Goetz v. United States, 224 U. S. 468 (1912); United States v. Waller, 243 U. S. 452 (1917). Accord: United States v. Daniels, 246 U. S. 72 (1914); United States v. Ogea, 246 U. S. 89 (1917). Also see United States v. Henson, 241 U. S. 879 (1916). Contra: United States v. Apple, 232 Fed. 209 (D. C. Kan. (1915)).*

⁷ Where an Indian is granted full title, including the right of alienation, and when he conveys such property, the United States cannot maintain suit for his benefit to annul the deed on the ground that it was procured by fraud. *United States v. Walker, 248 U. S. 472 (1917). Also see United States v. Henson, 241 U. S. 879 (1916), and Larkin v. Pugh, 276 U. S. 481 (1928).*

¹ See cases cited in note 181 of sec. 41 (1) of 28 U. S. C. A.

² *See Hickman v. United States, 224 U. S. 418 (1912), and cases cited therein.*

³ On the general question of the right of the United States to institute suit for the benefit of a third party, see *United States v. San Jacinto Tin Co., 125 U. S. 273, 286 (1888); O'Leary v. United States, 149 U. S. 652, 671-673 (1914).* On the general subject of the right of the Government to sue, see *in re Debs, 108 U. S. 804, 884 (1883).*

⁴ *Hickman v. United States, 221 U. S. 418 (1912), also see 25 May L. Rev. 743, 740 (1912).*

⁵ *Moreno v. United States, 248 Fed. 854 (C. C. A. 8, 1917).*

⁶ See Chapter 8, sec 6.

⁷ *United States v. Caudinella, 271 U. S. 422 (1926).*

⁸ *Goetz v. United States, 224 U. S. 468 (1912); Dequay Investment Co. v. United States, 224 U. S. 471 (1912); Hickman v. United States, 224 U. S. 413 (1912).* The United States represents its own interest in enforcing laws for the protection of Indians for whose benefit the suit was brought. *Hickman v. United States, 224 U. S. 418, 444-446 (1912).* Also see *United States v. Minnesota, 270 U. S. 183 (1926).*

⁹ By virtue of its own interest and the interest of the tribe, see *Brace v. United Oil & Gas Co. v. United States, 200 U. S. 77 (1922), by virtue of its interest in maintaining restrictions and Indians in possession. Private v. United States, 268 U. S. 201 (1925). Also see Hickman v. United States, 224 U. S. 418 (1912); United States v. Puller Insurance Co., 205 U. S. 472 (1924); Ogea County Motor Co. v. United States, 246 U. S. 283 (1918), cert. den. 280 U. S. 877.*

to recover illegal taxes or restrain collection of taxes levied on land freed from restrictions.²⁰

The United States may sue to enforce the imposition of local or state taxes on allotted lands or permanent improvements thereon, of personal property obtained from the United States, and used by the Indians on the allotted lands. The leading case in which the United States obtained an injunction against county officials attempting to tax allotted lands during the trust period is the case of *United States v. Rickett*.²¹ The Supreme Court said:

We do not perceive that the Government has any remedy at law that could be at all efficacious to the protection of its rights in the property in question and for the attainment of its purposes in reference to these Indians. If the personal property and the structures on the land were sold for taxes and possession taken by the purchaser, then the Indians could not be maintained on the allotted land, and the Government, unless it abandoned its policy to maintain these Indians on the allotted lands, would be compelled to appropriate more money and apply it to the creation of other necessary structures on the land and to the purchase of other stock required for purposes of cultivation. And so on, every way. It is manifest that no proceedings at law can be prompt and efficacious for the protection of the rights of the Government, and that adequate relief can only be had in a court of equity, which, in a comprehensive decree, can finally determine once for all the question of validity of the assessment and taxation in question, and thus give security against any action upon the part of the local authorities tending to interfere with the complete control, not only of the Indians by the Government, but of the property supplied to them by the Government and in use on the allotted lands. *Rickett v. Rickett*, 22 Wall. 444, 459; *County of Murray v. South Dakota*, 114 U. S. 550, 564-66.

Some observations may be made that are applicable to the whole case. It is said that the State has conferred upon these Indians the right of suffrage and other rights that ordinarily belong only to citizens, and that they ought, therefore, to take the Indians of government like other people who enjoy such rights. These are considerations to be addressed to Congress. It is for the legislative branch of the Government to say when these Indians shall cease to be dependent and assume the responsibilities attaching to citizenship. That is a political question which the courts may not determine. We can only deal with the case as it exists under the legislation of Congress.

The Supreme Court,²² in holding that the United States may sue to enforce discriminatory state taxes levied on allotments of noncompetent Osage Indians, said:

Certain is it that as the United States is guardian of the Indians had the duty to protect them from spoliation and, therefore, the right to prevent their being illegally deprived of the property rights conferred under the Act of Congress of 1906, the power existed in the officers

of the United States to invoke relief to the accomplishment of the purpose stated. Indeed the Act of Congress of 1917, providing for the apportionment of the Lands in question, by necessary implication, if not in express terms, treated the power of the officers of the United States to resist the illegal assessments as undoubted.

And the existence of power in the United States to sue which is thus established disposes of the proposition that because of remedies afforded to individuals under the state law the authority of a court of equity could not be invoked by the United States. The authority of the United States, in the first place, is the authority of the United States extended to all the non-competent members of the tribe if obviously justified that the imposition of a court of equity to prevent the wrong complained of was essential in order to avoid a multiplicity of suits. See *Union Pacific Ry. Co. v. Chicago*, 113 U. S. 670; *Smith v. Ames*, 100 U. S. 400, 577; *Crunkshank v. Rickett*, 170 U. S. 74, 81; *Boise v. Arizona Indian Co. v. Boise Tribe*, 211 U. S. 276, 283; *Greene v. Louisville & Indianapolis R. R. Co.*, 244 U. S. 400, 500. In the second place because as the wrong relied upon was not a mere mistake or error committed in the enforcement of the state tax laws, but a systematic and intentional disregard of such laws by the state officers for the purpose of destroying the validity of the whole class of non-competent Indians, who were subject to the protection of the United States, it follows that such class wrong and disregard of the state statute gave rise to the right to invoke the intervention of a court of equity in order that an adequate remedy might be afforded. *Channing v. National Bank*, 101 U. S. 151; *Reynolds v. Farmers Loan & Trust Co.*, 174 U. S. 362, 380; *Pittsburgh etc. Ry. Co. v. Barkley*, 154 U. S. 421; *Canfield v. Louisville & Nashville R. R. Co.*, 106 U. S. 599; *Reynolds v. Chicago & North Western Ry. Co.*, 207 U. S. 30; *Greene v. Louisville & Indianapolis R. R. Co.*, 244 U. S. 399, 507. In fact the subject is fully covered by the ruling in *Union Pacific R. R. Co. v. Weld County*, 217 U. S. 289 (pp. 285, 286).

Where restrictions on land are imposed, the Government can choose such legal remedies as are necessary to protect the Indian. It may maintain an action to quiet the title to land. "to set aside conveyances made prior to the expiration of the trust period, restore possession to the Indian even though the allottee is a citizen," or where title has been vested in the allottee but the right of alienation is restricted. "The Government may bring suit to cancel deeds and mortgages," "to set aside conveyances," "to annul a patent issued by the United States in order to establish possessory rights of individual Indians," "to set aside inequitable contracts," "to sue for a cancellation of a mining lease and assignment of rents and royalties issuing therefrom," "to cancel oil and gas leases." The Government may sue a lessee and a surety company which signed a faithful performance bond for a breach of a lease, involving trust lands, made

²⁰ *Mason v. United States*, 248 Fed. 854 (C. C. A. 8, 1917); *McIntosh v. United States*, 284 U. S. 491 (1924). Also see *Board of County Commissioners of Tulsa County, Oklahoma v. United States*, 94 F. 2d 400 (C. C. A. 10, 1918), and *United States v. Moore*, 284 Fed. 86 (C. C. A. 8, 1922) in which the United States brought suit to recover royalties paid under an assignment allegedly made during the period of restrictions, after the period had expired. The court said, in *United States v. Southern State Co.*, 9 F. 2d 604 (D. C. B. D. Okla. 1922).

• • • removal of restrictions against the alienation of allotted land does not preclude the United States, from maintaining an action to remove a deed and thereby placing the title in the restricted person. This action is properly brought in the name of the United States. (P. 606)

United States v. Gray, 261 Fed. 291, (C. C. A. 8, 1912); and *United States v. Alibonka Association*, 165 F. 2d 153 (C. C. A. 8, 1948).

The Federal Government may sue to recover taxes illegally levied upon personal property (such as livestock and farm implements which it issued in members or to a tribe. *United States v. Deer County, N. D.*, 11 F. 2d 74 (D. C. N. D. 1916).

²¹ 188 U. S. 432, 444, 445 (C. C. A. 8, 1903).

²² *United States v. Osage County*, 251 U. S. 125 (1919).

²³ Title to distributed land claimed by or thought to be the property of an Indian may be determined by suit brought by the United States to quiet Indian title. *United States v. Hildert*, 244 U. S. 11 (1917); *United States v. Atkins*, 260 U. S. 226 (1922); *United States v. Tule Investment Co.*, 205 U. S. 472 (1921); *United States v. Jackson*, 280 U. S. 189 (1930).

²⁴ *Reynolds v. United States*, 213 U. S. 328 (1911), and *Togo v. Western Industrial Co.*, 221 U. S. 286 (1911). Knowledge, Legal Status of the American Indian and His Property (1922), 7 La. L. B., pp. 272, 246. The Act of June 25, 1910, 36 Stat. 708-711, and the Act of July 1, 1910, 36 Stat. 562-512, and subsequent appropriation acts provided for the expenses of such suits.

²⁵ All consequences of such land made prior to the expiration of the restriction on alienation are void. *United States v. Noble*, 237 U. S. 874 (1915).

²⁶ *In re New Investment Co. v. United States*, 221 U. S. 171 (1914).

²⁷ *Greene v. United States*, 201 U. S. 210, 212-233 (1914).

²⁸ *Greene v. United States*, 201 U. S. 210, 212-233 (1914).

²⁹ *United States v. Boyd*, 84 Fed. 577 (C. C. W. D. N. C. 1895).

³⁰ *United States v. Webb*, 237 U. S. 71 (1915).

³¹ *Becker v. Blount Oil and Gas Co. v. United States*, 260 U. S. 77 (1922).

by an allottee and approved by the Secretary.¹⁰ The United States may sue to obtain possession on tribal lands and on restricted allotments.¹¹ It may enjoin the ascension of rights under leases of restricted allotments or of land held by the United States in trust for a tribe obtained from an Indian without conforming to the statutory and administrative requirements, and may enjoin the negotiation of such unlawful leases in the future.¹²

Even where interested Indians are involved, the federal court has jurisdiction over cases based on statutory law-exemptions.¹³ The right of the United States to bring suits in behalf of Indians involving their lands after the period of trust or restrictions has expired, and to which the United States is no title is, subject in many cases, among them *United States v. Henry*,¹⁴ in which the United States brought suit to recover royalties and under an assignment allegedly made during the period of restrictions, the suit being brought after the period had expired.¹⁵

(d) *Suits involving personal property*—The United States may maintain an action for trover,¹⁶ an action to replevy timber cut by a few members of a tribe from a part of a reservation not occupied in severalty and made into saw logs and sold to a third party,¹⁷ and to replevy a team of horses bought by the superintendent of an Indian agency with the trust money of an incompetent Indian, where the bill of sale recited the source of the purchase money, even though the defendant had incited expenses for veterinary services and for care of the team while it was in the control of the Indian.¹⁸

The United States may recover damages for the wrongful taking of wool sheared from sheep furnished to an Indian by the Government to be used on his allotment,¹⁹ and for the recovery of funds disbursed after a certificate of competency was issued,²⁰

¹⁰ *United States v. Gray*, 201 Fed. 201 (C. C. A. 8, 1912).

¹¹ *See also* *United States v. Gray*, 201 Fed. 201 (C. C. A. 8, 1912). Also see *Traylor v. United States*, 44 F. (2d) 531 (C. C. A. 9, 1930).

¹² *United States v. Phoenix Lumber Co. and Real Estate Co.*, 71 Fed. 719 (C. C. Neb. 1896). Also see *Brown v. Elliott Oil and Gas Co. v. United States*, 260 U. S. 87 (1922).

¹³ *In United States v. Houston*, 243 Fed. 851 (C. C. A. 8, 1917), suit was brought by the United States not as guardian but as trustee of lands to a mixed-blood Indian against Decker County, Minn., officials, to restrain collection of taxes levied upon certain allotted lands. In this case the Government had surrendered the guardianship over the Indian owner with respect to his land in the Acts of June 21, 1906, 34 Stat. 425, 174 and March 1, 1907, 41 Stat. 1075, 1041. The court held that the right of the Indian to hold his land free from taxation for the first period of 25 years was a vested right which the Government could not take and that hence when the Indian was claiming no right under the Acts of June 21, 1906, and March 1, 1907, but was insisting upon holding his land under the trust which his land could not be taxed by the State. The relationship between the United States and the Indian with respect to this vested right was looked upon by the court as the legal relationship of trusteeship, giving the United States capacity to sue in behalf of the Indian.

¹⁴ 284 Fed. 88 (C. C. A. 8, 1922).

¹⁵ *See also* *United States v. Gray*, 201 Fed. 201 (C. C. A. 8, 1912). *United States v. Southern Realty Co.*, 9 F. 2d, 66-4 (C. C. D. Okla. 1925), in which it was said,

"* * * removal of restrictions against the alienation of allotted land does not preclude the United States from maintaining an action to remove a cloud illegally placed on such title during the restricted period. This action is properly brought in the name of the United States." (C. 105.)

And see *United States v. Sheldene Mercantile Co.*, 68 F. 2d 366 (C. C. A. 10, 1933).

¹⁶ *See* *United States v. Lanning & Improvement Co. v. United States*, 156 U. S. 276 (1905).

¹⁷ *United States v. Cook*, 10 Wall. 180 (U. S. 1) (1873).

¹⁸ *United States v. O'Connell*, 287 Fed. 136 (C. C. A. 8, 1925).

¹⁹ *United States v. Fitzgerald*, 201 Fed. 295 (C. C. A. 8, 1912).

²⁰ In the case of *United States v. Washburne*, 72 F. 2d 847 (C. C. A. 10, 1924).

But we entertain no doubt that a court of equity has the power to cancel it (certificate of competency) effective from the date of

and may bring action for rent on behalf of an individual Indian or a tribe.²¹ It may recover restricted funds deposited in a local bank, such indebtedness of the bank being an indebtedness to the United States and entitled to priority over other deposits.²²

(e) *Other suits*—The right of the United States to bring suit on behalf of Indians has been upheld in a variety of cases not involving restricted property.²³ Thus it has been held that the Government may recover in a suit filed in connection with a contract of employment of Indians in a wild west show. The damages would include incense of contract and expenses incurred returning the Indians to the agency, as well as the amount due the Indians.²⁴

(f) *Effect of judgment*—The Government is not bound unless it is a party to the litigation.²⁵ No judgment of any court, state or federal, rendered in a suit between an Indian and a private party, involving property under the control of the Government, to which the Government is a stranger, can bind the Government on its administrative effects.²⁶ Where the Government has employed and paid a special attorney to represent the Indians, at the United States Attorney has joined as associate counsel with the attorneys representing the Indians in the litigation and filed a motion to vacate the judgment, the United States is bound as effectively as if it were a party by the judgment in a suit instituted and prosecuted to final judgment by this special attorney.²⁷

its residence as to persons participating in the acts involving the cancellation or having knowledge of the facts and acquiring rights with that knowledge." (P. 450.)

²¹ *United States v. Chase*, 215 U. S. 80 (1917).

²² *Kear v. United States*, 260 U. S. 121 (1922).

²³ *Donnell v. U. S. Railway Co.*, 216 U. S. 181 (1924).

²⁴ *United States v. Humphreys*, 11 App. D. C. 11 (1891).

²⁵ *Donnell v. United States*, 260 U. S. 226 (1922). *Purcell v. United States*, 250 U. S. 201 (1912). The United States is an indispensable party to condemnation proceedings brought in the State to acquire a right of way over lands which the United States holds in trust for Indian allottees. *Monroe v. United States*, 403 U. S. 892 (C. C. A. 8, 1939).

²⁶ *Barlow v. United States*, 253 U. S. 528 (1919). *United States v. Board of Nat. Monuments of Presbyterian Church*, 37 F. 2d 272 (C. C. A. 10, 1929).

²⁷ *United States v. Gaudin*, 271 U. S. 432 (1926). Also see *Op. 184-1*, 10, 17788, August 6, 1934. For other examples of a special attorney employed to assist in the conduct of legal proceedings pertaining to claims in behalf of Osage Indians, for the recovery of royalties on oil produced from tribal lands, see *Act of August 25, 1906*, 34 Stat. 665, Act of March 2, 1909, 35 Stat. 841, 850-859, Act of June 4, 1907, 30 Stat. 11, 76, Act of July 1, 1908, 36 Stat. 507, 641, Act of March 4, 1909, 30 Stat. 1074, 2137, Act of June 25, 1910, 36 Stat. 703, 744, Act of August 24, 1914, 41 Stat. 417, 164, Act of August 1, 1914, 38 Stat. 608, 623, Act of March 3, 1915, 38 Stat. 822, 830, Act of July 1, 1916, 40 Stat. 262, 312, Act of June 12, 1917, 40 Stat. 152, 176, Act of July 10, 1919, 41 Stat. 132, 208, Act of March 1, 1921, 41 Stat. 1367, 1111.

²⁸ Justice Van Devanter, in the case of *United States v. Gaudin*, 271 U. S. 432 (1926).

The Indians of the pueblo are wards of the United States and hold their lands subject to the restriction that the same cannot be alienated in any wise without the sanction of the United States, and hence while operates directly or indirectly to transfer the lands from the Indians, where the United States has not authorized or approved in the suit, impairs that restriction. The United States has an interest in maintaining and enforcing the restriction which cannot be affected by such a judgment or decree. This Court has said in dealing with a like situation "It necessarily follows that, as a condition of the alleged lands contract to the inhibition of Congress would be a violation of the governmental rights of the United States arising from its obligation to its dependent people, no alienation, contract, or judgment rendered in suits to which the Government is a stranger, can affect its interest. The authority of the United States to protect its dependent has not been impaired or impaired by any action without its consent." *Barlow and Adams Improvement Co. v. United States*, 253 U. S. 528, 531. And that ruling has been recognized and given effect in other cases. *Purcell v. United States*, 250 U. S. 201, 204-205. *United States v. United States*, 260 U. S. 226, 232. (Pp. 448-451.)

But, as it appears that for many years the United States has employed and paid a special attorney to represent the Pueblo

In *United States v. Candelaria*¹² two judgments had been obtained against a Pueblo in New Mexico in suits brought by it to clear title to its land—one in a territory court, concluded in the state courts after statehood, and the other in the federal court—in neither of which the United States was a party. Ordinarily, judgments rendered in a suit to which the United States is not a party do not bind upon the United States. The court, after referring to the fact that under territorial laws, sanctioned by Congress, the Pueblo was a juristic person, with capacity to sue and defend with respect to its land, citing *Lane v. Pueblo of Santa Rosa*,¹³ held that the state court of New Mexico had jurisdiction to enter a judgment in an action by an Indian Pueblo against opposing claimants concerning title to land, which would be conclusive on the United States if the latter authorized the bringing or prosecution of the suit, or if an attorney employed by the United States appeared on behalf of the Pueblo in the case.

The United States is not bound by a judgment in which a tribal attorney, employed by the tribe under a contract approved by the Secretary of the Interior and paid from tribal funds, had appeared and represented individual Indians. In *Logan v. United States*,¹⁴ the Circuit Court of Appeals, said:

"To sustain the plea, appellant's counsel relies upon *United States v. Candelaria*, 271 U. S. 432, 46 S. Ct. 761, 70 L. Ed. 1023. The distinction, as we see it, between that case and this is that it appears there that the attorney who represented said litigation in a case of the same character and between the same parties in the state court was employed and paid by the United States, whereas in this case the superintendent and his attorney, in making the interpleur in the state court, were not paid as such officers by the United States, but annual appropriations have been made by Congress and were borne in whole at that time, and it was provided that they should be paid out of the lands held by the Secretary of the Interior for the same Indians. The tribal attorney was selected by the tribe. They were not, therefore, the representatives of the United States, in making the interpleur. There is no showing that the Secretary of the Interior advised that the interpleur be made. We, therefore, conclude that the United States, as plaintiff in this suit, was not bound by the action of the courts court in denying the interpleur." (C. 608.)

If the United States is entitled to institute an action on its own behalf and on behalf of the Indians, the Indians cannot determine the course of the suit or settle it contrary to the position of the Government.¹⁵ The Indians, being represented by the Government are not necessary parties.¹⁶

Indians and look after their interests our job was made with the indication that, if the decree was rendered in a state court and prosecuted by the special attorney so employed and paid, we think the United States is as officially concluded as if it were a party to the suit. *Reynolds v. Comptroller of Forestry*, 217 U. S. 476, 480, *Loring v. Mayes*, 3 Wall. 3, 38, *Chaffin v. Fischer*, 7 Fed. Res. 859, *Mingo v. United States*, 102 U. S. 444, *James v. Candelaria* (Ind. Ct., 107 Fed. 607, 613 (P. 443-444)).

¹² 271 U. S. 432 (1926). See note 2A(1)(f), *supra*. See Chapter 20, sec. 7.

¹³ 240 U. S. 310 (1916).

¹⁴ 268 U. S. 297 (C. 10, 1022).

¹⁵ *Jackman v. United States*, 324 U. S. 413 (1912), also see *Pueblo of Pecos v. State of New Mexico v. Abrego*, 50 F. 2212 (C. A. 10, 1903).

¹⁶ *Miner v. Hirschbeck*, 186 U. S. 878, 387 (1902). In the case of *Jackman v. United States*, the Supreme Court said:

"The statement necessarily proceeds upon the assumption that the representation of these Indians by the United States is of an incomplete or inadequate character, that although the United States, by virtue of the guardianship it has assumed, is prosecuting this suit in the purpose of enforcing the restrictions Congress has imposed, and in the exercise of its power to the Indians (the presence as parties to the suit is essential to their protection). The position is wholly irreconcilable with the fact that the special representative has been appointed on the part of the United States in acting on behalf of those dependent—whom Congress, with respect to the reserved lands, has not yet released from tutelage. Its efficacy does not depend upon the Indians' acquiescence. It does not rest upon compulsion, nor is it disannulled by sales which govern private relations. It is a representation which

The 6-year statute of limitations which thus against the United States in relation to unimproved land patents is inapplicable when the suit is to protect the rights of Indians, and does not run against members of Indian tribes for claims on federal income taxes wrongfully deducted in the Indian superintendent from funds due to them." It is also settled that said statutes of limitation or other state statutes neither bind nor have any application to the United States when same tend to enforce a public right or to protect the interests of its wards.¹⁷

If Congress provides a statutory method for determining Indian land claims, and the claim is held invalid, the United States cannot later reopen the question.¹⁸

Some statutes, instead of the Attorney General to bring suit in the name of the United States to quiet title to Indian land,¹⁹ or authorize the Attorney General, upon the request of the Secretary of the Interior, to appear in suits involving Indian tribal lands,²⁰ without requiring Indians to be made parties, or, authorize the Secretary to authorize the Attorney General to bring suit in the name of the United States to quiet and settle title to disinterested land²¹ or allotted lands.²²

(2) *United States as defendant*—The general rule is that the United States cannot be sued in any court, whether state or federal, without its consent.²³

The immunity of the United States to suit without its consent

has its source in the phrase contained in Congress in legislation, for the protection of the Indians, that it is not and it recognizes no limitations that are inconsistent with the doctrine of the implied duty.

When the United States, in litigation, it is not to look to represent, and the represent the Indian activities whose consent or consent is not a part of the suit, and in those cases, parties, but the Government was in suit on their behalf. They were in parties could not add to or detract from the act of the parties, in determining the violation of the restrictions and the consequent invalidity of the conveyance for the act of Congress, it was prohibited from obtaining their lands. They were likewise included in Indian affairs in position in the land proceeding, included by the Government to enforce the restrictions, which would permit such proceedings, whether or not, appear to the Indians, etc. The case could not be dismissed upon their consent (it could not come to pass, it was not that they were in suit with respect to their lands, which would detract from its complete representation by the United States. This is involved necessarily in the claim, that the United States is entitled to, and in the nature and purpose of the suit. (Pp. 444-446).)

¹⁷ *Crane v. United States*, 201 U. S. 211 (1921). See also *United States v. Minnesota*, 270 U. S. 181, 190 (1926).

¹⁸ 140 U. S. 432 (1924).

¹⁹ *United States v. Thompson*, 95 U. S. 188 (1877), *Chas. v. Del. Canal Co. v. United States*, 250 U. S. 123, 128 (1919). *United States v. Minnesota*, 270 U. S. 181, 190 (1926).

The same rule is applicable in the purchase of Indian land. See *United States v. Neale*, 18 U. S. 218, U. S. 128 (1890). The Government Indians, such as interest in restricted lands, would receive, applicable the well settled rule that the statute of limitations does not run against the sovereign. *Schuyler v. Horton*, 183 U. S. 290 (1902).

When the United States sue on behalf of an Indian tribe in a trover compensation from a railroad, it stands in the shoes of the tribe and is bound by its contract. *United States v. P. Smith & W. R. Co.*, 193 Fed. 211 (C. A. 8, 1912).

²⁰ *United States v. Athas*, 200 U. S. 220 (1922), *United States v. Tulsa Insurance Co.*, 267 U. S. 473 (1925). Also see *United States v. Whitson*, 244 U. S. 111 (1917).

²¹ Joint Resolution of March 1, 1870, 20 Stat. 188 (Shawnee).

²² Act of March 2, 1901, 31 Stat. 970, 43 U. S. C. 808. The Attorney General in sometimes authorized to employ a special attorney upon the recommendation of the Secretary. Act of March 1, 1901, 31 Stat. 1153, 1181. Act of April 26, 1901, 31 Stat. 492, 506.

²³ Joint Resolution of March 3, 1870, 20 Stat. 458 (Shawnee). Act of March 1, 1869, 28 Stat. 708 (Shawnee).

²⁴ Act of March 8, 1916, 38 Stat. 842, 846.

"... the Government that it was of action can be maintained against the Nation on any of its courts without its consent." ** It recognizes the obvious truth that a nation is not without the power to subject to the contract of any of its citizens or members in an agreement. The contract cannot run the contract. *United States v. Phillips*, 200 U. S. 543 (1906). *United States v. Phillips*, 200 U. S. 543 (1906).

See also *Minnesota v. United States*, 805 U. S. 163 (1939), and cases cited therein, and see 8, *infra*.

extends to cases in which a state of the Union is the plaintiff. Thus in *Minnesota v. United States*¹ the Supreme Court held that the United States could not be made a party defendant in proceedings instituted by the State of Minnesota to condemn allotted Indian lands held in trust by the United States for the allottees. The court said:

"A proceeding against property in which the United States has an interest is a suit against the United States. *The Sioux*, 7 Wall. 152, 161; *Car v. United States*, 98 U. S. 124, 137; *Stanley v. Schickel*, 162 U. S. 277. Compare *Utah Power & Light Co. v. United States*, 243 U. S. 280. It is consequently the owner of the fee of the Indian allotted lands and holds the same in trust for the allottees. As the United States owns the fee of these patents, the right of way cannot be condemned without making it a party. (P. 285.)

But the United States cannot be made a party in such a suit without its consent. The court further said:

"The exemption of the United States from being sued without its consent extends to a suit by a State. Compare *Kansas v. United States*, 204 U. S. 431, 342; *Arizona v. California*, 238 U. S. 653, 704, 571, 572. Compare *Mississippi v. Hitchcock*, 187 U. S. 373, 382-387; *Oregon v. Hitchcock*, 202 U. S. 60. Hence Minnesota cannot maintain this suit against the United States unless authorized by some act of Congress. (P. 287.)

If the required consent is given, the objection being removed the court may settle the controversy involved.²

The United States is improperly joined as a party defendant in a suit against an Indian tribe under a special act authorizing the Court of Claims to consider and adjudicate such claim where neither the special act nor any general statute authorized suit against the United States, although the United States is joined in the suit in the capacity of trustee for an Indian tribe.³

Terms and conditions on which consent is given may be prescribed and must be met.⁴ Not only may the court prescribe the terms and conditions on which it consents to be sued, but it may also determine the manner in which the suit shall be conducted and may withdraw its consent whenever it supposes that justice to the public requires such withdrawal.⁵

The cases in which the United States has expressly given its consent to be sued in Indian matters either in the Court of Claims or in the district courts are numerous.⁶

Cases in which consent to be sued seems to have been attributed to the United States without express authority from Congress are not so numerous. An instance is the case of *United States*

*v. Equitable Trust Co.*⁷ In that case a suit was instituted by a next friend in behalf of an incompetent full-blood Creek Indian under guardianship to recover accumulated royalties which had come into the hands of the Secretary of the Interior in trust for the Indian and were subsequently distributed upon a written request in the name of the Indian procured by fraud. The United States intervened in the litigation. By this act, the Supreme Court held, it implicitly consented to reasonable allowances for services and expenses, even if the fund was subject to statutory restrictions. This decision, however, may be explained by the fact that the United States had intervened in the suit in the character of a party plaintiff.

(3) *United States as intervenor*.—In view of the established doctrine that the United States cannot be sued without its consent, the question arises whether the United States can become a party to a pending suit by intervention, and if so, under what circumstances. It appears that where an intervention places the Government in the position of a plaintiff, as in *New York v. New Jersey*⁸ and *Oklahoma v. Texas*,⁹ the Government may properly become an intervenor. It is clear, however, that if by such intervention the Government would become virtually a defendant in the suit, its appearance as an intervenor would come in direct conflict with the ruling that the United States cannot be sued. The consent of the United States cannot be given by any officer of the United States unless authority to do so has been conferred upon him by some act of Congress. This proposition is illustrated in the case of *Stanley v. Schickel*,¹⁰ in which the Supreme Court said:

"The United States, by various acts of Congress, have consented to be sued in their own courts in certain classes of cases, but they have never consented to be sued in the courts of a State in any case. Neither the Secretary of War nor the Attorney General, nor any subordinate officer, has been authorized to waive the exemption of the United States from judicial process, or to submit the United States, or their property, to the jurisdiction of the court in a suit brought against them officers. *Car v. United States*, 98 U. S. 124, 137; *Car v. United States*, 98 U. S. 124, 137; *Car v. United States*, 98 U. S. 124, 137. (P. 270.)

In other words, in the absence of congressional authority no officer of the United States can bind the United States as a party defendant, whether in an original suit or by way of intervention. Instances in which the United States has given such consent are to be found in the Act of February 8, 1901,¹¹ permitting suits for allotment in the district courts of the United States, permitting law service to proceed upon the Attorney General and requiring the District Attorney, upon whose service is also to be made, to appear and defend the interests of the United States in the suit, and in the Act of April 10, 1903,¹² providing a process whereby the United States may be compelled to appear and defend its interests in any suit pending in the federal or state courts of Oklahoma in which restricted members of the Five Civilized Tribes are parties. The practice adopted under this statute is for the United States Attorney to appear for and in behalf of the United States, within the statutory period, upon service of the notice upon the superintendent as provided by the statute.

(4) *Indian tribe as party litigant*.—As already seen,¹³ the Indian tribes within the territory of the United States, while

¹ 300 U. S. 882 (1930).

² *National Cash Co. v. United States*, 204 U. S. 246 (D. C. S. D. N. Y., 1900), *Koshutek v. Diamond Bridge Co. v. United States*, 200 U. S. 125 (1922). See also *infra*.

³ *Car v. United States*, 98 U. S. 124, 137 (1879). Cf. *Green v. American Trust*, 238 U. S. 658 (1915). Also see *Winton v. Ames*, 235 U. S. 373 (1915).

⁴ *West v. Farmers' Loan & Trust Co.*, 185 Fed. 700 (C. C. A. 2, 1911), *Reel Wrecking Co. v. United States*, 202 U. S. 314 (D. C. N. D. Ohio 1913).

⁵ *United States v. Clarke*, 8 Fed. 430 (1884), *Shawnee Loans v. Hitchcock Land and Improvement Co.*, 18 Ill. 272 (1855), *Bear v. J. Kansas*, 20 Iowa 627 (1867), *Bell v. Hulse*, 161 U. S. 72 (1896).

⁶ See *infra* note 3. Court of Claims. See also Act of December 21, 1913, 37 Stat. 40, amendments of Act of August 15, 1891, 28 Stat. 288, 305, as amended by Act of February 6, 1901, 31 Stat. 790, and Act of March 2, 1911, 36 Stat. 1044, 28 U. S. C. § 316, conferring jurisdiction upon the district courts of the United States of:

* * * all actions, suits, or proceedings involving the right of any person, and the right of any land, to be sold or decreed, in any allotment; or land under any law or treaty.

and authorizing and directing that the United States be made a party to such suit. This act followed the decisions of the Supreme Court in the cases of *Wagoner v. Smith*, 194 U. S. 401 (1904) and *McKee v. Kington*, 201 U. S. 488 (1907), in which the Supreme Court had held that the United States was not a necessary party to such suit for allotment. And see also 284, *note*.

⁷ 283 U. S. 738 (1931).

⁸ 260 U. S. 208 (1922).

⁹ 238 U. S. 274 (1922).

¹⁰ 162 U. S. 277 (1906).

¹¹ 31 Stat. 790, 25 U. S. C. § 345.

¹² 44 Stat. 239.

¹³ See Chapter 14, sec. 8.

having some of the attributes of sovereignty usually possessed by independent communities, have been declared by the Supreme Court not to be either states of the Union or foreign nations within the meaning of Article III, section 2 of the United States Constitution giving original jurisdiction to the Supreme Court in controversies in which a state of the Union or a citizen thereof, and a foreign state or subjects and citizens thereof are parties.¹⁰ Consequently an Indian tribe as such cannot sue, be sued, or intervene in any case where the original jurisdiction of the Supreme Court is invoked.¹¹

Whether a tribe can sue or be sued under the diversity of citizenship clause of section 41 (1) of title 28 of the United States Code in the federal courts is a moot question. An Indian tribe as such is not a citizen within the meaning of that clause. If it were incorporated under the laws of the United States it could not sue or be sued under the diversity of citizenship clause unless there were an act of Congress providing that the tribe should be considered as possessing a state citizenship for jurisdictional purposes.¹²

The statutes which confer upon tribes capacity to sue or to be sued, and the question of whether, in the absence of such a statute such suits may be maintained, are elsewhere treated.¹³

(7) *Individual Indian as party litigant*—As a general rule, an Indian irrespective of his citizenship in tribal relations, may sue in any state court of competent jurisdiction to redress any wrong committed against his person or property outside the limits of the reservation.¹⁴ But the mere fact that the plaintiff is an Indian does not vest jurisdiction in the federal courts.¹⁵

This being true, the only grounds upon which a federal court could take jurisdiction of a suit by an Indian would be either because of diversity of citizenship between the plaintiff and defendant or because the cause of action arose under the Constitution, treaties, or laws of the United States. In *Davis v. St. Lawrence River Paper Company*,¹⁶ the rule as to the first branch of this proposition is succinctly stated:

Diversity of citizenship is not relied upon to grant jurisdiction. Nor may this action be maintained merely because the appellant is an Indian. . . .
Originally the members of an Indian tribe were not regarded as citizens, neither naturalized, either collectively or individually, under some treaty or law of the United States, and, consequently, they could not sue in the federal courts on the ground of diversity of citizenship.¹⁷ In cases, however, where an individual Indian, although a member of a tribe, was a citizen of the United States by virtue of some treaty or law of Congress, all other

elements of federal jurisdiction were present, he could sue under this clause.¹⁸

B JURISDICTION DEPENDENT UPON CHARACTER OF SUBJECT MATTER

As to the character of the subject matter as an element of federal jurisdiction, it is to be observed that the cases are considerably in conflict in determining whether an action arises under the Constitution, treaties, or laws of the United States. It is quite clear, however, that the federal question must appear by specific allegations in the bill of complaint, and not from facts developed either in the answer or in the course of the trial.¹⁹

A number of general statutes confer jurisdiction on federal courts concerning the jurisdiction over defined subjects of Indian concern upon the federal courts.²⁰

¹⁰ See *Peltz v. Patrick*, 148 U. S. 317 (1892) wherein the Supreme Court said:

It is scarcely necessary to say in this connection that, while until this time the granting of citizenship under Act VI, Twenty of April 20, 1868, 15 Stat. 882) they were not citizens of the United States, capable of suing as such in the federal courts, the courts of Missouri were open to them as they are to all persons irrespective of race or color. *See* 152 U. S. 693, 14 Kan. 282, 41, *Blue Jacket v. Johnson County*, 3 Kansas 280, 10 Wey v. Graham, 4 Kansas 64 (P. 332).

And see Chapter 8, see 6.

¹¹ *Schadler v. McDonnell*, 232 U. S. 761 (C. C. 8 1912).

To sustain the contention that the suit was one arising under the laws of the United States, counsel for the appellants point to the statutes (Act March 3, 1875, 19 Stat. 676, June 10, 1876, 12 Stat. 500, 121 April 26, 1906, 34 Stat. 137, c. 1876, 42) relating to the allotment of lands of the lands of the Creek Nation, the treaty, and citation thereof after allotment the making of allotments to the heirs of deceased children and the rights of the heirs, collectively and severally, as such allotments, but the bill makes no mention of these statutes or of any controversy or pending there. Validity of constitution on effect. Neither does it by necessary implication point to such a controversy. This point, counsel to indicate that the statutes constitute the substantive law of the plaintiff's title of right, and also shows that the defendants are in some way claiming the land and particularly the land and its interests in him, but beyond this the nature of the controversy is left unstated and mention of the cause it could have arisen in different ways, wholly independent of the source from which his title of right was derived, no looking only to the bill as we have seen that we must, it cannot be held that the case as therein stated was one arising under the statutes mentioned. It was said in *Blackburn v. Portland Gold Mining Co.*, supra, a controversy in respect of lands has never been regarded as presenting a federal question merely because one of the parties in it has derived his title under an act of Congress. . . . (P. 370).

A suit to enforce a right which takes its origin in the laws of the United States is not necessarily one that arises under one arising under those laws, but a suit does not so give unless it really and substantially involves a dispute or controversy involving the validity, construction or effect of such a law upon the determination of which the result depends. This is especially so of a suit involving rights to land acquired under a law of the United States. If it were not, every suit to establish title to land in the central and western States would so arise as all titles in these States are traceable back to those laws. *Taft v. United Land and Water Co.*, 30 Ky. 36, 111 1991 (*Colorado United Land and Water Co. v. Taft*), *supra*, *Blackburn v. Portland Gold Mining Co.*, 177 U. S. 573, *Florida Central & P. Ry. v. Florida*, 30 Ky. 36, 111 1991 (*Shelburne Mining Co. v. Taft*), 377 U. S. 400, *De Laman's Nevada Co. v. Schmitt*, 142 Ky. 111 506-570).

Where, then, involving the title to a piece of Indian land in which the title depended upon construction of an act of Congress, but the parties and courts below proceeded upon the theory that it did so, the Supreme Court of the United States may peremptorily annul the bill as to as to allege that fact, and so establish jurisdiction. *Smith v. McWhorter*, 370 U. S. 161 (1928). See also *Woodhouse v. Redwood*, 370 U. S. 21 (C. C. 1, 1931).

Act of June 30, 1884, 4 Stat. 729, 733, 734 (trade and intercourse), Act of March 30, 1902, 2 Stat. 139, 215 (trade and intercourse), Act of March 3, 1875, 19 Stat. 676, 18 Stat. 335. Nationalization and citizenship. Act of June 20, 1906, 34 Stat. 590. Bankruptcy Act of July 1, 1898, 30 Stat. 544, 51 U. S. C. 1, 110 Statutes of limitation. Act of May 31, 1902, 32 Stat. 284, 25 U. S. C. 847.

¹⁹ Right to allotment. Act of February 9, 1901, 31 Stat. 760, 25 U. S. C. 343, Act of December 21, 1911, 37 Stat. 447.

²⁰ And the judgment of decision of any such suit in favor of any claimant to an allotment of land shall have the same effect, when

¹⁰ *Cherokee Nation v. Georgia*, 5 Pet. 1 (1831).

¹¹ Congress cannot refer directly to the Supreme Court for adjudication of the claim of an Indian tribe, for that would be equivalent to making no original jurisdiction, but that court cannot exercise under the Constitution but the matter may be referred to an inferior court and brought to the Supreme Court by appeal if the necessary legalism to that end is provided. *Yankton Sioux Tribe v. United States*, 272 U. S. 351 (1926).

¹² See *Braker's Trust Co. v. Fed. & Pac. Ry.*, 211 U. S. 295 (1918). The words "citizens" and "aliens," as used in the judiciary acts have been considered as including corporations. *Burriss v. S. Co. v. Kane*, 170 U. S. 100 (1898).

¹³ See Chapter 14, see 6.

¹⁴ *Wiley v. Kokock*, 6 Kan. 94, 110 (1870), *As-Sun-Ole-Shay v. Bernhart*, 8 Minn. 98, 100, 107 N. W. 820 (1906), *Davis v. Anderson*, 61 Okla. 188, 160 Pac. 724, 728 (1918), *Y. to Tah-shay v. Rehock* et al. 106 Fed. 257 (C. C. D. Iowa, 1900), *Peltz v. Patrick*, 148 U. S. 317, 880 (1892). See Chapter 8, see 6.

¹⁵ *United States v. Sorensen*, *United States v. New York Indians*, 274 Fed. 946, 660 (D. C. W. D. N. Y. 1921).

¹⁶ 82 F. 2d 609 (C. C. A. 2, 1928).

¹⁷ *Wiley v. Kokock*, 112 U. S. 94 (1884). See Chapter 8, see 2.

Other statutes contain provisions conferring jurisdiction over various matters upon federal courts or courts of the United States in the territories.¹⁰

properly created by the Secretary of the Interior as if such allotment had been lawfully made and approved in law, but this provision shall not apply to any lands now or hereafter held by either of the Five Civilized Tribes, the Osage Nation of Indians, nor to any of the lands within the Osage Indian Agency. Provided, That the right of appeal shall be allowed to either party as in other cases.

And see Chapter 17, sec. 2, Chapter 12, in *Wyo-Tate and Linn v. Smith*, 191 U. S. 401 (1901), the Supreme Court held that the United States was not a necessary party to a suit brought under this statute. Approval of a vendition made by guardian and trustee of Indian names of persons and homestead money. Joint Resolution of July 14, 1876, 18 Stat. 490.

¹⁰Indian Territory. Act of July 1, 1862, 22 Stat. 118. "Indian Territory"—damages from construction of railroad. Act of July 10, 1862, 22 Stat. 177.

Indian Territory. Act of March 1, 1899, 35 Stat. 784, 784 (extent of court's jurisdiction). Act of October 1, 1890, 26 Stat. 665, 666, Act of March 3, 1891, 20 Stat. 820, Act of March 1, 1896, 28 Stat. 608, 609, Joint Resolution of March 2, 1895, 28 Stat. 974, Act of May 7, 1906, 34 Stat. 170, Act of February 11, 1901, 31 Stat. 734, Act of February 8, 1896, 29 Stat. 6. Act of June 7, 1907, 30 Stat. 62, 83, Act of June 25, 1896, 28 Stat. 495, 496, 497, Act of July 1, 1898, 30 Stat. 607, 609, Act of March 1, 1901, 31 Stat. 861, 869, Act of March 24, 1902, 32 Stat. 99, Act of June 30, 1902, 32 Stat. 700, 601, Act of March 7, 1904, 33 Stat. 30, Act of April 28, 1904, 33 Stat. 571, Act of June 21, 1906, 34 Stat. 327, 332, Act of March 4, 1906, 35 Stat. 816.

Trusts of Oklahoma. Act of May 2, 1896, 28 Stat. 81, 86, Act of June 7, 1897, 31 Stat. 62, 70, 71, Act of June 16, 1906, 34 Stat. 267, 277.

Michigan Territory. Act of January 30, 1838, 4 Stat. 722.

¹¹According to disputes concerning Iowa Indian title lands. Act of June 9, 1892, 27 Stat. 704.

Prohibiting a judgment suit by Pueblo Indians in certain cases. Act of May 31, 1875, 48 Stat. 138, 141.

Construction of laws on lands upon Shoshone Indian Reservation. Act of August 21, 1916, 40 Stat. 519.

Finally, numerous special statutes contain jurisdictional provisions, relating to specific subjects.¹¹

To quiet and finally settle the titles to the lands claimed by or under the Black Bob Band of Shawnee Indians in Kansas. Joint Resolution of March 4, 1879, 20 Stat. 488.

Controversies between the Fort Smith and Cheeky Bridge Co. and the Cheeky Tribe of Indians. Act of March 2, 1889, 26 Stat. 884.

Private land claims. Act of March 1, 1891, 26 Stat. 854.

Confirmation of Indian lands in the State of New Mexico. Act of May 10, 1926, 41 Stat. 498.

Confirmation of Indian lands in the Colville Reservation in the State of Washington. Act of July 1, 1894, 27 Stat. 62, 64, and see Act of April 6, 1899, 26 Stat. 45.

Accountings under any trust created under the act involving Indians of the Five Civilized Tribes. Act of January 27, 1934, 47 Stat. 777, 778.

Cancellation of trust created under the act involving Indians of the Five Civilized Tribes. Act of January 27, 1934, 47 Stat. 777, 778-779.

Appeals to district courts from appeals by certain parties of conveyances of patented lands by full-blood Indians of the Five Civilized Tribes. Act of January 27, 1934, 47 Stat. 777, 779.

Patrols of Kickapoo Indian lands. Act of June 21, 1906, 34 Stat. 268.

Ownership of Pipe Spring Reservation. Act of August 15, 1894, 28 Stat. 280, 217-218.

Enforcement of certain awards in State of Kansas. Act of March 3, 1879, 17 Stat. 645, 625.

Reservations upon lands of members of the Western Band of Cheeky Indians of North Carolina not to affect jurisdictions of United States courts to entertain suit by United States to protect such lands. Act of June 4, 1924, 44 Stat. 276, 281.

Quitting title to lands of Seneca Indian. Act of May 20, 1908, 35 Stat. 444, 445.

To quiet title to lands of Pueblo Indians of New Mexico under certain conditions. Act of June 7, 1924, 43 Stat. 676, 677.

Process for making United States party in certain suits involving Indians of the Five Civilized Tribes. Act of April 16, 1926, 44 Stat. 239, 240.

SECTION 3. COURT OF CLAIMS

While the United States cannot be sued without its consent,¹² yet it may be sued with its consent in any court or tribunal which Congress shall create or designate for the purpose, upon such terms or conditions and regulations as Congress shall see fit to prescribe, and the jurisdiction thus conferred may be held to be subject to whatever limitations are prescribed in the act or resolution of Congress conferring such jurisdiction.

No law as the Court of Claims is concerned its jurisdiction rests upon these general propositions, and therefore the extent of that jurisdiction is to be measured by the provisions of the jurisdictional act of Congress by which it is conferred in particular instances where such jurisdiction is invoked.¹³ In other words, the Court of Claims has no general jurisdiction over claims against the United States, and can take cognizance only of those which by the terms of some act of Congress are committed to it.¹⁴ Statutes which extend the jurisdiction of the Court of Claims and permit the Government to be sued are usually strictly construed, and the grant of jurisdiction therein contained must be

shown clearly to cover the case and if it does not it will not be applied.¹⁵

With reference to claims by Indians against the United States the rule is not different from that stated above, since "the moral obligations of the Government toward the Indians, whether they may be, are for Congress alone to recognize, and the courts can exercise only such jurisdiction over the subject as Congress may confer upon them."¹⁶ In *Klamath Indians v. United States*,¹⁷ the Supreme Court, in construing the Act of May 28, 1920,¹⁸ conferring jurisdiction upon the Court of Claims to adjudicate "all claims of whatsoever nature" of the Klamath Indians against the United States "which had not theretofore been determined by that Court," declared that jurisdictional acts conferring upon an Indian tribe the privilege of suing the United States in the Court of Claims, are to be strictly construed and held, accordingly, that the Act of 1920 did not embrace a claim which the Indians had settled with the Government before and for which they had given a valid release, even though the consideration for this release was grossly inadequate. In this connection the Supreme Court said:

If the release stands, no money or property is due plaintiffs, for the settlement and release wiped out the claim.

¹²See Section 243 (2), supra.

¹³*See De Grand v. United States*, 5 Wall. 419 (1860). *See also Russell v. United States*, 13 Wall. 604 (1871), *McNinch v. United States*, 102 U. S. 426 (1880), *United States v. Glendon*, 124 U. S. 255 (1888), *Johnson v. United States*, 100 U. S. 540 (1880), *Thompson v. United States*, 232 U. S. 406 (1914), *Henry v. United States*, 198 U. S. 229 (1905), *Kendall v. United States*, 107 U. S. 128 (1882), *Stanton v. United States*, 222 U. S. 88 (1911).

¹⁴*Thompson v. United States*, 232 U. S. 406, 476 (1914), citing *Johnson v. United States*, 100 U. S. 540, 510 (1880). Note, however, that under 28 U. S. C. 227 (Judicial Code, sec. 151), either house of Congress may refer a pending claim to the Court of Claims for a report on the law and facts. *See Onchik v. United States*, 74 C. Cl. 898 (1923) for a discussion of the conditions under which such report will be made.

¹⁵*Blackfeather v. United States*, 390 U. S. 388 (1908). *See Shillineau v. United States*, 158 U. S. 133 (1894).

¹⁶*Blackfeather v. United States*, 390 U. S. 388, 373 (1908); *Klamath Indians v. United States*, 296 U. S. 244 (1936). *See Johnson v. United States*, 100 U. S. 540 (1880), *Yank v. United States*, 178 U. S. 430 (1900).

¹⁷296 U. S. 244 (1936).

¹⁸41 Stat. 622, amended by Act of May 15, 1930, 46 Stat. 1276, and see *United States v. Klamath Indians*, 304 U. S. 119 (1938).

determination of the amounts of sums due or claimed to be due the Indians from the United States under any treaty or law of Congress.¹²¹

In most instances the jurisdiction is conferred to hear, determine, and render judgment,¹²² or "to hear and determine and to render final judgment"¹²³ or "to hear, examine, and adjudge, and render judgment,"¹²⁴ or "to hear, adjudge, and render

judgment,"¹²⁵ or "to hear, determine, adjudge, and render final judgment,"¹²⁶ or "to consider and determine,"¹²⁷ or "to hear, examine, adjudge, and render final judgment,"¹²⁸ or "to consider and adjudge,"¹²⁹ or "to hear and determine,"¹³⁰ or "to try and determine,"¹³¹ or "to try and render judgment,"¹³² or "to determine and report from findings of fact reported before,"¹³³ or "to proceed upon findings of fact already made,"¹³⁴ or "to hear and render judgment,"¹³⁵ or "to hear and report a finding of fact,"¹³⁶ or "to hear, consider, and determine,"¹³⁷ or "to hear, ascertain, and report" to Congress.¹³⁸

In many of the cases, the court is to take jurisdiction "notwithstanding the lapse of time or statutes of limitations"¹³⁹ and

amended by Joint Resolution of May 19, 1920, 15 Stat. 508, Joint Resolution of February 19, 1920, 15 Stat. 1229, and Act of August 10, 1917, 50 Stat. 650, Act of June 7, 1924, 14 Stat. 614 (Shoshone), Act of February 14, 1925, 18 Stat. 586 (Indians in State of Washington), Act of March 3, 1925, 43 Stat. 1261 (Kasas or Kaw), amended by Act of February 21, 1925, 45 Stat. 1278, Act of May 11, 1926, 11 Stat. 595 (Chippewa), amended by Act of April 23, 1926, 16 Stat. 123, Act of May 18, 1926, 45 Stat. 601, Act of June 15, 1914, 48 Stat. 979, Act of May 17, 1916, 19 Stat. 1372, and Joint Resolution of June 22, 1916, 19 Stat. 1820, Act of July 2, 1926, 11 Stat. 597 (Fort Winnebago), Act of August 3, 1926, 11 Stat. 597 (Crow tribe), amended by Joint Resolution of July 15, 1915, 19 Stat. 612, Act of March 2, 1927, 41 Stat. 1265 (Assiniboin), amended by Joint Resolution of June 9, 1914, 16 Stat. 531, Act of March 2, 1927, 11 Stat. 1449 (Shoshone tribe of Wind River Reservation), See *Shoshone Tribe v. United States*, 299 U. S. 476 (1937), Act of December 17, 1925, 19 Stat. 1027 (Warm Springs), Act of February 28, 1929, 19 Stat. 1167 (Shoshone), Act of March 3, 1931, 46 Stat. 1197 (Pillager Band of Chippewa), Act of April 25, 1932, 47 Stat. 187 (Navajo, Cherokee and Western Cherokee at Old Fort), amended by Act of June 16, 1914, 18 Stat. 972, Act of August 29, 1915, 49 Stat. 361 (Indians in Oregon).

¹²¹ Act of April 13, 1919, 39 Stat. 17 (Shoshone and Wahgion River). See *Shoshone Indians v. United States*, 50 C. Cls. 503 (1921), and den 275 U. S. 528 and *Shoshone Indians v. United States*, 275 U. S. 424 (1928).
¹²² Act of March 4, 1917, 39 Stat. 1195 (Mekwanago and Walpokoona Bands), Act of February 11, 1920, 41 Stat. 461 (Fort Belknap Indians), Act of May 26, 1920, 19 Stat. 623 (Klamath, etc.), amended by Act of May 10, 1920, 19 Stat. 1270. See *Klamath Indians v. United States*, 296 U. S. 211 (1935) and *United States v. Klamath Indians*, 304 U. S. 119 (1938).
¹²³ Act of June 4, 1920, 41 Stat. 738 (Shony), amended by Act of June 21, 1926, 11 Stat. 764, Act of February 6, 1921, 41 Stat. 1007 (Ojawa Nation), Act of March 8, 1931, 46 Stat. 1187 (Pillager Band of Chippewa), Act of June 19, 1915, 19 Stat. 588 (Tlingit and Tlilla Indians), Act of August 40, 1915, 19 Stat. 1039 (Chippewa), Act of June 25, 1916, 52 Stat. 1212 (Red Lake Band of Chippewa).

¹²⁴ Act of March 2, 1897, 28 Stat. 876, 908 (Choctaw and Chickasaw). See *United States v. Choctaw Nation and Cherokee Nation*, 179 U. S. 611 (1900).
¹²⁵ Act of June 9, 1900, 41 Stat. 672, 690 (Cherokee and Chickasaw).
¹²⁶ Act of March 3, 1903, 12 Stat. 892, 1010, 1011. See *United States v. Cherokee Nation*, 202 U. S. 101 (1906), Act of June 22, 1910, 30 Stat. 760 (Omaha tribe). See *United States v. Omaha Indians*, 254 U. S. 275 (1920), Act of April 11, 1916, 39 Stat. 47 (Shawnee and Wagoner Bands of Cherokee). See *United States v. United States*, 18 C. Cls. 402 (1914), and den 275 U. S. 528, and *Shona Indians v. United States*, 277 U. S. 121 (1928).
¹²⁷ Act of April 25, 1930, 41 Stat. 585 (Towa tribe), amended by Act of January 31, 1929, 45 Stat. 1073, Act of May 26, 1920, 19 Stat. 623 (Klamath, etc.), amended by Act of May 18, 1926, 45 Stat. 601, 602. See *Klamath Indians v. United States*, 296 U. S. 244 (1915), and *United States v. Klamath Indians*, 304 U. S. 119 (1938).
¹²⁸ Act of June 9, 1920, 11 Stat. 788 (Shony), amended by Act of June 21, 1926, 11 Stat. 764, Act of February 6, 1921, 41 Stat. 1007 (Ojawa Nation), Act of February 7, 1925, 45 Stat. 812 (Delaware Indians), Act of March 3, 1931, 46 Stat. 1187 (Pillager Bands of Chippewa), Act of June 19, 1915, 49 Stat. 368 (Tlingit and Tlilla Indians).
¹²⁹ See Act of March 4, 1917, 39 Stat. 1195 (Mekwanago and Walpokoona Bands).
¹³⁰ Act of January 6, 1925, 45 Stat. 1262 (Pillager Band of Chippewa), Act of February 12, 1925, 45 Stat. 1262 (Pillager Band of Chippewa), Act of February 12, 1925, 45 Stat. 1262 (Pillager Band of Chippewa), Act of May 18, 1926, 45 Stat. 602 (Indians of California), Act of June 28, 1938, 52 Stat. 1200 (Towa), Act of June 28, 1938, 52 Stat. 1212 (Red Lake Band of Chippewa).

¹³¹ Act of March 10, 1924, 43 Stat. 27 (Cherokee), amended by Joint Resolution of May 19, 1920, 15 Stat. 508, Joint Resolution of February 10, 1920, 45 Stat. 1229, Act of June 10, 1894, 48 Stat. 972, and Act of August 10, 1917, 50 Stat. 650, Act of May 20, 1924, 43 Stat. 133 (Seminole), amended by Joint Resolution of May 18, 1926, 45 Stat. 608, Joint Resolution of February 10, 1920, 15 Stat. 508, Joint Resolution of May 18, 1926, 45 Stat. 600, Act of May 24, 1924, 43 Stat. 133 (Creek), amended by Joint Resolution of May 19, 1920, 15 Stat. 508, Joint Resolution of February 10, 1920, 45 Stat. 1229, and Act of August 10, 1917, 50 Stat. 650, See *United States v. Creek Nation*, 296 U. S. 103 (1935), Act of June 18, 1917, 37 Stat. 187 (Cherokee and Chickasaw), amended by Joint Resolution of May 19, 1920, 15 Stat. 508, Joint Reso-

lution of February 10, 1920, 45 Stat. 1229, and Act of August 10, 1917, 50 Stat. 650, Act of June 7, 1924, 14 Stat. 614 (Stockbridge), Act of March 4, 1925, 18 Stat. 1313 (Kasas or Kaw), amended by Act of February 22, 1925, 15 Stat. 1278, Concurrent Resolution No. 21 of June 5, 1924, 17 Stat. 1021 (Cheyenne and Chickasaw), Act of May 14, 1920, 11 Stat. 577 (Chippewa), amended by Act of April 11, 1928, 43 Stat. 123, Act of May 16, 1928, 45 Stat. 601, Act of June 18, 1934, 48 Stat. 779, Act of May 15, 1910, 10 Stat. 1172 and Joint Resolution of June 25, 1916, 19 Stat. 1820, Act of March 2, 1927, 41 Stat. 1261 (Assiniboin), amended by Joint Resolution of June 9, 1914, 16 Stat. 531, Act of March 3, 1927, 11 Stat. 1449 (Shoshone tribe of Wind River Reservation). See *Shoshone Tribe v. United States*, 299 U. S. 476 (1937), Act of December 17, 1925, 45 Stat. 1027 (Warm Springs), Act of April 25, 1932, 47 Stat. 187 (Navajo, Cherokee and Western Cherokee at Old Fort), amended by Act of June 16, 1914, 18 Stat. 972, Act of August 29, 1915, 49 Stat. 361 (Indians in Oregon).

¹³² Act of July 4, 1926, 11 Stat. 801 (Crow), amended by Joint Resolution of July 15, 1915, 19 Stat. 612, Act of February 25, 1929, 45 Stat. 1167 (Shoshone).
¹³³ Act of March 1, 1907, 31 Stat. 1055 (Sho and Fox), Act of February 20, 1920, 45 Stat. 1210 (New Mexico).
¹³⁴ Act of March 4, 1909, 35 Stat. 781, 789 (Tie), Act of March 14, 1924, 48 Stat. 21 (Indians in Montana, Idaho, and Washington), amended by Act of February 4, 1911, 16 Stat. 461, 464, 1060.
¹³⁵ Act of February 23, 1929, 45 Stat. 1276 (Indians of State of Oregon), amended by Act of June 14, 1925, 17 Stat. 1021, Act of December 27, 1930, 46 Stat. 1011 (Malheur Oregon or Warm Springs Tribe), Act of August 26, 1915, 49 Stat. 361 (Indians in Oregon), Act of September 1, 1940, 49 Stat. 1086 (Amenomene), amended by Act of April 8, 1888, 12 Stat. 204.

¹³⁶ Act of May 25, 1910, 36 Stat. 820 (Chippewa).
¹³⁷ Act of October 1, 1900, 20 Stat. 66 (Shawnee, Delaware, and freedmen of Cherokee Nation), amended by Act of July 6, 1892, 27 Stat. 80. See *United States v. United States*, 100 U. S. 408 (1901), Act of March 3, 1903, 12 Stat. 892, 1011 (Pillager Bands).
¹³⁸ Act of June 16, 1914, 18 Stat. 972 (Towa Hill Indian Reservation).

¹³⁹ Act of March 3, 1881, 21 Stat. 504 (Cherokee Nation). See *Cherokee Nation v. United States*, 110 U. S. 3 (1886), Act of March 10, 1924, 43 Stat. 133 (Seminole).
¹⁴⁰ Act of January 9, 1927, 17 Stat. 730 (Yankton Sioux).
¹⁴¹ Act of January 25, 1897, 27 Stat. 428 (New York Indians).
¹⁴² Act of April 4, 1910, 36 Stat. 519, 524 (Shony).
¹⁴³ Act of March 3, 1915, 40 Stat. 1116 (Cherokee Nation).
¹⁴⁴ Act of March 3, 1901, 31 Stat. 1058, 1078.

¹⁴⁵ Act of March 4, 1881, 20 Stat. 980, 1021 (Potawatomi), Act of June 22, 1910, 30 Stat. 690 (Omaha), Act of May 26, 1920, 19 Stat. 623 (Klamath, etc.), amended by Act of May 18, 1926, 45 Stat. 1270. See *Klamath Indians v. United States*, 296 U. S. 244 (1915) and *United States v. Klamath Indians*, 304 U. S. 119 (1938).
¹⁴⁶ Act of June 3, 1920, 41 Stat. 788 (Shony) amended by Act of June 24, 1926, 45 Stat. 704.
¹⁴⁷ Act of February 6, 1921, 41 Stat. 1007 (Ojawa Nation), Act of March 18, 1924, 43 Stat. 21 (Indians in Montana, Idaho, and Washington), amended by Act of February 4, 1881, 40 Stat. 1000, Act of May 20, 1924, 43 Stat. 133 (Seminole), amended by Joint Resolution of May 10, 1920, 15 Stat. 508, Joint Resolution of February 10, 1920, 45 Stat. 1229, and Act of August 10, 1917, 50 Stat. 650, Act of May 18, 1926, 45 Stat. 133 (Creek), amended by Joint Resolution of May 19, 1920, 15 Stat. 508, Joint Resolution of February 10, 1920, 45 Stat. 1229, and Act of August 10, 1917, 50 Stat. 650. See *United States v. Creek Nation*, 296 U. S. 103 (1935), Act of June 7, 1924, 43 Stat. 537 (Cherokee and Chickasaw), amended by Joint Resolution of May 19, 1920, 15 Stat. 508, Joint Resolution of February 10, 1920, 45 Stat. 1229, and Act of August 10, 1917, 50 Stat. 650.

in most, the right is granted to both parties to appeal to the Supreme Court.¹³

80 Stat. 650, Act of June 7, 1924, 43 Stat. 844 (Stockbridge), Act of February 7, 1927, 45 Stat. 812 (Delaware Indians), Act of February 12, 1925, 43 Stat. 886 (Indians in State of Washington), Act of March 8, 1925, 43 Stat. 1111 (Kaweah or Kawi) amended by Act of February 23, 1929, 45 Stat. 1238, Act of May 13, 1926, 44 Stat. 775 (Chippewa), amended by Act of April 19, 1929, 45 Stat. 482, Act of May 18, 1928, 45 Stat. 601, Act of June 15, 1924, 43 Stat. 1031, 48 Stat. 970, Act of May 13, 1926, 49 Stat. 1272, and Joint Resolution of June 22, 1926, 49 Stat. 1266, Act of July 2, 1926, 44 Stat. 801 (Pottawatomie), Act of July 8, 1926, 44 Stat. 807 (Crow) amended by Joint Resolution of August 16, 1945, 49 Stat. 655, Act of March 2, 1927, 45 Stat. 1260 (Assiniboin), amended by Joint Resolution of June 9, 1930, 46 Stat. 731, Act of March 9, 1927, 44 Stat. 1449 (Shoshone Tribe of Wind River Reservations, See *Shoshone Tribe v. United States*, 299 U. S. 470 (1937)), Act of February 20, 1929, 45 Stat. 1249 (Noi Pene), Act of February 28, 1928, 45 Stat. 1407 (Shoshone), Act of December 24, 1919, 40 Stat. 1054 (Middle Oregon or Warm Springs), Act of April 25, 1922, 47 Stat. 147 (Cherokee), amended by Act of June 10, 1934, 48 Stat. 972.

¹³ Act of March 4, 1881, 21 Stat. 504 (Chocaw), See *Chocaw Indians v. United States*, 159 U. S. 1 (1896), Act of May 13, 1926, 20 Stat. 41 (Pottawatomie), Act of October 1, 1900, 26 Stat. 686 (Shawnee, Delaware, and Indians of Cherokee Nation) amended by Act of July 8, 1926, 27 Stat. 86, See *Blackfeet Indians v. United States*, 190 U. S. 98 (1903), Act of March 1, 1905, 26 Stat. 980 (101st (Pottawatomie)), Act of March 1, 1905, 26 Stat. 598 (26th (Chickasaw)), See *United States v. Cherokee and Chickasaw Nations*, 179 U. S. 493 (1900), Act of June 30, 1900, 31 Stat. 672 and Joint Third Indian Reservation), Act of March 1, 1901, 32 Stat. 982, 1016, 1011, See *United States v. Mescalero Nation*, 252 U. S. 101 (1901), Act of March 1, 1907, 34 Stat. 1075 (Bosque and Pecos), Act of February 15, 1909, 35 Stat. 601, See *United States v. Mescalero Chippewas*, 220 U. S. 408 (1913), Act of June 22, 1910, 36 Stat. 510 (Omaha tribe), See *United States v. Omaha Tribe of Indians*, 291 U. S. 275 (1933), Act of June 25, 1930, 80 Stat. 880 (Chippewa), Act of April 11, 1916, 39 Stat. 47 (Shoshone and Warm Springs), See *Shoshone Indians v. United States*, 58 C. Cls. 362 (1921), cert. den. 270 U. S. 528 and *Omaha Indians v. United States*, 277 U. S. 424 (1928), Act of March 1, 1919, 40 Stat. 3116 (Cherokee Nation), Act of February 11, 1920, 41 Stat. 104 (Foot Blackfoot Indians), Act of April 29, 1920, 41 Stat. 683 (Jawa tribe) amended by Act of January 11, 1929, 45 Stat. 1078, Act of May 28, 1926, 41 Stat. 1268 (Klamath, etc.), amended by Act of May 16, 1926, 46 Stat. 1276, See *Klamath Indians v. United States*, 298 U. S. 244 (1935) and *United States v. Klamath Indians*, 701 U. S. 119 (1918), Act of June 4, 1920, 41 Stat. 718 (Moor), amended by Act of June 24, 1926, 44 Stat. 761, Act of February 6, 1921, 41 Stat. 1907 (Osage Nation), Act of March 10, 1921, 41 Stat. 27 (Cherokee) amended by Joint Resolution of May 19, 1926, 44 Stat. 908, Joint Resolution of February 15, 1929, 45 Stat. 1225, Act of June 10, 1934, 48 Stat. 972, and Act of August 16, 1945, 49 Stat. 650, Act of May 20, 1924, 43 Stat. 1131 (Neemahole), amended by Joint Resolution of May 19, 1926, 44 Stat. 698, Joint Resolution of February 19, 1929, 45 Stat. 1229, and Act of August 16, 1945, 49 Stat. 650, Act of May 24, 1924, 43 Stat. 1141 (Crow), amended by Joint Resolution of May 24, 1924, 43 Stat. 1141, 48 Stat. 970, Act of May 13, 1926, 49 Stat. 1272, and Joint Resolution of June 22, 1926, 49 Stat. 1266, Act of July 2, 1926, 44 Stat. 801 (Pottawatomie), Act of July 8, 1926, 44 Stat. 807 (Crow) amended by Joint Resolution of August 16, 1945, 49 Stat. 655, Act of March 2, 1927, 45 Stat. 1260 (Assiniboin), amended by Joint Resolution of June 9, 1930, 46 Stat. 731, Act of March 3, 1927, 44 Stat. 1449 (Shoshone tribe of Wind River Reservations), See *Shoshone Tribe v. United States*, 299 U. S. 470 (1937), Act of May 18, 1928, 45 Stat. 601 (Indians of California), Act of December 17, 1928, 46 Stat. 1027 (Winahago), Act of February 20, 1929, 45 Stat. 1249 (Noi Pene), Act of December 24, 1919, 40 Stat. 1048 (Middle Oregon or Warm Springs tribe), Act of March 3, 1931, 46 Stat. 1487 (Ojibwa Reservations Chippewas), Act of May 13, 1926, 49 Stat. 1272, 48 Stat. 971 (Indians in State of Oregon), Act of August 30, 1985, 46 Stat. 1049 (Chippewa), Act of June 28, 1908, 33 Stat. 1212 (Chippewa).

In many instances the jurisdiction of the Court is limited to matters in which the claim has not heretofore been determined by the Court of Claims or the Supreme Court.¹⁴

In some instances Congress has authorized submission to the Court of Claims of Indian claims theretofore settled and adjusted.¹⁵

So far as claims of individuals against Indian tribes or members thereof are concerned, it is unquestionable that Congress may refer such claims to the Court of Claims or any other tribunal and vest in that court such general or limited jurisdiction as it shall see fit, and may authorize the United States to be made a party defendant to the proceedings.¹⁶ In individual claims of this nature are not intelligent,¹⁷ and the jurisdiction conferred by such statutes upon the Court of Claims is usually expressed

¹⁴ Act of February 11, 1920, 41 Stat. 604 (Foot Blackfoot Indians), Act of May 26, 1920, 41 Stat. 625 (Klamath, etc.), amended by Act of May 13, 1926, 49 Stat. 1276, See *Klamath Indians v. United States*, 298 U. S. 244 (1935) and *United States v. Klamath Indians*, 701 U. S. 119 (1918), Act of June 4, 1920, 41 Stat. 718 (Moor) amended by Act of June 24, 1926, 44 Stat. 764, Act of March 19, 1924, 43 Stat. 1127 (Cherokee) amended by Joint Resolution of May 19, 1926, 44 Stat. 766, Joint Resolution of February 19, 1929, 45 Stat. 1225, Act of June 10, 1934, 48 Stat. 972, and Act of August 16, 1945, 49 Stat. 650, Act of May 20, 1924, 43 Stat. 1131 (Neemahole) amended by Joint Resolution of May 19, 1926, 44 Stat. 698, Joint Resolution of February 19, 1929, 45 Stat. 1229, and Act of August 16, 1945, 49 Stat. 650, Act of May 24, 1924, 43 Stat. 1141 (Crow) amended by Joint Resolution of May 24, 1924, 43 Stat. 1141, 48 Stat. 970, Act of May 13, 1926, 49 Stat. 1272, and Joint Resolution of June 22, 1926, 49 Stat. 1266, Act of July 2, 1926, 44 Stat. 801 (Pottawatomie), Act of July 8, 1926, 44 Stat. 807 (Crow) amended by Joint Resolution of August 16, 1945, 49 Stat. 655, Act of March 2, 1927, 45 Stat. 1261 (Assiniboin), amended by Joint Resolution of June 9, 1930, 46 Stat. 731, Act of March 4, 1927, 44 Stat. 1449 (Shoshone tribe of Wind River Reservations), See *Shoshone Tribe v. United States*, 299 U. S. 470 (1937), Act of December 17, 1928, 46 Stat. 1027 (Winahago), Act of April 25, 1922, 47 Stat. 147 (Cherokee), amended by Act of June 10, 1934, 48 Stat. 972, Act of February 28, 1929, 45 Stat. 1249, 48 Stat. 971 (Shoshone), Act of August 30, 1917, 39 Stat. 1040 (Chippewa).

¹⁵ Act of February 7, 1927, 45 Stat. 812, as amended March 4, 1927, 44 Stat. 176. "The said claims shall remain as such claims de novo . . . and without regard to any decision, finding, settlement, compromise had in respect of any such claims" contained in *Delaware Tribe v. United States*, 72 C. Cls. 483 (1914), 47 Stat. 71, C. Cls. 308, Act of March 4, 1881, 21 Stat. 504. Under a treaty of 1825, 18 Stat. 611, a determination had been made by the Senate and account was given by the Secretary of the Interior. The act authorized the court "to review the entire question of differences de novo" and declared that the court "shall not be estopped by any action had or award made by the Senate" contained in *Cherokee Nation v. United States*, 19 C. Cls. 211 (1894) and 120 U. S. 1, 29 (1886).

¹⁶ Statutes authorizing submission of claims not theretofore finally settled and related Acts of February 11, 1920, 41 Stat. 604, June 4, 1920, 41 Stat. 758, March 19, 1924, 43 Stat. 1127, May 20, 1924, 43 Stat. 1187, May 24, 1924, 43 Stat. 1190, See *United States v. Creek Nation*, 285 U. S. 104 (1932), Act of June 4, 1920, 41 Stat. 609, June 7, 1924, 43 Stat. 616, June 7, 1924, 43 Stat. 616, February 7, 1925, 43 Stat. 812, March 3, 1926, 47 Stat. 1115, May 14, 1926, 44 Stat. 656, July 2, 1926, 44 Stat. 801, July 1, 1926, 44 Stat. 807, March 2, 1927, 45 Stat. 1268, March 3, 1927, 44 Stat. 1119, See *Shoshone Tribe v. United States*, 299 U. S. 470 (1937).

¹⁷ In *United States v. Goshaw*, 165 U. S. 819 (1897), the Supreme Court held that under the Indian Depelation Act of March 4, 1861, c. 688, 26 Stat. 361, the Court of Claims could render a judgment against the United States alone, when the tribe could not be identified, and the inability to identify the tribe was stated in the petition.

¹⁸ See Chapter 14, sec. 1, Feb. 14-20.

in such language as to "inquire into and finally adjudicate"³²⁶ to "hear, adjudicate, and render judgment"³²⁷ to "hear, consider, and adjudicate"³²⁸ to "hear, determine, and render final judgment,"³²⁹ to "rehear, rebear, determine, and finally adjudicate,"³³⁰ to "rehear and reconsider and determine the motion filed" therein by the claimants,³³¹ or to "restitute" causes so far as the same pertain to the claim of the claimant, upon facts as previously found and returned by the court, and is authorized to enter judgment in said cause in favor of the plaintiff,³³² or a claim is referred to the court together with the record or papers in a previous cause lawfully heard in said court and the court is authorized and directed "to order proof to be taken" with respect to the claim.³³³

In some instances the court has been authorized and directed to entertain jurisdiction in Indian depredation claims³³⁴ or a private claimant has been authorized to prosecute an Indian's depredation claim pending in that court and to receive judgment therein,³³⁵ or the claimant is authorized to bring suit in the Court of Claims against the United States.³³⁶

By section 182 of the Judicial Code,³³⁷ in any case brought in the Court of Claims under any act of Congress by which that court is authorized to render a judgment or decree against the United States, or against any Indian tribe or any Indians, or against any fund held in trust by the United States for any Indian tribe or for any Indians, the claimant, or the United States, or the tribe of Indians, or other party in interest shall have the same right of appeal as is conferred by the other sections of the code, and such a right is to be exercised only within the time and in the manner that is prescribed.

In individual claims with respect to Indian lands alleged by the claimant to have been appropriated by the United States Government without right or title thereto, and without authority either in law or in equity, the jurisdiction is conferred on the Court of Claims "to proceed, according to the principles and rules of both law and equity, to find the facts" embracing the amount that is to be paid to the claimants.³³⁸

While Congress may refer to the Court of Claims or any other tribunal which it may create or designate any Indian claim for adjudication, it cannot refer such claim directly to the Supreme Court for that purpose. The reason is that under the Constitution the original jurisdiction of the Supreme Court extends only to cases "affecting Ambassadors, other public Ministers and Consuls, and those in which a State shall be party,"³³⁹ and Congress can neither enlarge nor restrict that jurisdiction.³⁴⁰ Thus, it having been early decided in *Cherokee Nation v. Georgia*,

that an Indian tribe is not a state in the sense that this word is used in the Constitution, the Supreme Court has held that Congress cannot refer directly to it, for adjudication, the claim of an Indian tribe, for that would be to invoke a jurisdiction which that Court cannot exercise under the Constitution, although the matter might be referred to the Court of Claims in the first instance, and brought to the Supreme Court by way of appeal if the necessary congressional legislation to that end was provided.³⁴¹

Nor has Congress constitutional authority to enlarge the appellate jurisdiction of the Supreme Court by allowing appeals from judgments of the Court of Claims in cases not of a judicial nature, for conceding that Congress may confer upon the Court of Claims extra-judicial power as it has in numerous instances, yet the appellate jurisdiction of the Supreme Court under the Constitution is strictly judicial, and any attempt on the part of Congress either to enlarge or to diminish that jurisdiction would be unconstitutional and void, as an encroachment on the judicial power vested by the Constitution in that tribunal.³⁴²

With respect to so-called moral claims, or claims based on a supposed moral obligation of the United States toward the Indians, whatever the circumstances under which they may arise, if they exist at all, it is for Congress to consider whether they shall be recognized, and being political in nature they would seem to fall outside the jurisdiction of the courts.³⁴³ It is believed, however, that Congress may properly refer such claims to the Court of Claims for adjudication.³⁴⁴ Whether it may also allow an appeal from the decision of the Court of Claims to the Supreme Court is a question upon which the Supreme Court has not passed. But if Congress should provide by appropriate legislation a definite standard upon which the validity of the claim could be determined and proper relief afforded to the parties to the suit as a matter of law, there would seem to be no objection to the allowance of the appeal, for then the judicial power of the United States would be called into play in any case or controversy arising under such legislation and submitted to the Court of Claims in the first instance, and the Supreme Court on appeal for adjudication. In other words, the claim under such legislation would be justiciable in nature, and therefore cognizable by the Court.³⁴⁵

³²⁶ 5 Pet. 1 (1881).

³²⁷ *Yankton Sioux Tribe v. United States*, 272 U. S. 851, 356 (1926).

³²⁸ By the Act of March 8, 1883, the claims of the New York Indians for the value of certain lands in Kansas not apart for them under the Treaty of January 15, 1838, 7 Stat. 650, were referred to the Court of Claims with direction to report its proceedings to the Senate. The court reported the findings to the Senate on January 16, 1892, and thereupon, on January 26, 1893, Congress passed an act authorizing the Court of Claims "to hear and determine these claims and to enter up judgment as it had original jurisdiction of this case without regard to the statute of limitations", with the right of appeal by either party to the Supreme Court. *New York Indians v. United States*, 170 U. S. 1 (1898). See also sec. 24(2), *supra*.

³²⁹ *Hubbard v. United States*, 219 U. S. 848 (1911); *Gordon v. United States*, 117 U. S. 697 (1884). *See United States v. Old Settles*, 148 U. S. 427, 486 (1893); *Pan-to-see v. United States*, 187 U. S. 871, 288 (1902), sec. 24(2), *supra*.

³³⁰ See cases cited in fn. 135.

³³¹ *See Dinwiddie Indians v. United States*, 70 C. Cls. 830 (1884), cert. den. 206 U. S. 755; *Blackfoot Indians v. United States*, 81 C. Cls. 101 (1885). These cases would seem to hold, in effect, that in the absence of congressional legislation the Court of Claims has no power to award a judgment based upon a moral claim by an Indian tribe or tribes against the United States.

³³² The judicial power of the United States, vested by the Constitution in the federal courts, embraces all controversies of a justiciable nature, except so far as there are limitations expressed in that instrument on the general grant of judicial power. *Kansas v. Colorado*, 206 U. S. 46 (1907). A case or controversy, in order that the judicial power of the United States may be exercised thereon, implies the exist-

³³³ Act of March 8, 1881, 26 Stat. 861, amended by Act of January 11, 1915, 98 Stat. 751. *See Johnson v. United States*, 100 U. S. 846 (1880); *Loughlin v. United States*, 181 U. S. 201 (1898); *Marke v. United States*, 181 U. S. 207 (1898); *Calhoun v. United States*, 178 U. S. 75 (1899); *Corrington Co. v. United States*, 178 U. S. 280 (1900); *Montgo v. United States*, 180 U. S. 261 (1901); Act of February 9, 1907, 34 Stat. 2411.

³³⁴ Act of May 29, 1908, 35 Stat. 444, 445. *See Gerland's Heirs v. Cherokee Nation*, 208 U. S. 480 (1911); *Green v. Mesquimie Tribe*, 288 U. S. 658 (1914).

³³⁵ Act of June 28, 1894, 46 Stat. 1407. *See* Act of May 29, 1908, 35 Stat. 444, 445; Act of February 6, 1928, 43 Stat. 1768; Act of April 4, 1910, 36 Stat. 209, 287.

³³⁶ Act of April 28, 1916, 39 Stat. 1932.

³³⁷ Act of June 30, 1902, 32 Stat. 1492, c. 1848.

³³⁸ Act of June 30, 1902, 32 Stat. 1492, c. 1848.

³³⁹ Act of February 9, 1883, 12 Stat. 916.

³⁴⁰ Act of February 9, 1907, 34 Stat. 2411. See Chapter 14, sec. 1.

³⁴¹ Act of June 8, 1900, 31 Stat. 1517.

³⁴² Act of June 4, 1880, 21 Stat. 544.

³⁴³ Act of March 8, 1911, 36 Stat. 1087, 1142, 25 U. S. C. 288.

³⁴⁴ Act of February 24, 1905, 33 Stat. 748, 809.

³⁴⁵ U. S. Const., Art. III, sec. 3, c. 2.

³⁴⁶ *Wheeler v. United States*, 219 U. S. 846 (1911). And see sec. 24 (4), *supra*.

Ordinarily the Supreme Court will not review findings of facts of the Court of Claims¹²⁰ and the opinion of the Court of Claims will not be referred to for the purpose of eliciting, controlling, or modifying the scope of the findings.¹²¹ The Supreme Court has repeatedly held that the findings of the Court of Claims in an action at law determine all matters of fact, like the verdict

of present or possible adverse parties whose contentions are submitted to the court for adjudication. *Chasheim v. George*, 2 Dall. 419, 421 (1792). A case arises under the Constitution at laws of the United States, whenever its decision depends upon the correct construction of either *Coleman v. Fugins*, 6 Wheat. 564, 579 (1821); *Onders v. Bank of the United States*, 9 Wheat. 735 (1824).

¹²⁰ *The Election of Wahpeton Indians v. United States*, 208 U. S. 581, 600 (1908), citing *McClure v. United States*, 116 U. S. 345 (1886); *District of Columbia v. Bailey*, 197 U. S. 146, 150 (1905).

¹²¹ *United States v. Shoshone Tribe*, 304 U. S. 111, 115 (1938), citing *Brown v. United States*, 154 U. S. 820, 838 (1894); *Jackman v. S. Co. v. United States*, 272 U. S. 533, 550-510 (1926). *Of American Process Co. v. United States*, 800 U. S. 475, 479-480 (1987).

SECTION 4. FEDERAL ADMINISTRATIVE TRIBUNALS

While the judicial power of the Federal Government is vested by Article III of the Constitution in the Supreme Court, and in such inferior courts as the Congress may from time to time ordain and establish with respect to cases therein enumerated, yet there are many matters relating to the execution of powers delegated to Congress by other provisions of the Constitution which are susceptible of judicial determination, and those Congress may or may not bring within the cognizance of the federal courts, as it may deem proper.¹²² That Congress may refer such matters to special tribunals and clothe them with functions deemed essential or helpful in carrying into execution other powers delegated to it by other articles of the Constitution, would seem to be beyond question.

With reference to the Obotaw and Chickasaw Citizenship Court, otherwise known as the Dawes Commission, which was originally created by the Act of March 3, 1898,¹²³ the Supreme Court said in the case of *Ex parte Bakellie Corp.*:¹²⁴

*** It was created to hear and determine controverted claims to membership in two Indian tribes. The tribes were under the guardianship of the United States, which in virtue of that relation was proceeding to distribute the lands and funds of the tribes among their members. How the membership should be determined rested in the discretion of Congress. It could commit the task to officers of the department in charge of Indian Affairs, to a commission or to a judicial tribunal. As the controversies were difficult of solution and large properties were to be distributed, Congress chose to create a special court and to authorize it to determine the controversies. In *Wokoe v. Adams*, 204 U. S. 415, this was held to be a valid exertion of authority belonging to Congress by reason of its control over the Indian tribes. (P. 457.)

When a matter has been entrusted by an act of Congress to the exclusive cognizance of a special tribunal or administrative officer, and the decision of that tribunal or officer made exclusive, the federal courts have no jurisdiction to reexamine it for alleged errors of law. Thus in *Hallipoll v. Commone*,¹²⁵ in which the question involved was as to the jurisdiction of the federal courts under the Acts of August 15, 1894,¹²⁶ and

of a jury, and that where there is any evidence of a fact which they find, and no exception is taken, their finding is final.¹²⁷ Nor will findings of mixed fact and law be reviewed by the Supreme Court on appeal from the Court of Claims.¹²⁸

It may be added that after the Supreme Court has received a judgment of the Court of Claims and affirmed it, the Court of Claims, like any other court whose judgment has been reviewed by the Supreme Court, must give effect to it and carry it into effect according to the mandate, without variation or other further effect.¹²⁹

¹²⁰ *O'Brien v. United States*, 173 U. S. 79 (1898); *United States v. New York Indians*, 173 U. S. 484 (1899); *a. c.* 170 U. S. 1, 170 U. S. 314; *Stone v. United States*, 104 U. S. 880 (1896), *Deamie v. United States*, 93 U. S. 605 (1878); *Talbot v. United States*, 105 U. S. 45 (1884).

¹²¹ *United States v. Shoshone Indians*, 258 U. S. 275, 281 (1920), citing *Ross v. Day*, 232 U. S. 110, 119-117 (1914).

¹²² *Eastern Cherokee v. United States*, 228 U. S. 572, 582 (1912), citing, *In re Rancho de Park & Tool Co.*, 160 U. S. 247 (1896).

February 6, 1901,¹³⁰ to review a decision of the Secretary of the Interior determining the heirs of a deceased allottee under the Act of June 25, 1910,¹³¹ the Supreme Court, in affirming the decree of the court below dismissing the bill for want of jurisdiction, said:

It is unnecessary to consider whether there was jurisdiction when the suit was begun. By the Act of June 25, 1910, c. 481, § 6 Stat. 535, it was provided that in a case like this of the death of the allottee intestate during the trust period the Secretary of the Interior should ascertain the legal heirs of the decedent and his decision should be final and conclusive; with considerable discretion as to details. Thus act restored to the Secretary the power that had been taken from him by acts of 1894 and February 6, 1901, c. 217, § 1 Stat. 700. *McKoy v. Kalyton*, 204 U. S. 453, 458 (1907). It made his jurisdiction exclusive in terms, it made no exception for pending litigation, but purported to be universal and so to take away the jurisdiction that for a time had been conferred upon the courts of the United States.¹³²

The judgment of a special tribunal empowered to pass upon judicial questions cannot be attacked for fraud or mistake unless the fraud alleged and proved is such as to prevent a full hearing. Thus in *United States v. Atkins*¹³³ the Supreme Court held that the Dawes Commission in enrolling a name as that of a Creek Indian alive on April 1, 1899, when duly approved by the Secretary of the Interior as provided by the Act of June 10, 1896,¹³⁴ amounted to a judgment in an adversary proceeding, establishing the existence of the individual and his right to membership; that such judgment was not subject to attack and could not be annulled for fraud unless the fraud alleged and proved was such as to have prevented a full hearing within the doctrine approved in former decisions of the Court.¹³⁵

¹²⁹ 31 Stat. 780.

¹³⁰ 90 Stat. 555, 26 U. S. C. § 712, 878.

¹³¹ See to the same effect *Lane v. United States ex rel. Mohikades and Teobasis*, 241 U. S. 201 (1916); *First Moon v. White Wolf*, 270 U. S. 243 (1926); *United States v. Bowling*, 250 U. S. 484 (1921).

¹³² The power to determine heirs given to the Secretary of the Interior by the Act of 1910 terminates when the true patent is terminated and a patent in fee issued. *Larkin v. Pugh*, 270 U. S. 451 (1926). See also *Brown v. Litchcock*, 178 U. S. 475 (1899); *Lane v. United States ex rel. Mohikades and Teobasis*, 241 U. S. 201, 207 et seq. (1916). Also see Chapter 8, sec. 110.

¹³³ 260 U. S. 220 (1922). See also Chapter 8, sec. 12.

¹³⁴ 29 Stat. 321, 359, amending Act of March 3, 1893, 27 Stat. 612, 645. See *United States v. Phoolomation*, 90 U. S. 61 (1878); *Yancy v. Burbank*, 101 U. S. 514 (1879); *Hilton v. Gupst*, 150 U. S. 118 (1893).

¹²³ *Murray's Lessee v. Hoboken Land and Improvement Co.*, 18 How. 272 (1856).

¹²⁴ 182 U. S. 27 Stat. 612, 645, as amended by Act of June 10, 1896, 29 Stat. 321, 359, 340, and see Chapter 5, sec. 9.

¹²⁵ 270 U. S. 485 (1926).

¹²⁶ 280 U. S. 606 (1913).

¹²⁷ 28 Stat. 366.

Congress has enacted a considerable number of general statutes¹²⁸ and a much larger number of special statutes relating to particular cases or areas,¹²⁹ which confer upon administrative

authorities power to determine controversies arising out of Indian relations

¹²⁸On control of traders, see Act of May 6, 1822, 8 Stat. 682, Act of February 13, 1862, 12 Stat. 338.

On settlement of claims for property lost on Act of March 30, 1808, 2 Stat. 189, Act of June 30, 1834, 4 Stat. 739.

On control over agricultural entries on surplus coal lands in Indian reservations, see Act of February 27, 1857, 9 Stat. 944.

On duties and powers of "inspectors," see Act of February 14, 1878, 17 Stat. 487, 493.

On jurisdiction over inheritance cases, see Chapter 5 sec. 11C: Chapter 10, sec. 10, Chapter 11, sec. 6.

¹²⁹Relief of persons sustaining damages from Sioux Indian depredations. Act of February 16, 1864, 12 Stat. 652, Act of March 3, 1861, 12 Stat. 898.

Assessment of damages for railroad right of way. Act of August 2, 1882, 22 Stat. 181, Act of July 4, 1884, 20 Stat. 78, continued in *Cherokee Nation v. Kansas Railway Co.*, 135 U.S. 641 (1900), Act of July 1, 1886, 24 Stat. 117, Act of July 6, 1886, 34 Stat. 124, Act of February 24, 1887, 24 Stat. 419, Act of March 2, 1887, 24 Stat. 416, Act of February 15, 1888, 25 Stat. 48, Act of May 14, 1888, 25 Stat. 140, Act of May 30, 1888, 25 Stat. 102, Act of June 26, 1888, 25 Stat. 205, Act of January 16, 1898, 25 Stat. 647, Act of February 20, 1899, 25 Stat. 718, Act of May 8, 1900, 25 Stat. 102, Act of September 28, 1900, 25 Stat. 489, Act of February 1, 1901, 25 Stat. 332, Act of February 24, 1891, 25 Stat. 734, Act of March 3, 1901, 25 Stat. 644, Act of July 8, 1902, 27 Stat. 88, Act of July 30, 1895, 27 Stat. 938, Act of February 20, 1903, 27 Stat. 466, Act of December 21, 1893, 28 Stat. 22, Act of August 4, 1904, 28 Stat. 129, Act of March 2, 1906, 30 Stat. 40, Act of March 15, 1904, 29 Stat. 60, Act of March 30, 1906, 30 Stat. 847, Act of February 14, 1908, 30 Stat. 341, Act of March 30, 1908, 30 Stat. 847, Act of February 10, 1909, 30 Stat. 909, Act of March 2, 1909, 30 Stat. 909.

In nearly all the foregoing cases assessment of damages is to be made by persons appointed for the purpose. In the last statute cited the Secretary of the Interior is given power to assess damages to the tribe.

Awards for the relief of certain Indians. Act of March 3, 1861, 12 Stat. 898.

Determination of attorneys' fees and expenses in connection with prosecution of suits brought in the Court of Claims in behalf of Creek Nation. Act of May 28, 1928, 45 Stat. 944.

Individual claims of Indians based on depredations by citizens of the United States on Cherokee Indian lands. Act of July 18, 1882, 4 Stat. 876.

Appointment of guardians and trustees for Indian minors entitled to pensions and bounties. Joint Resolution of July 14, 1870, 15 Stat. 890.

Citizenship in Five Civilized Tribes. Act of June 10, 1896, 29 Stat. 821.

Appraisal and sale of Winnebago Indian lands. Act of February 21, 1863, 12 Stat. 668.

Settlement of claims concerning allotments, Kansas v. Kaw tribe of Indians. Act of July 1, 1902, 32 Stat. 686, 688, 640.

Settlement of claims concerning allotments, Kansas v. Kaw tribe of Indians. Act of July 1, 1902, 32 Stat. 686, 688, 640.

Settlement of claims concerning allotments, Kansas v. Kaw tribe of Indians. Act of July 1, 1902, 32 Stat. 686, 688, 640.

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Settlement of claims concerning allotments, Kansas v. Kaw tribe of Indians. Act of July 1, 1902, 32 Stat. 686, 688, 640.

Determination of fairness of assessment of lands of Indians subject to claims against them. Act of March 27, 1914, 38 Stat. 810 (Five Civilized Tribes).

Determination of membership of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians of North Carolina. Act of June 4, 1924, 43 Stat. 376.

Determination of contents relating to selection of allotments by members of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians of North Carolina. Act of June 4, 1924, 43 Stat. 378, 379.

Determination of contents over ownership of so-called private lands, claims against tribal lands of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians of North Carolina. Act of June 4, 1924, 43 Stat. 376, 379.

Cancellation of allotments of land to members of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians of North Carolina. Act of June 4, 1924, 43 Stat. 376, 379.

Determination of heirs of deceased members of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians of North Carolina. Act of June 4, 1924, 43 Stat. 376, 380.

Determination of competency of members of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians of North Carolina for the purpose of making leases of their allotted lands. Act of June 4, 1924, 43 Stat. 376, 380.

Settlement of all questions relating to enrollment and other matters involving disposition of land and interests of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians of North Carolina. Act of June 4, 1924, 43 Stat. 376, 381.

Determination of lands granted or confirmed to Pueblo Indians of New Mexico, title to which had not been extinguished excluding claims of non-Indians occupying those lands by adverse possession. Act of June 7, 1906, 33 Stat. 650.

Torwastes. Act of May 20, 1908, 35 Stat. 444, 446 (Choctaw and Chickasaw).

Distribution of funds. Acts of May 26, 1908, 35 Stat. 444, 446, 447 (Cherokee).

Sale of unallotted lands for school purposes. Act of May 26, 1908, 35 Stat. 444, 447 (Five Civilized Tribes).

Appraisal and sale of tribal lands. Act of May 26, 1908, 35 Stat. 444, 447, 448 (Oklahoma).

Cancellation of patents upon determinations of nonexistence of allottees. Act of May 29, 1908, 35 Stat. 444, 451 (Yankton Sioux allottees).

Determination of land allotments to heirs of deceased Sioux Indians. Act of May 29, 1908, 35 Stat. 444, 451, 452.

Return of forfeited money in case of error under previous acts: Act of May 29, 1908, 35 Stat. 444, 458 (Kiowa-Comanche and Apache).

Private claims against Chickasaw tribe of Indians: Act of August 15, 1894, 28 Stat. 286, 315.

Determination of waste and squandering of income by Osage Indians. Act of February 27, 1925, 43 Stat. 1008, 1009.

Sale of lands and disposal of funds by Osage Indians. Act of February 27, 1925, 43 Stat. 1008, 1009-1010.

Cancellation of certificate of competency of Osage Indians. Act of February 27, 1925, 43 Stat. 1008, 1010.

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Cancellation of certificate of competency of Osage Indians. Act of February 27, 1925, 43 Stat. 1008, 1010.

Determination of waste and squandering of income by Osage Indians. Act of February 27, 1925, 43 Stat. 1008, 1009.

SECTION 5. STATE COURTS

In matters not affecting either the Federal Government or the tribal relations, an Indian has the same status to sue and be sued in state courts as any other citizen.¹³⁰

It may be stated however, as a general proposition, that the state courts have no jurisdiction in civil matters affecting the restricted property or tribal relations of the Indians, unless

¹³⁰See *Felix v. Fairbrock*, 145 U.S. 817, 832 (1902). *Ka-swo-ah-gwah v. McClure*, 132 Ind. 641, 38 N.E. 1580 (1896) (suit against Indian on promissory note); *Sisco v. Le Bello*, 99 Wis. 650, 70 N.W. 60 (1898) (suit against Indian on contract); *Massou Pao Poo Oy v. Ouliere*, 81 Tex. 883, 17 S.W. 19 (1891) (cause of action against railroad assigned by Indian) commented on in note, 18 L.B.A. 542, and see also therein cited. With respect to the jurisdiction of state courts over Indians, a leading student of the subject declares " * * * Indians are not extrajurisdictional but only subject to a special rule of substantive law " (P 98). The same writer comments:

In civil matters the lacuna of federal legislation are so enormous that the state courts are left to legislate practically fills the gaps, subject to proof of a positive Indian custom that varies the law. Thus federal legislation in detail there, Indian custom fills; but state law practically covers much of the ground. (W.G. Ellis, *The Position of the American Indian in the Law of the United States* (1924) 15 J. Comp. Leg. 75, 92.)

And see sec. 2A (5), *supra*; Chapter 8, sec. 6.

otherwise provided by Congress,¹³¹ so long at least as the United States retains governmental control over them. This is particularly so with respect to allotted lands and the transfer of any

¹³¹Some special statutes containing provisions conferring jurisdiction on state courts as to subject matter are:

Partitions of lands of Five Civilized Tribes. Act of June 14, 1914, 40 Stat. 609.

Determination of heirs of Five Civilized Tribes. Act of June 14, 1914, 40 Stat. 609.

Approval of conveyances of inherited lands by full-blood Indians of the Five Civilized Tribes. Act of April 10, 1906, 43 Stat. 289.

Process for making United States party defendant in certain suits pending in the state courts of Oklahoma, and for their removal to the federal courts. Act of April 10, 1906, 43 Stat. 289, 290.

Subjecting person and property of minor allottees of Five Civilized Tribes to state courts in probate matters. Act of May 27, 1906, 33 Stat. 812, 813.

Appointment of representative of Secretary of the Interior in probate matters. Act of May 27, 1906, 33 Stat. 812, 813.

State courts right to maintain suits in probate courts not affected by jurisdiction of state courts in probate matters. Act of May 27, 1906, 33 Stat. 812, 813.

Compare the following special statutes conferring concurrent jurisdiction on state and federal courts.

Acts of February 27, 1925, 43 Stat. 1008, 1010 (Suits against guardians of Osage Indians).

Act of February 19, 1910, 18 Stat. 890 (Recovery of rents and possession of lands—Bureau Nation).

right, title, or interest thereto whether by way of purchase or descent, including wills, partition, condemnation, or judicial decree.¹²⁸ As stated by the Supreme Court in *McKay v. Kalyton*,¹²⁹

The *McKay* case [188 U S 432, 485 (1903)] settled that as the necessary result of the legislation of Congress, the United States retained such control over allotments as was essential to reserve the allotted land to ensure during the period in which the land was to be held in trust, "for the sole use and benefit of the allottee." As observed in the *Smith* case, 181 U S 408 (*Hippopotamus-Law v. Smith*, 181 U S 401, 408 (1901)), prior to the passage of the act of 1884 (Act of August 15, 1884, 28 Stat. 250, amended by the Act of February 6, 1901, 31 Stat. 760), "the sole authority for settling disputes concerning allotments resided in the Secretary of the Interior." This being settled, it follows that prior to the act of Congress of 1884 controversies necessarily involving a determination of the title and incidentally of the right to the possession of Indian allotments while the same were held in trust by the United States were not primarily cognizable by any court, either state or Federal. (F 488.)

As to the question of jurisdiction to determine heirs and effectuate a distribution or partition of allotted lands, a distinction must be noted as between lands held under a trust patent and lands held under a patent in fee. As to the latter it is sufficient to notice that after a fee patent has been issued all question relating to the transfer of title to the allotted lands must be determined by the laws of the state where the land is located.¹³⁰ The reason for this is simply that the allottee holds the land in his individual capacity, and as to that land he has become emancipated, and since the land is located within the limits of the state, the tribal laws, as opposed to the state laws, cannot reach that land.¹³¹

As to lands held by the allottee under a trust patent, it will be observed that the provisions of section 5 of the General Allotment Act are silent as to the question of jurisdiction to determine heirs or to effectuate a partition of lands. Since Congress has conferred upon the Secretary of the Interior final authority to determine heirs and to effectuate partition of such lands¹³² it is

clear that no court, state or federal, has jurisdiction to determine heirs with respect to allotted Indian lands while the title thereto remains in the United States.¹³³ Nor has any court, whether state or federal, any jurisdiction to partition or distribute such lands.¹³⁴ And the same is true as to lands allotted to Indians under fee simple patents subject to restrictions upon alienation without the approval of the Secretary of the Interior or some other federal agency selected by Congress for the purpose.¹³⁵

¹²⁸ *McKay v. Kalyton*, 204 U S 438 (1907), *Little Bell v. Houston*, 64 Wash. 602, 117 Pac 481 (1911), *Gray v. McKnight*, 75 Okla 268, 183 Pac 480 (1919).

The federal courts first assumed jurisdiction in matters involving allotments of Indian lands after the passage of the Act of August 15, 1884, 28 Stat. 250 as amended by the Act of February 6, 1901, 31 Stat. 760, 29 U S C 345, providing that one who claimed to have been unlawfully deposed or excluded from any allotment to which he claimed heretofore to be entitled under any treaty or act of Congress, might commence and prosecute or defend any action, suit, or proceeding in relation to his right thereto in the proper circuit court (district court) of the United States, and that the jurisdiction of any such court in (over) any of them should have the same effect, when properly certified to the Secretary of the Interior, as if such allotment had been allowed and approved by him. This act, however, did not apply to the Five Civilized Tribes, not to any lands within the Gipsy Indian Agency. But clearly the purpose of the act was not to confer jurisdiction upon the federal courts in matters of inheritance or descent as such, its purpose had reference merely to the right of an allottee to sue in those courts for an original allotment. *McKay v. Kalyton*, 204 U S 438 (1907), and of *Blown v. United States*, 198 U S 614 (1905), as to the determination of heirs the Act of 1901, with its 1901 amendments, if applicable at all, was repealed by the Act of June 25, 1910, 36 Stat. 858, confining jurisdiction on such matters upon the Secretary of the Interior, *Bond v. United States*, 181 Fed. 618 (C C Oro 1910), *Pak-Lia-Taket v. United States*, 188 Fed. 687 (C C Idaho, 1910), *Paw v. United States*, 197 Fed. 802 (C C A, 1912). The Act of 1901 did not repeal, however, the Act of 1891, no the amendatory act of 1901 with respect to the right of Indians to sue in the federal courts for an allotment. *United States v. Payne*, 204 U S 446 (1924), *First Moon v. White*, 270 U S 248 (1926). No did the Act of 1901 make new law respecting the jurisdiction of the Secretary to determine heirs, since it was merely declaratory of the previously existing law. See *Yallowell v. Commons*, 240 U S 600 (1916). And neither the Act of 1894, nor the Act of 1901 affected the authority of the Secretary of the Interior, but only gave to the federal courts concurrent jurisdiction on such matters. *Daugherty v. McFarland*, 40 S D 1, 106 N W 148 (1918). The method and procedure adopted by the Secretary of the Interior in exercising his authority under the Act of 1910 is thus stated in his decision in the *Grass One* case, 42 L D 408, 406-7 (1918).

The Secretary of the Interior is, as it were, counsel for both plaintiff and defendant as well as judge upon the bench. He does not wait for a case to be brought before him; he goes into the country, investigates the necessary proceedings through his representatives in the field, collects the necessary evidence which may be in the form of depositions of the parties, or in the form of interrogatory affidavits, etc., and renders his decision on legal questions. He is not a judge, but a fact-finder. The scope of his duties specifically provides that his decisions shall be under "such rules and regulations as he may prescribe." It is evident, therefore, that the Secretary is not bound by the decisions or decrees of any court in inheritance matters affecting Indian lands. He is not bound by the decisions of any court, from the evidence submitted, as to the determination of Indian heirs.

¹²⁹ *Daugherty v. McFarland*, 40 S D 1, 106 N W 148 (1918) (*United States v. Bell*, 182 Fed. 101 (C C E D Okla. 1910)). And see *McKay v. Kalyton*, 204 U S 438 (1907). In the *Balin* case, *supra*, it was held that the proviso in the General Allotment Act adopting the laws of descent of the state was merely for the purpose of providing a rule by which the heirs should be determined, and the partition statutes were adopted only so far as they provided for a division of the land in case the heirs could not agree to hold it in common, and there was no intention of abrogating the trust in any case, and the clause "except as herein otherwise provided" excluded the application of a provision of a state partition statute authorizing a sale of the land while it could not be advantageously divided, and such a sale of land in the Indian Territory, although under an order of court based on the Kansas statute, was null and void.

¹³⁰ Partition of Indian lands constitutes an "alienation" within the meaning of federal laws imposing restrictions thereon. *Cherokee v. Gaillard*, 85 Okla 71, 162 Pac 738 (1917); *Lenox v. Galt*, 70 Okla. 251, 178 Pac 2188 (1918). In *Bynum* and *Nashberry*, 114 Okla. 217,

¹²⁸ "Although the federal right was first claimed in the state court in the petition for rehearing, if the question was raised, was necessarily involved, and was considered and decided adversely by the state court, this court has jurisdiction under Rev Stat. § 709."

"The United States has retained such control over the allotments to Indians that, except as provided by acts of Congress, controversies involving the determination of title to, and right to possession of, Indian allotments while the same are held in trust by the United States are not primarily cognizable by any court, state or Federal."

"The act of August 15, 1884, 28 Stat. 250, delegating to Federal courts the power to determine questions involving the rights of Indians to allotments did not confer upon state courts authority to pass upon any questions over which they did not have jurisdiction prior to the passage of such act, either as to title to the allotment, or the mere possession thereof, which is of necessity dependent upon the title." (*McKay v. Kalyton*, 204 U S 438 (1907).)

¹²⁹ 204 U S 438 (1907).

¹³⁰ See *Jackson v. Lusk Land Co.*, 242 U S 971 (1917), *United States v. Waller*, 243 U S 453 (1917). As to wills see *La Motte v. United States*, 254 U S 370 (1921).

¹³¹ The judicial determination of controversies concerning lands allotted to Indians in severally and held by the United States in trust for the allottee has been commonly committed exclusively to federal courts, and not to the state courts. *Greenwood v. United States*, 308 U S 385 (1939), *McKay v. Kalyton*, 204 U S 438 (1907), yet after the issuance of a fee patent in the name of a deceased allottee under the General Allotment Act of February 8, 1887, 24 Stat. 388, as amended by the Act of March 3, 1906, 34 Stat. 152, all questions pertaining to the title to the allotted land are subject to examination and determination by the courts—appropriately those in the state where the land is situated. And see *United States v. Waller*, 243 U S 453, 460 (1917), wherein the doctrine of partial condemnation is clearly recognized. See also and compare *Leahy v. Peapack*, 208 U S 481 (1903).

¹³² Act of June 25, 1910, 36 Stat. 858. See Chapter 5, sec 11 and Chapter 11, sec. 6.

A suit for the possession of allotted Indian lands instituted under state laws is not within the jurisdiction of the state courts regardless of the merits of the controversy so long as the title to those lands is in the United States.³⁰⁷ That state courts have no jurisdiction to entertain a suit for the condemnation of allotted Indian lands held by the United States in trust for the allottee unless such jurisdiction is specifically conferred by an act of Congress has been settled by the Supreme Court in *Minnesota v. United States*, decided in 1889,³⁰⁸ and the same rule applies in cases involving title lands.³⁰⁹ With respect to lands allotted in severalty to Indians while the title remains in the United States it is to be observed that under the second paragraph of section 3 of the Act of March 3, 1901,³¹⁰ such lands may be condemned for any public purpose under the laws of the state or territory where they are located "in the same manner as land owned in fee may be condemned," and the money awarded as damages is to be paid to the allottee. But this provision does not authorize a suit in the courts of a state to condemn such land, it merely authorizes condemnation for "any public purpose under the laws of the State or Territory where located."³¹¹

The fact that such a suit may have been removed to a federal court on petition of the United States and that a stipulation may have been entered into by its attorney in relation thereto is without legal significance, for where jurisdiction has not been conferred by Congress no office of the United States has power to give to any court jurisdiction of a suit against the United States.³¹²

As Congress has not given its consent to the institution of a condemnation suit of this sort in the state courts, the federal courts are therefore without jurisdiction upon its removal for the jurisdiction of the federal court upon such removal is, in a limited sense, a derivative jurisdiction and where the state court lacks jurisdiction of the subject matter or of the parties, the federal court acquiesces none, although in a like suit originally brought in a federal court it would have had jurisdiction.³¹³

248 Pac 604 (1920), modifying opinion 101 Okla 207, 236 Pac 610 (1926), a decree in partition, rendered by the United States Court for the Western District of the Indian Territory, of unallotted land between full blood citizens of the Creek Nation was held to be void for want of jurisdiction of the subject matter since section 22 of the act of Congress of April 20, 1906, 34 Stat 137, restricted the inherited land of full-blood citizens of Creek tribe against alienation and the estate in attempting to partition the land was, in effect "an alienation" of certain portions of the land away from certain heirs and vesting the title in other heirs.

³⁰⁷ See *McKay v. Kalyton*, 304 U S 458 (1907). In that case the Supreme Court said:

"The suggestion made in argument that the controversy here presented involved the mere possession and not the title to the allotted land is without merit, since the right to the asserted ownership is dependent upon the existence of an equitable title in the claimant under the legislation of Congress to the ownership of the allotted lands. Indeed, that such was the case plainly appears from the excerpt which we have made from the concluding portion of the opinion of the Supreme Court of Oregon.

"Because from the considerations previously stated we are constrained from the conclusion that the court below was without jurisdiction to entertain the controversy, we must not be considered as intimating an opinion on the question that the principles applied by the court in disposing of the merit of the case were erroneous." (P 460)

³⁰⁸ 806 U S 382.

³⁰⁹ See *United States v. Colcord*, 89 F. 2d 812 (C. C. A. 4, 1897).

³¹⁰ 31 Stat. 1058, 1053-1064.

³¹¹ *Minnesota v. United States*, 806 U S 382, 389 (1889).

³¹² *Minnesota v. United States*, 806 U S 382, 389 (1889), citing *Osceola v. Terrell*, 11 Wall, 109, 202, *Car v. United States*, 89 U S 438, 438-439, *Finn v. United States*, 129 U S 227, 233-234; *Grimes v. McDonald*, 122 U S 255, 270, *United States v. Garbutt* 64 Ok, 802 U S 528, 538-539. (P. 880)

³¹³ *Minnesota v. United States*, 806 U S 382, 389 (1889), citing *Zemher Run Coal Co. v. Baltimore & Ohio R. Co.*, 268 U S 371, 385, *General Investment Co. v. Lake Shore & M. R. Ry. Co.*, 260 U S 281, 288. (P. 880)

The controlling principle which prevents a court, whether state or federal, from exercising any power or jurisdiction to adjudicate any matter involving the transfer of any right, title, or interest in or to restricted allotted Indian lands is that the United States in the exercise of its plenary and exclusive power over the Indians and their property may adopt such measures as it may deem necessary and proper for their welfare and protection.³¹⁴ and the state courts without legislative authority have no power or jurisdiction to interfere with or circumvent those measures.³¹⁵ Consequently the mere fact that the lands involved in a suit brought in a state court may have been allotted to an Indian is not sufficient to oust the state court jurisdiction. It must also appear that such lands are either held by the United States in trust for the allottee or his heirs, or that they are subject to restrictions against alienation under some act of Congress or treaty of the United States with the Indians. It is to be observed, also in this connection, that the mechanics of a suit in court require that the facts showing the existence or non-existence of jurisdiction shall appear. Thus if the bill makes out a case within the jurisdiction of the court that jurisdiction is not ousted or defeated merely because the defendant may allege in its answer that the land or other property is restricted, for that only puts in issue the determination of a fact upon which the court necessarily must pass in order to determine whether it can proceed, and if the court's decision on that issue is in favor of the defendant the suit, of course, must be dismissed for want of jurisdiction, otherwise the court may proceed to judgment, and that judgment, unless appealed from and reversed by the appellate court, will be binding on the parties, whether the decision is right or wrong.³¹⁶

The United States, however, would not be concluded by such judgment if it were not a party to the suit or did not give its consent thereto.³¹⁷

³¹⁴ See *United States v. Broken*, 188 U S 482 (1903), *Hickman v. United States*, 224 U S 418 (1912).

³¹⁵ *Tidal Oil Co. v. Flanagan*, 87 Okla 231, 209 Pac 720 (1922), writ of error dismissed, 203 U S 444 (1921), *O'Brien v. McQuinn*, 128 Okla 48, 201 Pac 150 (1917), *Judy v. Mahone*, 120 Okla 217, 250 Pac 760 (1928), *Bank v. Goodford*, 78 Okla 180, 197 Pac 223 (1910), cert. den. 263 U S 498 (1920), *Miller v. Tidal Oil Co.*, 106 Okla 212, 228 Pac 900 (1925), *Southwestern Supply Inc. v. Parrish*, 118 Okla 188, 247 Pac 302 (1926).

³¹⁶ Jurisdiction, after all, is a matter of power and covers right and wrong questions. *Fountainery v. Linn*, 210 U S 280, 284-285 (1908), *Barnett v. Desmores v. Alvarez*, 226 U S 145, 147 (1912). There is no case where the jurisdiction of the court depends upon the subject matter it has repeatedly been held by the Supreme Court that if the allegations of the bill or declaration make a claim that it well founded so within the jurisdiction of the court, it is within that jurisdiction whether well founded or not. *Hart v. Knott Vandalia Machine*, 262 U S 271, 278 (1923), *Louisville & Nashville R. Co. v. Rice*, 247 U S 251, 258 (1918), *General Furniture Manufacturing Co. v. S. Karpson & Bros*, 268 U S 264, 265 (1915), *The Pak v. Kohler Die & Specialty Co.*, 228 U S 22, 25 (1911). In *General Furniture Manufacturing Co. v. S. Karpson & Bros*, *supra*, the Supreme Court said that jurisdiction is

"... the power to consider and decide one way or the other as the law may require, and is not to be declined merely because it is not foreseen with certainty that the outcome will help the plaintiff." (P. 266)

And in *Hart v. Knott Vandalia Machine*, *supra*, the Supreme Court said:

"The jurisdiction of the District Court in the only matter to be considered on this appeal is that the bill or declaration is a claim that it well founded is within the jurisdiction of the court. It is within that jurisdiction whether well founded or not." (P. 278)

³¹⁷ *Boeing v. United States*, 238 U S 528 (1914), *Private v. United States*, 250 U S 201 (1921), *Swanland v. United States*, 250 U S 226 (1924). See also *United States v. Lopez*, 108 Fed 240 (C. C. Ore 1900), *United States v. Conditore*, 271 U S 482 (1926), *United States v. Mackintosh*, 72 F. 2d 847 (C. C. A. 10, 1924), rehear'g den. 78 F. 2d 487 (C. C. A. 10, 1924), cert. den. 264 U S 724 (1925).

Of course, if it appears from the record that the court had no jurisdiction, the judgment must be regarded as absolutely void,²² and may be attacked either directly or collaterally.²³

²² *Hilfort v. Pierod*, 1 Pet. 328 (1828); *Williamson v. Berry*, 49 U. S. 490 (1860); *In re Sawyer*, 124 U. S. 200 (1888); *Roth v. Union Nat. Bank*, 68 Okla. 604, 180 Pac. 505 (1919); *Morgan v. Kewcher*, 81 Okla. 210, 197 Pac. 433 (1921); *Wenona Oil Co. v. Barnes*, 83 Okla. 248, 200 Pac. 981 (1921); *Oselle v. Nat. Oil & Development Co.*, 83 Okla. 217, 201 Pac. 877 (1921).

²³ *United States v. Bellin*, 182 Fed. 381 (C. C. D. Okla., 1910); *Louis v. Gillard*, 70 Okla. 231, 173 Pac. 1186 (1918); *Wenona Oil Co. v.*

Where Indian territory within the physical boundaries of a state has been excluded from the state by treaty and statute, the state courts have no jurisdiction even over non-Indians thereon.²⁴

Barnes, 83 Okla. 248, 200 Pac. 981 (1921); *Sydneybach v. Naharkey*, 114 Okla. 127, 240 Pac. 603 (1926).

A court having jurisdiction over the subject matter and the parties, is competent to decide questions arising as to its own jurisdiction, and its decisions on such questions are not open to collateral attack. *See* *Boite Harding*, 219 U. S. 883, 887, 889 (1911), citing *Dowell v. Applegate*, 162 U. S. 827, 837 (1904), and *Hine v. Morse*, 218 U. S. 498 (1910). *See* *Hawkes v. Hyde*, 98 U. S. 476 (1878), qualified in *Langford v. McIntosh*, 102 U. S. 245 (1880).

SECTION 6. TRIBAL COURTS

That an Indian tribe has power to confer upon its own courts jurisdiction over controversies involving Indians is a proposition supported by authorities which have been already analyzed.²⁵ That "full faith and credit" are due to decisions rendered by tribal courts in cases properly within their jurisdiction, is a second basic principle in the field of civil jurisdiction which is supported by authorities elsewhere analyzed.²⁶ There remains the question how far the power to confer upon tribal courts such jurisdiction has been actually exercised.

This is a matter on which there are few federal statutes, the question having been left primarily to the action of the tribes themselves. One of the few federal statutes which refer to tribal jurisdiction over civil cases is section 229 of title 25 of the United States Code.²⁷ This statute provides that where injuries to property are committed by an Indian, application for redress shall be made by the appropriate federal authorities "to the nation or tribe to which such Indian shall belong, for satisfaction." It has been noted by the Solicitor for the Interior Department²⁸ that this provision assumes that the Indian tribe has the means of compelling return of stolen property or other forms of satisfaction where its members have violated the rights of non-Indians.

Apart from this general statute, special provision has been made by federal law with respect to the tribal courts in the Indian Territory. The jurisdiction of these courts, both in civil and in criminal matters, over Indians belonging to the same tribe, was specifically recognized by the Act of May 2, 1890,²⁹ which provided for a temporary government for the Territory of Oklahoma and enlarged the jurisdiction of the United States court in the Indian Territory.

Under sections 30 and 31 of this act, the exclusive jurisdiction preserved to the judicial tribunals of the Indian nations in all civil and criminal cases is limited to those cases in which "members of said Nations" are the sole parties, which creates an ambiguity as to the meaning of the words "only parties" or "sole parties." This ambiguity, however, was dispelled by the Supreme Court in the case of *Albert v. United States*³⁰ in this connection the court said:

The real question as respects the jurisdiction in this case is as to the meaning of the words "sole" or "only

"parties." These words are obviously susceptible of two interpretations. They may mean a class of actions as to which there is but one party; but as these actions, if they exist at all, are very rare, it can hardly be supposed that Congress intended to legislate with respect to them to the exclusion of the much more numerous actions to which there are two parties. They may mean actions to which members of the Nations are the sole or only parties, to the exclusion of white men, or persons other than members of the Nation; and as respects civil cases at least, this seems the more probable construction. (P. 538.)

Under section 6 of the Act of March 1, 1890,³¹ creating the United States court in the Indian Territory, that court had jurisdiction of a suit brought by a citizen of the United States who had become a member and citizen of the Chickasaw Nation against another citizen of that nation.³²

The termination of the authority of the tribal courts of the Five Civilized Tribes is elsewhere discussed.³³

A typical provision of a contemporary Indian code relating to civil jurisdiction is the following provision from the tribal code of the Rosebud tribe:³⁴

The Superior Courts of the Rosebud Sioux Tribe shall have jurisdiction of all suits wherein the defendant is a member of the tribe or tribes within their jurisdiction, and of all other suits between members and non-members which are brought before the Courts by stipulation of both parties. * * *

In general, tribes which have not adopted ordinances of their own on the subject and which have Courts of Indian Offenses, are governed by the following regulation of the Department of the Interior:³⁵

The Courts of Indian Offenses shall have jurisdiction of all suits wherein the defendant is a member of the tribe or tribes within their jurisdiction, and of all other suits between members and non-members which are brought before the Courts by stipulation of both parties. * * *

Judgments in civil cases rendered by Courts of Indian Offenses may be satisfied out of restricted Indian moneys at the order of the Secretary of the Interior, and such judgments are considered lawful debts in probate proceedings held by the Interior Department or by Courts of Indian Offenses.³⁶

²² See Chapter 7, sec. 9.

²³ See Chapter 7, sec. 9, Chapter 14, sec. 8.

²⁴ R. S. § 2156, derived from Act of June 30, 1894, sec. 17, 4 Stat. 729, 132, amended Act of February 23, 1899, sec. 8, 11 Stat. 838, 401.

²⁵ 55 U. S. 14, 63 (1924).

²⁶ 26 Stat. 81. The relevant provisions, secs. 30 and 31, are quoted in Chapter 18, sec. 4.

²⁷ 192 U. S. 490 (1896).

²⁸ 25 Stat. 758, 764.

²⁹ *Raff v. Burnay*, 168 U. S. 218 (1907).

³⁰ See Chapter 28, sec. 8.

³¹ Ordinance No. 4, adopted April 8, 1907, approved by superintendent April 18, 1907, approved by Secretary of the Interior, July 7, 1907, Rosebud Tribal Court Code of Offenses, Chapter 2, sec. 1.

³² 26 C. F. R. 161.22.

³³ 26 C. F. R. 161.20.

CHAPTER 20

PUEBLOS OF NEW MEXICO¹

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The peculiarities of federal Indian law with respect to the Pueblos of New Mexico arise primarily from the peculiar status which was accorded to the Pueblos under Spanish and Mexican law. It is necessary, therefore, in order to understand the

present legal status of these Pueblos to allude to certain basic principles developed prior to the acquisition of New Mexico by the United States.

SECTION 1. STATUS OF PUEBLOS UNDER SPANISH LAW

When the Spaniards entered the Rio Grande Valley in the sixteenth century they found certain Indian groups or communities living in villages and these Indians they designated "Indios Naturales" or "Indios de los Pueblos" to distinguish them from the "Indios Barbaros," by which term the nomadic and wandering Indians of the region were designated. The Indians who were called Pueblo Indians were not of a single tribe and they had no common organization or language. Each village maintained its own government, its own irrigation system, and its own closely integrated community life.

From an early date the Spanish Government enacted legislation to protect the lands of the Pueblos from trespass. Grants were made to the individual Pueblos for the purpose of defining and protecting the boundaries of pueblo lands. The general practice developed of fixing Pueblo boundaries at one league in each of the cardinal directions from the central church. Thus each grant normally comprised 4 square leagues or 17,712 acres. The policy of the Spanish Government towards the Pueblo In-

dians of New Mexico is set forth and documented in a recent study of "Pueblo Indian Land Grants of the 'Rio Abajo,' New Mexico" (1938) by Herbert O. Beyer of the University of New Mexico,² from which the following summary of the status of the Pueblos is excerpted:

- 1 The Pueblo Indians of New Mexico were considered wards of the Spanish crown.
- 2 The fundamental legal basis for the Pueblo land grants lies in the royal ordinances. The 1688 grants, purporting to convey land to the Indians, are spurious.
- 3 Only the viceroy, governors, and captains-general could make grants to the Indians, and only these officials had the authority to validate sales of land by the Indians.
- 4 All non-Indians were expressly forbidden to reside upon Pueblo lands.
- 5 The Spanish Government provided legal advice, protection, and defense for the Indians. Provincial officials had the authority to appeal cases directly to the audiences in Mexico.
- 6 The Spanish had prior water rights to all streams, rivers, and other waters which crossed or bordered their lands.
- 7 The Pueblo Indians held their lands in common, the land being granted to the Indians in the name of their pueblo.

The most important of the Spanish laws governing the Pueblo Indians are the Act of March 21, 1561,³ providing that the Indians should not live separated in the mountains, deprived of spiritual and temporal benefits, but should all be brought to

¹The phrase "Pueblos of New Mexico" is commonly used to designate the Rio Grande Pueblos, which at the present time, comprise

Acoma, Cochiti, Isleta, Jemez, Laguna, Nambé, Pojoaque, Picuris, Sandia, San Felipe, San Ildefonso, San Juan, Santa Ana, Santa Clara, Santo Domingo, Taos, Tewa, and Zia.

The Zuni Indians of New Mexico and the Hopi Indians of Arizona are classed as Pueblo Indians, anthropologically, but administratively and politically they have frequently been excluded from rules and laws applicable to the Rio Grande Pueblos. For this reason they are not considered within the scope of this chapter except as particularly noted.

The Pueblo of Pecos, nearly extinct in fact, was merged with the Pueblo of Jemez by the Act of June 19, 1895, 49 Stat. 1828. A similar legislative merger of the Pueblos of Pojoaque and Nambé was recommended in a report on the "Status of Pueblo of Pojoaque" submitted on November 8, 1923, by George A. H. Fraser, Special Attorney

²The University of New Mexico Bulletin No. 284, p. 16.

³Recopilación de las Indias, law 1, title 2, book 6.

live in villages (Pueblos); the Acts of December 1, 1873, and October 10, 1818,⁴ defining the areas and rights of the Pueblos; the royal cedula of June 4, 1887, authorizing the viceroy and president of the royal audiencia to define the areas of land granted to the Indians and increasing the amounts hitherto granted, which is in turn amended so as to reduce the areas in question, by the royal cedula of July 12, 1865, the statute⁵ requiring sales of land and of personal property by Indians to be made before a judge with prescribed formalities, the decree of February 23, 1781, prohibiting unlicensed sales of real property by Indians; the decree of January 6, 1811, for the protection of Indians in their person and property, and Decree XI of February 9, 1811, guaranteeing to the Indian and Spanish residents of New Spain full political equality with the European Spaniards.⁶

Through this course of legislation one finds the same problems

⁴ Recopilacion, law 8, title 8, book 6.

⁵ Recopilacion, law 27, title 1, book 6.

⁶ These laws are translated and discussed in chaps. 7 and 8 of Hall's *Laws of Mexico* (1886).

that are dealt with by Congress in the Pueblo Lands Act of June 7, 1924.⁷ The Indians complain that the areas of land granted them by the central government are infringed upon by their non-Indian neighbors. The non-Indian neighbors claim that lands which they have acquired and improved in good faith are subsequently claimed by the Indians. The central government is grieved to find that white ranch owners "are encroaching upon the lands of the latter (Indians), taking the same away from them, either by fraud or violence, by reason of the poor Indians abandoning their houses and settlements, this being what the Spaniards long for and aim at."⁸ Through the language of all the laws and decrees enacted for the protection of the Indians there runs an implicit recognition that past laws to achieve this protection have not been adequately enforced, and the implicit hope that more adequate enforcement will attend the new legislation.

⁷ 43 Stat. 636. See also *de*.

⁸ Royal cedula June 4, 1887, translated in Hall, *Laws of Mexico* (1886) p. 64.

SECTION 2. THE PUEBLOS UNDER MEXICAN RULE

The status of the Indian under Mexican rule is well summarized in the opinion of the Supreme Court of the Territory of New Mexico, in *Territory v. Delinquent Taxpayers*.⁹ In that case the court, after noting that the Pueblo Indians "seem to have been considered by the Spanish as wards of the government, and entitled to special privileges and protection," went on to declare, per Parker, *et al.*:

But a complete change took place in the status of these people when Mexico threw off the Spanish yoke. Among those engaged in that struggle for independence, this Aztec race far outnumbered the Mexicans and its success was due in a large measure to their efforts. It was but natural and fitting that in the formation of the new government they should take a prominent, if not a leading, part, and that they should be placed upon an equal footing as to all civil and political rights. And so we find that the revolutionary government of Mexico, February 24, 1821, a short time before the subversion of Spanish power, adopted what is known as "The Plan of Iguala" (Iguala was the place of the revolutionary army headquarters), in which it is declared that: "All the inhabitants of New Spain, without distinction, whether European, African or Indian, are citizens of this monarchy, with the right to be employed in any post according to their merit and virtues;" and that: "The person and property of every citizen will be respected and protected by the government." 1 *Ordenes y Decretos*, by Galvan, page 8; *U. S. v. Ritchie*, 17 How. (U. S.) 624, 638; *U. S. v. Lucero*, *supra* [1 N. M. 422 (1899)].

The same principles were reaffirmed in the Treaty of Cordova, of August 24, 1821. 1 *Ordenes y Decretos*, by Galvan, page 9, and in the Declaration of Independence, of October 6, 1821, id. page 8.

The Mexican congress thereafter followed with at least four acts in each of which "The Plan of Iguala" was uniformly considered as a fixed principle of Mexican law. *U. S. v. Ritchie*, *supra*; 2 *Ordenes y Decretos*, pages 1 and 92, and 3 *id.* page 68.

This latter act was passed August 18, 1824, only twenty-four years before the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, whereby we acquired this Territory and these people. (Pp. 142-148).

The United States Supreme Court in *United States v. Ritchie*,¹⁰ in 1854, commented on the foregoing Mexican statutes in the following terms, per Nelson, *J.*:

The Indian race having participated largely in the struggle resulting in the overthrow of the Spanish power,

and in the erection of an independent government, it was natural that in laying the foundations of the new government, the previous political and social distinctions in favor of the European or Spanish blood should be abolished, and equality of rights and privileges established. Hence the article to this effect in the plan of Iguala, and the decree of the first Congress declaring the equality of civil rights, whites or may be their race or country. These solemn declarations of the political power of the government had the effect, necessarily, to invest the Indians with the privileges of citizenship as effectually as had the declaration of independence of the United States of 1776, to invest all those persons with these privileges residing in the country at the time, and who adhered to the interests of the colonies. 3 Pet. 99, 121.¹¹

The historian Brayer presents persuasive evidence¹² that the grant of citizenship to the Pueblo Indians, under Mexican rule, did not dissolve the status of wardship or the limitations upon land alienation established under Spanish sovereignty. It would be beyond the scope of this work to enter into this controversial field of historical research, but the conclusions of the historian cited are worthy of notice.

1 That the Pueblo Indians of New Mexico were still considered wards of the government even though they were given the title "citizens."

2. Only the most important of the government officials could authorize the sale of Indian lands. That the local officials in New Mexico continued to exercise the same powers as they had during the Spanish regime throughout the entire period of Mexican sovereignty.

3 That the Spanish laws in force previous to 1821, relative to the Pueblo Indian and to land policy, remained in full force.

4. That because of the laxity on the part of local officials during the Mexican period a great many non-Indians were able to obtain holdings on Indian lands. The legality of such holdings needs little consideration, but the failure of the Mexican government to take action left the problem up to the United States after 1848.

5. That the title to the Pueblo lands remained in the name of the individual Pueblo, and that no individual Indian held the title to any portion thereof.¹³

¹⁰ See also *United States v. Lucero*, 1 N. M. 422, 438-439 (1899).

¹¹ Pueblo Indian Land Grants of the "Rio Abajo," New Mexico (1899), pp. 16-19.

¹² Pueblo Indian Land Grants of the "Rio Abajo," New Mexico (1899), pp. 19-20.

¹³ 12 N. M. 180, 76 Pac. 807 (1904).

¹⁴ 17 How. 626, 639-640 (1854).

SECTION 3. THE PUEBLOS UNDER THE NEW MEXICAN TERRITORIAL GOVERNMENT

By Article 8 of the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo,¹⁰ the residents of the territory ceded by Mexico were given the option of retaining their Mexican citizenship by declaring such intention within a year from the date of exchange of ratifications,

* * * and those who shall remain in the said territories after the expiration of that year, without having declared their intention to retain the character of Mexicans, shall be considered to have elected to become citizens of the United States

None of the Pueblo Indians elected to retain Mexican citizenship, according to the opinion in the *Lugo* case

Colonel Washington made proclamation requiring the people to elect by signing a declaration before the clerk of the courts in the different districts, if they wished to retain the title and rights of Mexican citizens. In that test, which is a public printed document, the name is not found of a single Pueblo Indian, and hence, by the express terms of the eighth article of the treaty, they became citizens of the United States, as they were previously citizens of the Mexican republic (P 440)

While the conclusion that the Pueblo Indians thus became citizens of the United States cannot be considered free from doubt, in view of the comment¹¹ of the Supreme Court in *United States v. San donal*, "it remains an open question whether they have become citizens," it would appear that the historical evidence supports the claim that the Pueblo Indians did enjoy citizenship, both under Mexican and under United States rule.¹² It seems clear, in any event, that, as Mexicans, they were protected by section 9 of the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo which promised, eventually, "all the rights of citizens of the United States" and, immediately, "free enjoyment of their liberty and property."¹³

A HISTORY OF PUEBLO LEGISLATION

For several years following the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, Congress apparently took little notice of the Pueblo Indians. Until 1864, at least, the local authorities appear to have legislated in pueblo matters with such congressional approval as was given by silence. The course of this local legislation was thus summarized by the Chief Justice of the territorial supreme court, in *United States v. Lucero*:¹⁴

* * * General Kearny, after taking possession of New Mexico, eighteen of August, 1846, established a system of civil government in New Mexico, organized courts, appointed judges, and convened a legislative body, and in December, 1847, that legislative assembly passed the following act

"INDIANS

"SECTION 1 That the inhabitants within the territory of New Mexico, known by the name of pueblo Indians, and living in towns or villages built on lands granted to such Indians by the laws of Spain and Mexico, and conceding to such inhabitants certain lands and privileges to be used for the common benefit, are severally hereby created and constituted bodies politic and corporate, and shall be known in the law by the name of the pueblo de ——— (naming it) and by that name they and their successors shall have perpetual succession, sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded, bring and defend in any court of law or

equity all such actions, pleas, and matters whatsoever proper to recover, protect, reclaim, demand, or assert the right of such inhabitants, or any individual thereof, to any lands, tenements, or hereditaments possessed, occupied, or claimed, contrary to law, by any person whatever, and to bring and defend all such actions, and to testify any encroachment, claim or trespass made upon such lands, tenements, or hereditaments belonging to said inhabitants, or any individual." See Compiled Laws of New Mexico, 470

On the tenth of January, 1868, a law was passed, prohibiting the sale of liquor to Indians, with a proviso, "that the pueblo Indians that live among us are not included in the word Indian." See Compiled Laws, p 472, sec 5 January 21, 1861, an act was passed, requiring the pueblos of Indians to work *acequias* (ditches) and highways, and extending the act of January 18, 1860, over the pueblo Indians as to trespasses of their stock on the fields of their neighbors. See Id 470, 471. On the sixteenth of February, 1861, the legislative assembly of New Mexico passed the following act, section 70 "That the pueblo Indians of this territory for the present, and until they shall be declared by the congress of the United States to have the right, are excluded from the privilege of voting at the popular elections of the territory, except in the elections for overseers of ditches to which they belong, and in the elections proper to their own pueblos to elect their officers according to their ancient customs." The seventh section of the organic act of September 9, 1850, invests the legislative assembly of New Mexico with the power to legislate upon all rightful subjects of legislation consistent with the constitution of the United States and the provisions of that act, and further provided that "all laws passed by the legislative assembly and governor, shall be submitted to the congress of the United States, and if disapproved, shall be null and of no effect."

As this act of the sixteenth of February, 1864, passed by the legislative assembly of New Mexico, has never been disapproved by congress, it must be regarded as in force in New Mexico, and deprives the pueblo Indians of one of the dearest and most valued rights, the right to be heard by their ballots in the selection of agents to make laws for their government. (P 488-440)

By the Act of July 22, 1864, Congress provided for the appointment of a Surveyor-General for New Mexico who was, "under such instructions as may be given by the Secretary of the Interior, to ascertain the origin, nature, character, and extent of all claims to lands under the laws, usages, and customs of Spain and Mexico; * * * shall also make a report in regard to all pueblos existing in the Territory, showing the extent and locality of each, stating the number of inhabitants in the said pueblos, respectively, and the nature of their titles to the land." (P 806) This reference to "Pueblos" has no distinction between Indian Pueblos and non-Indian Pueblos.

The Pueblo Indians are mentioned in the annual Indian Department Appropriation Acts of August 30, 1862,¹⁵ and July 31, 1864.¹⁶ The former of these acts contains this item:

For defraying expenses incident to the visit of the Pueblo Indians and their attendants from New Mexico to Washington, and to defray their expenses to their homes, the sum of seven thousand five hundred dollars. (P 55)

The second of the acts cited contains a provision:

For the expenses of making presents of agricultural implements and farming utensils to the bands of Pueblo Indians in the territory of New Mexico, ten thousand dollars * * * (P 893).

¹⁰ Signed February 2, 1848, ratification exchanged May 30, 1848, proclaimed July 4, 1848, 9 Stat 222

¹¹ 231 U S 28, 80 (1912) See also *United States v. Joseph*, 94 U S 614, 618 (1876), *Jaeger v. United States*, 29 C Cls 174, 178 (1894)

¹² *Encyclopaedia*, op cit 37-13, 23-24

¹³ See En. 14, supra

¹⁴ 1 N M. 422 (1869).

¹⁵ 10 Stat 808

¹⁶ 10 Stat 41

¹⁷ 10 Stat 515.

The Pueblo Indians are next mentioned by Congress in the Indian Department Appropriation Act of March 3, 1837,¹¹ which contains this provision:

For expenses of surveying and marking the external boundaries of Indian pueblos, in the Territory of New Mexico, three thousand seven hundred and fifty dollars. (P. 184.)

On December 22, 1838, Congress acted favorably upon the report of the Surveyor-General for the territory of New Mexico, confirming pueblo land claims of the following Pueblos: Jemez, Acoma, San Juan, Picuris, San Felipe, Pecos, Cochiti, Santo Domingo, Taos, Santa Clara, Tesuque, San Ildefonso, Pojanque, Zia, Sandia, Ileta, and Nambé.¹²

This congressional confirmation of pueblo titles is subject to the usual proviso "That this confirmation shall only be construed as a relinquishment of all title and claim of the United States to any of said lands, and shall not affect any adverse valid rights, should such exist."

To the foregoing list of confirmed pueblo claims there was added, in 1839, the claim of the Pueblo of Santa Ana.¹³ Many years later, a similar patent was issued to the Zuni Pueblo Indians.¹⁴

All that the United States could give was a quit-claim deed, transferring to the Pueblo Indians its own share, it could not transfer property from one private owner to another.

The courts of the United States would always have the right, on due consideration of all the facts involved, to determine the actual ownership of any given piece of land. But it has never been within the power of either the legislature or the executive to change private land titles. The judicial power alone could settle the question of the encroachments upon the lands of the Pueblo Indians—encroachments dating back for centuries, arising partly from greed, partly from interrelationship, partly from the need of a common defense against "Indios barbaros." Some of these settlers outside the pueblo walls claimed title from Mexican and Spanish grants, and the Pueblos themselves; some had obtained their land by purchase from the Indian communities, some were intruders pure and simple, no doubt, some, beginning with a valid title, had skillfully enlarged their holdings by less defensible means. All these problems came as an unhappy heritage to the new government of the land.¹⁵

In the Appropriation Act of July 15, 1870,¹⁶ a sum is appropriated "to be expended in establishing schools among the Pueblo Indians," and similar provisions reappear in later acts.

In the Act of May 29, 1872,¹⁷ the Indian Department Appropriation Act for 1873, and regularly in succeeding appropriation acts,¹⁸ provision is made for pay of an Indian agent at the Pueblo Agency. Thereafter congressional appropriations for the work of the Indian Department among the Pueblo Indians of New Mexico are gradually elaborated.

In the Indian Department Appropriation Act for 1875,¹⁹ and in subsequent appropriation acts, provision is made for pay of interpreters at the Pueblo agency.

The Appropriation Act for 1883²⁰ contains the following provision embodying the first assumption of federal responsibility for "civilizing" the Pueblo Indians:

For civilization and instruction of the Pueblo Indians of New Mexico, including pay of teachers and purchase of

seeds and agricultural implements, seven thousand five hundred dollars; and of this sum not exceeding one thousand five hundred dollars may, in the discretion of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, be used in constructing irrigating ditches at Zuni and Jemez Pueblos. (P. 88.)

The foregoing provision is substantially repeated in subsequent Indian Department appropriation acts.²¹

The next addition to the scope of congressional responsibility for the Pueblo Indians appears in the appropriation act for 1890,²² which establishes the post of "special attorney for the Pueblo Indians of New Mexico" by virtue of the following provision:

To enable the Secretary of the Interior to employ a special attorney for the Pueblo Indians of New Mexico, one thousand five hundred dollars.

This provision is renewed, in substance, in succeeding appropriation acts.²³

The Appropriation Act of March 3, 1905, for the fiscal year 1906 contains the following item of permanent legislation, called forth, apparently, by the decision of the New Mexico Territorial Court rendered on March 3, 1904, in the case of *Territory v. Delinquent Tesuques*:²⁴

That the lands now held by the various villages or pueblos of Pueblo Indians, or by individual members thereof, within Pueblo reservations or lands, in the Territory of New Mexico, and all personal property furnished said Indians by the United States, or used in cultivating said lands, and any cattle and sheep now possessed or that may hereafter be acquired by said Indians shall be free and exempt from taxation of any sort whatsoever, including taxes hereinafter levied; if any, until Congress shall otherwise provide. (P. 1060.)²⁵

Up to the admission of New Mexico to statehood, there is no further federal legislation for the Pueblo Indians of that state except in the Indian Department appropriation acts (redesignated, beginning with the Act of April 4, 1910,²⁶ as the Bureau of Indian Affairs appropriation acts). These acts include special appropriations for irrigation for the Zuni Pueblo,²⁷ and for the building of two bridges across the Rio Grande at or near Ileta and San Felipe Indian Pueblos, with preference given to Indian labor.²⁸

¹¹ Act of March 1, 1837, 22 Stat. 438, Act of July 4, 1834, 28 Stat. 78; Act of March 3, 1836, 23 Stat. 502, Act of May 15, 1836, 24 Stat. 26, Act of March 2, 1837, 24 Stat. 430, Act of June 29, 1838, 25 Stat. 217, Act of March 2, 1839, 25 Stat. 980, Act of August 10, 1839, 26 Stat. 838; Act of March 3, 1841, 26 Stat. 980; Act of July 15, 1842, 27 Stat. 120; Act of March 3, 1848, 27 Stat. 613, Act of March 2, 1849, 28 Stat. 870; Act of June 10, 1850, 22 Stat. 351; Act of June 7, 1857, 30 Stat. 625; Act of July 1, 1858, 30 Stat. 671, Act of March 1, 1860, 30 Stat. 924.

¹² Act of July 1, 1838, 30 Stat. 671, 674.

¹³ Act of March 1, 1839, 30 Stat. 924; Act of March 3, 1901, 31 Stat. 1058; Act of May 27, 1902, 32 Stat. 245; Act of March 3, 1903, 32 Stat. 982, Act of April 21, 1904, 33 Stat. 150, Act of March 3, 1905, 33 Stat. 1048; Act of June 21, 1906, 34 Stat. 825, Act of March 1, 1907, 34 Stat. 1015; Act of April 30, 1908, 35 Stat. 70; Act of March 3, 1909, 35 Stat. 781; Act of April 4, 1910, 36 Stat. 289; Act of March 3, 1911, 36 Stat. 1058; Act of August 24, 1912, 37 Stat. 613; Act of June 30, 1913, 38 Stat. 77, Act of August 1, 1914, 38 Stat. 832; Act of May 13, 1916, 39 Stat. 123; Act of March 2, 1917, 39 Stat. 996; Act of May 28, 1918, 40 Stat. 681, Act of June 30, 1919, 41 Stat. 8, Act of February 14, 1920, 41 Stat. 408; Act of March 3, 1921, 41 Stat. 1222; Act of May 24, 1922, 42 Stat. 652; Act of January 24, 1923, 42 Stat. 1174; Act of June 5, 1924, 43 Stat. 890, Act of December 6, 1924, 43 Stat. 704; Act of March 3, 1925, 43 Stat. 1141; Act of May 10, 1926, 44 Stat. 403; Act of January 12, 1927, 44 Stat. 834; Act of March 7, 1928, 45 Stat. 300; Act of March 4, 1929, 45 Stat. 1562; Act of May 14, 1930, 45 Stat. 270; Act of February 14, 1931, 46 Stat. 117; Act of April 22, 1932, 47 Stat. 81; Act of February 17, 1933, 47 Stat. 820.

¹⁴ 12 N. M. 130, 70 Pac. 307 (1904). See P. 1084, supra.

¹⁵ 38 Stat. 1046. Cf. Chapter 15, sec. 2.

¹⁶ 30 Stat. 959.

¹⁷ Acts of April 30, 1908, 35 Stat. 70; March 2, 1909, 35 Stat. 781.

¹⁸ Act of March 3, 1911, 36 Stat. 1063.

¹¹ 11 Stat. 150.

¹² 11 Stat. 274.

¹³ Act of February 9, 1836, c. 26, 18 Stat. 438.

¹⁴ Act of March 3, 1831, c. 438, 48 Stat. 1509.

¹⁵ *See* *Report, Land Titles in the Pueblo Indian Country* (1904), 10 A. B. A. Jour. 86, 88.

¹⁶ 16 Stat. 335, 337.

¹⁷ 17 Stat. 106.

¹⁸ *See* *Report, United States*, 2 C. Cls. 581 (1899).

¹⁹ Act of June 22, 1874, 18 Stat. 146.

²⁰ Act of May 17, 1882, 22 Stat. 68.

B. HISTORY OF JUDICIAL AND EXECUTIVE ATTITUDES TOWARDS PUEBLOS

During the period which the foregoing history of federal legislation covers, judicial and executive attitudes towards the Pueblos were undergoing a gradual change parallel to the gradual increase in the activities of the Indian Bureau among the Pueblo Indians.

For many years after the accession of New Mexico the Pueblos were not considered Indian tribes within the meaning of existing statutes. During the 28 years that elapsed between the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo and the Act of March 3, 1871,¹⁰ which terminated the practice of making treaties with Indian tribes, no treaty was ever negotiated with any of the Pueblos. The reasons for distinguishing between the Pueblo Indians and other aborigines are set forth at length and in colorful terms by the Supreme Court of New Mexico Territory, in the case of *United States v. Lucero*,¹¹ decided in January 1889. That case involved an attempt by the United States to invoke section 11 of the Indian Intercourse Act¹² of June 30, 1834, which made unauthorized settlement of tribal lands a federal offense, as excluded by section 7 of the Appropriation Act of February 27, 1861,¹³ over the Indian tribes in the Territories of New Mexico and Utah.

The territorial court dismissed the suit on demurrer, declaring, per Watkin, C J:

" * * * If these pueblos, twenty-one in number, were really included in the provisions of the intercourse act, intended for a different class of Indians, the Indian department, during the last twenty years that they have been under their pretended control, would have had spread upon our statutes at large certainly not less than eighty treaties with these twenty-one quasi nations (P 437)."

" * * * It will thus be seen by a reference to the acts of congress above cited, that no person has ever been authorized by congress to be appointed agent for the pueblo Indians, nor has any one ever been commissioned as agent for them, and the designation of an agent for the pueblos by the Indian department is without any authority at congress or the decision of any judicial tribunal authorized to pass upon the question, and the transfer of eight thousand of the most honest, industrious, and law-abiding citizens of New Mexico to the provisions of a code of laws made for savages, by the simple stroke of the pen of an Indian commissioner, will never be assented to by congress or the judicial tribunals of the country so long as solemn treaties and human laws afford any protection to the liberty and property of the citizens (P 438)."

After reviewing the history of territorial legislation with regard to the pueblo Indians of New Mexico, the court continued:

" * * * it is the right and duty of the courts to see that every citizen of the Territory of New Mexico, in conformity with the ninth article of the treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, "shall be maintained and protected in the free enjoyment of their liberty and property, and secured in the free exercise of their religion without restriction."

This court, under this section of the treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, does not consider it proper to assent to the withdrawal of eight thousand citizens of New Mexico from the operation of the laws, made to secure and maintain them in their liberty and property, and consign their liberty and property to a system of laws and trade made for wandering savages and administered by the agents of the Indian department. If such a destiny is in store for a large number of the most law-abiding, sober, and industrious people of New Mexico, it must be the result

of the direct legislation of congress or the mandate of the supreme court. That court feels itself incompetent to consign them into any such condition. Thus court has known the conduct and habits of these Indians for eighteen or twenty years, and we say, without the fear of successful contradiction, that you may pick out one thousand of the best Americans in New Mexico, and one thousand of the best Mexicans in New Mexico, and one thousand of the worst pueblo Indians, and there will be found less, vastly less, murder, robbery, theft, or other crimes among the thousand of the worst pueblo Indians than among the thousand of the worst Mexicans or Americans in New Mexico. The associate justice now beside me, Hon. Joab Houghton, has been judge and lawyer in this territory for over twenty years, and the chief justice for over seventeen years, and during all that time not twenty pueblo Indians have been brought before the courts in all New Mexico, accused of violation of the criminal laws of this territory. For the Indian department to insist, as they have done for the last fifteen years, upon the reduction of these citizens to a state of vassalage, under the Indian intercourse act, in passing strange laws made for wild, wandering savages, to be extended over a people living for three centuries in fenced abodes and cultivating the soil for the maintenance of themselves and families, and giving an example of virtue, honesty, and industry to their more civilized neighbors, in this enlightened age of progress and proper understanding of the civil rights of man, is considered by this court as wholly incompatible to the pueblo Indians of New Mexico (Pp 441-442).

It has already been shown that the people of Cochiti are a corporate body, and that a full and ample remedy is given them to protect and defend their title to their individual and common lands, and that they do not need any assistance from the penal statutes of the United States to accomplish that purpose. " * * * let the Indian department have pinned under their control the twenty-one pueblos of New Mexico, and get the laws of trade and intercourse, designed to regulate the commerce of the country with savages, extended over these peaceful and industrious citizens, and in less than six months they will have fifty lawsuits on hand about questions settled by a former government fifty years ago (Pp 444-445)."

One of the grounds of the *Lucero* decision was demolished when the Appropriation Act of May 20, 1872,¹⁴ made provision for an agent for "the Pueblo agency," thus treating the Pueblos on a parity with other tribes. The United States thereupon renewed the effort that had been defeated by the *Lucero* decision, to invoke the Act of June 30, 1834, for the protection of pueblo lands against trespass. Again the territorial court denied the applicability of the statute to the Pueblos,¹⁵ and this time the United States took an appeal to the Supreme Court. The Supreme Court, in *United States v. Joseph*,¹⁶ affirmed the decision of the territorial court, offering these reasons for its holding:

The character and history of these people are not obscure, but occupy a well-known page in the story of Mexico, from the conquest of the country by Cortes to the cessation of this part of it to the United States by the treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo. The subject is tampering and full of interest, but we have only space for a few well-considered sentences of the opinion of the chief justice of the court whose judgment we are reviewing.

"For centuries," he says, "the pueblo Indians have lived in villages, in fixed communities, each having its own municipal or local government. As far as their history can be traced, they have been a pastoral and agricultural people, raising flocks and cultivating the soil. Since the introduction of the Spanish Catholic missionary into the country, they have adopted many of the customs and language, but the religion of a Christian church in every

¹⁰ 10 Stat. 544, 506.

¹¹ 1 N. M. 432 (1889).

¹² Act of June 30, 1834, sec 11, 4 Stat. 720, 730.

¹³ 9 Stat. 374.

¹⁴ 17 Stat. 105.

¹⁵ *United States v. Rambleman*, 1 N. M. 538 (1874); *United States v. Varela*, 1 N. M. 538 (1874); *United States v. Koolowski*, *Id.*, *United States v. Joseph*, *Id.*

¹⁶ 94 U. S. 614 (1876).

pueblo is erected a church, dedicated to the worship of God, according to the form of the Roman Catholic religion, and in nearly all cases found a priest of this church, who is recognized as their spiritual guide and adviser. They manufacture nearly all of their blankets, clothing, agricultural and culinary implements, &c. Integrity and virtue among them is fostered and encouraged. They are as intelligent as most nations of people deprived of means or facilities for education. Their names, their customs, their habits, all similar to those of the people in whose midst they reside, or in the midst of whom their pueblos are situated. The criminal records of the courts of the Territory scarcely contain the name of a pueblo Indian. In short, they are a peaceable, industrious, intelligent, honest, and virtuous people. They are Indians only in feature, complexion, and a few of their habits, in all other respects superior to all but a few of the civilized Indian tribes of the country, and the equal of the most civilized thereof. This description of the pueblo Indians, I think, will be deemed by all who know them as faithful and true in all respects. Such was their character at the time of the acquisition of New Mexico by the United States, such is their character now."

At the time the act of 1824 was passed there were no such Indians as these in the United States, unless it be one or two reservations or tribes, such as the Senecas or Oneidas of New York, to whom, it is clear, the eleventh section of the statute could have no application. (Pp 610-611.)

The tribes for whom the act of 1824 was made were those semi-independent tribes whom our government has always recognized as exempt from our laws, whether within or without the limits of an organized State or Territory, and, in regard to their domestic government, left to their own rules and traditions; in whom we have recognized the capacity to make treaties, and with whom the governments, state and national, deal, with a few exceptions only, in their national or tribal character, and not as individuals.

If the pueblo Indians differ from the other inhabitants of New Mexico in holding lands in common, and in a certain patriarchal form of domestic life, they only resemble in this regard the Shakers and other communistic societies in this country, and cannot for that reason be classed with the Indian tribes of whom we have been speaking.

We have been urged by counsel, in view of these considerations, to declare that they are citizens of the United States and of New Mexico. But abiding by the rule which we think ought always to govern this court, to decide nothing beyond what is necessary to the judgment we are to render, we leave that question until it shall be made in some case where the rights of citizenship are necessarily involved. But we have no hesitation in saying that their status is not, in the face of the facts we have stated, to be determined solely by the circumstance that some officer of the government has appointed for them an agent, even if we could take judicial notice of the existence of that fact, suggested to us in argument.

Turning our attention to the tenure by which these communities hold the land on which the settlement of defendant was made, we find that it is wholly different from that of the Indian tribes to whom the act of Congress applies. The United States have not recognized in these latter any other than a passing title with right of use, until by treaty or otherwise that right is extinguished. And the ultimate title has been always held to be in the United States, with no right in the Indian to transfer it, or even their possession, without consent of the government.

It is this fixed claim of dominion which lies at the foundation of the act forbidding the white man to make a settlement on the lands occupied by an Indian tribe.

The pueblo Indians, on the contrary, hold their lands by a right superior to that of the United States. Their title dates back to grants made by the government of Spain before the Mexican revolution, a title which was fully recognized by the Mexican government, and protected by it in the treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, by which this country and the allegiance of its inhabitants were transferred to the United States. (Pp. 617-618.)

If the defendant is on the lands of the pueblo, without the consent of the inhabitants, he may be ejected, or punished civilly by a suit for trespass, according to the

laws regulating such matters in the Territory. If he is there with their consent or license, we know of no injury which the United States suffers by his presence, nor any statute which he violates in that regard. (P. 619.)

Some years later, the Supreme Court would ascribe the views expressed in 1878 in the *Joseph* case to inaccurate information," but for nearly four decades the *Joseph* case fixed the law governing the New Mexico Pueblos."

In 1801, the Attorney General ruled "that federal statutes authorizing the Commissioner of Indian Affairs to license and regulate Indian traders" had no application to the Pueblos.

In 1804, the Assistant Attorney General for the Department of the Interior ruled that laws relating to the approval of leases of Indian tribal land had no application to the Pueblos."

In 1900, in the case of *Pueblo of Nambé v. Romero*,²⁰ the territorial court, in a suit to quiet title brought by an alleged conveyee of pueblo lands, issued a decree against the Pueblo, basing such decree upon a finding that the Pueblo had validly granted away the land in question and upon a holding that the territorial statute of limitations²¹ ran against the Pueblo.

In 1904, in the case of *Territory of New Mexico v. Delinquent Taxpayers*,²² the attempt to collect taxes on pueblo lands was upheld by the territorial court on the basis of the reasoning in the *Luzco* and *Joseph* cases. This ruling, however, as we have seen, was reversed by congressional enactment.²³

In 1907, in *United States v. Mason*,²⁴ the territorial court held that the Pueblo Indians were not covered by Indian liquor laws "making it an offense to sell or give intoxicants to 'any Indian to whom allotment of land has been made while the title to the same shall be held in trust by the government, or to any Indian a ward of the government under charge of any Indian superintendent or agent, or any Indian, including mixed bloods, over whom the government, through its departments, exercises guardianship.'"

This ruling, again, was reversed by Congress, in the New Mexico Enabling Act, which will be treated in the following section.

By way of summary, it may be said that during the period from the accession of New Mexico to the granting of statehood, the Pueblos had a legal status sharply distinguished from that of most other Indian tribes and comprehended under Indian legislation only where Congress had expressly so provided, as in the matter of agency maintenance, "civilization" appropriations, and tax exemption. In all other respects, each Pueblo had a status substantially similar to that of any other municipal corporation of the territory."

²⁰ See *United States v. Sandout*, 231 U. S. 28, 48 (1918). See *infra*, note 2.

²¹ The effect of this decision was to confirm the opinions and judgment that had before that time been rendered with respect to the Pueblo Indians. As they were further advanced in civilization than the nomadic tribes, better versed in the arts and industries of ordinary life, so they were recognized as deserving the treatment accorded to civilized and industrious people. But with the greater freedom and privilege of their status went a greater responsibility. If their land was their own they must use their own judgment in the disposition of it. The Supreme Court had decided that the United States had no right to interfere.

For decades, the territorial court had, through many years, the decision went unchallenged. The Pueblo governors managed the lands of their people as they had been done, and back of every sale was the assurance of the Supreme Court that they had a perfect and complete right to make it. (Beynon, *Land Titles in the Pueblo Indian Country* (1904), 10 A. B. A. Jour. 86, 89.)

²² 20 Op. A. G. 212 (1891).

²³ Acts of August 15, 1876, sec. 5, 19 Stat. 176, 200; July 31, 1882, 22 Stat. 376.

²⁴ 19 U. S. 222 (1894).

²⁵ 10 N. M. 68, 61 Pac. 122 (1900).

²⁶ N. M. Compiled Laws (1897) sec. 2638.

²⁷ 12 N. M. 139, 76 Pac. 818 (1904).

²⁸ 899, p. 388.

²⁹ 14 N. M. 1, 88 Pac. 1128 (1907).

³⁰ Act of January 30, 1897, 29 Stat. 505.

³¹ See, however, *fn* 187, *infra*.

SECTION 4. THE PUEBLOS IN THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO

While New Mexico was a territory and thus an agency of the Federal Government there was a tendency to leave to the territorial government control of the Pueblos, and the territorial authorities sought generally to assimilate the Pueblos to the status of other municipal corporations of the territory. This tendency, as we have seen, was checked in the matter of taxation, but in all other respects the relation of the Pueblos to the federal executive was extremely tenuous.

With the admission of New Mexico to statehood, however, a sharp reversal occurred in these tendencies. The termination of the territorial government created a clear distinction between state and federal authority and the center of control over the Pueblos shifted from Santa Fe to Washington. Thus the Pueblos came to be treated more and more as other Indian tribes.

The first important step in this direction was taken in the New Mexico Enabling Act, which contained a specific provision that "the terms 'Indian' and 'Indian country' shall include the Pueblo Indians of New Mexico and the lands now owned or occupied by them."

A. THE SANDOVAL DECISION

The constitutionality of this extension of federal control over the Pueblos was upheld in 1913 in the case of *United States v. Sandoval*.¹ That case involved a prosecution for the offense of introducing liquor into the Indian country. The Supreme Court held that Congress had expressed a clear intent to reverse the rule laid down by the territorial court in *United States v. Hayes*.² On the question of the constitutionality of this extension of federal control, the court pointed out that neither the outright ownership of land by the Pueblos nor the claim of the Pueblo Indians to citizenship (the validity of which was not here passed upon) stood as an obstacle to the exercise of federal guardianship by Congress. The court declared, *per Van Devanter, J.*

Of course, it is not meant by this that Congress may bring a community or body of people within the range of

¹ Act of June 20, 1910, 36 Stat. 507. The pertinent portions of the act provide:

Sec. 2 . . . that . . . the said convention shall be, and is hereby, authorized to form a constitution and provide for a state government for said proposed State, all in the manner and under the conditions contained in this Act.

And said convention shall provide, by an ordinance irrevocable without the consent of the United States and the people of said State—

First, That . . . the sale, barter, or giving of intoxicating liquors to Indians and the introduction of liquor into Indian country, which term shall also include all lands now owned or occupied by the Pueblo Indians of New Mexico, are forever prohibited.

Second, That the people inhabiting said proposed State do agree and declare that they forever disclaim all right and title . . . to all lands lying within said boundaries owned or held by any Indian or Indian tribe the right of title to which shall have been acquired through or from the United States or any prior sovereignty, and that said title of such Indian or Indian tribe shall have been extinguished the same shall be and remain subject to the disposition and under the absolute jurisdiction and control of the Congress of the United States. . . . but nothing herein, or in the ordinance herein provided for, shall preclude the said State from taxing, as other lands and other property are taxed, any lands and other property outside of an Indian reservation owned or held by any Indian or Indian tribe, or any lands that have been granted or acquired as aforesaid or as may be granted or confirmed to any Indian or Indians under any act of Congress; but said ordinance shall provide that all such lands shall be exempt from taxation by said State so long and to such extent as Congress has so declared or may hereafter prescribe.

Third, That whenever hereafter any of the lands contained within Indian reservation or as aforesaid in said proposed State shall be allotted, sold, reserved, or otherwise disposed of, they shall be subject for a period of twenty-five years after said allotment, sale, reservation, or otherwise disposed of to all the laws of the United States prohibiting the introduction of liquor into the Indian country. . . . The terms "Indian" and "Indian country" shall include the Pueblo Indians of New Mexico and the lands now owned or occupied by them.

² 251 U. S. 88 (1919).

¹ 14 N. M. J., 56 Pac. 1128 (1907). See also 33, *supra*.

this power by arbitrarily calling them an Indian tribe, but only that in respect of distinctly Indian communities the questions whether, to what extent, and for what time they shall be recognized and dealt with as dependent tribes requiring the guardianship and protection of the United States are to be determined by Congress, and not by the courts. (P. 46.)

We are not unmindful that in *United States v. Joseph*, 94 U. S. 614, there are some observations not in accord with what is here said of these Indians, but as that case did not turn upon the power of Congress over them or their property, but upon the interpretation and purpose of a statute not nearly so comprehensive as the legislation now before us, and as the observation there made respecting the Pueblos were evidently based upon statements in the opinion of the territorial court, then under review, which are at variance with other recognized sources of information, now available, and with the long-continued action of the legislative and executive departments, that case cannot be regarded as holding that these Indians or their lands are beyond the range of Congressional power under the Constitution. (Pp. 45-49.)

B. EFFECT OF THE SANDOVAL DECISION

The effect of the *Sandoval* decision was to spread consternation among the people of New Mexico who held lands to which the Pueblos laid claim. The situation is thus described in a letter to the Attorney General, dated June 11, 1920, from George A. H. Fraser, who served for some years as special assistant to the Attorney General:

The great majority of the claimants had bought and possessed their lands in good faith and in reliance on a series of decisions of the Territorial Supreme Court of New Mexico, beginning in 1860 and extending to about 1908, to the general effect that the Pueblo Indians were extinguished, that they had the right to sell their lands and the liability of losing them by adverse possession, and that the Nonintercourse Act of 1834 did not apply to them. The last-mentioned idea was supported by the Joseph case in 94 U. S. decided in 1877, in which the United States was defeated in an attempt to remove settlers from the Pueblo of Taos under the provisions of said Act. Up to 1913, therefore, when the *Sandoval* case was decided (221 U. S. 28), all the law there was, including that announced by the highest tribunal, was to the effect aforesaid. The *Sandoval* decision came as a great surprise, and it was natural that any proceedings interfering with titles so long supposed to be valid should be resisted in every possible way.

Heubert O. Beyer, author of the leading history of pueblo land grants,³ comments on the *Sandoval* decision in these terms:

From the *Sandoval* decision, in 1913, to the passage of the Pueblo lands act of 1924, every possible means to evade the consequences of the supreme court decision was utilized by those non-Indians who were in possession of Pueblo lands.

³ Leo Crane, *Desert Drums* (Boston, 1925), 275-311.

The constant friction between the non-Indian claimants and the Pueblo Indians finally culminated in an investigation by the sixty-seventh congress. This investigation disclosed that there were approximately three thousand non-Indian claimants to lands within the exterior boundaries of the Pueblo grants. It was estimated that these three thousand claimants represented families aggregating twelve thousand persons. With the seriousness of the situation impressed upon them by these figures, congress began to seek a remedy for the situation. Senator Helen O. Bannum of New Mexico introduced into the senate of the sixty-seventh congress a bill entitled, "An act to quiet title to lands within Pueblo Indian land

⁴ D. J. Ellis No. 292544.

⁵ Pueblo Indian Land Grants of the "Rio Abajo," New Mexico (The Univ. of New Mexico Bulletin No. 234, 1928), pp. 23-28.

grants and for other purposes." On the surface the bill seemed to be just what was needed, a close study of the Bursum bill disclosed, however, that it would have served to place the non-Indian holders of Indian land in a favorable position to obtain a clear title to holdings within the Pueblo grants, and to have put the burden of disproving the right of these private land holders upon the government. This would have entirely reversed the usual procedure with regard to land claims. [The burden of proof in such cases is always upon the claimant.] One authority, suitably biased in favor of the Indians, distinctly charges an attempt on the part of Senator Bursum and the secretary of the Interior, at that time, Albert B. Fall of New Mexico, to provide an easy means by which the non-Indian holders could make certain of obtaining a title to their lands which would be forever secure.

The Bursum bill received the backing of the Harding administration and seemed slated for enactment. To the defense of the Indians, and to the attack on the Bursum proposal, a strong opposition developed, led by two groups, the small New Mexico association on Indian affairs and the general federation of women's clubs. The latter organization, in 1921, had formed a committee on Indian welfare. Under the leadership of Mrs. Stella M. Atwood, this organization employed Mr. John Collier, a student of Indian affairs, as field representative. As legal counsel the services of Francis O. Wilson of Santa Fe were obtained. Two congressional committees heard the case against the Bursum bill. The arguments presented by Mr. Wilson were strong and conclusive, and, together with the testimony of many who opposed the enactment of the proposed law, succeeded in "killing" the bill.

A counter-proposal known as the Jones-Leatherwood bill was suggested by the adversaries of the Bursum act, but this measure also failed to obtain the approval of congress. Pressed by constituents from New Mexico, Senator Bursum introduced a new measure on December 10, 1923, which called for the appointment of a commission to investigate Pueblo land titles. Congress failed to pass the measure during the 1923 session. In 1924, however, the act was revived and approved by congress on June 7. Known as the *Pueblo Lands Act*, this measure provided the means by which a final solution was made of the thousands of non-Indian claims within the lands of the Pueblo Indians.

C. THE PUEBLO LANDS ACT

The Pueblo Lands Act established a "Pueblo Lands Board" consisting of the Secretary of the Interior, the Attorney General, and a third member appointed by the President. This board was, by section 2 of the act, given the duty of determining "the exterior boundaries of any land granted or confirmed to the Pueblo Indians of New Mexico by any authority of the United States of America, or any prior sovereignty, or acquired by said Indians as a community by purchase or otherwise," and to determine the status of all lands within such boundaries, subject to the requirement that a finding that Indian title had been extinguished required a unanimous vote of the board.

The Attorney General was directed, in section 8 of the Pueblo Lands Act, to bring suit to quiet title to all lands listed as pueblo lands by the Lands Board.

Section 4 of the act provided that non-Indian claimants, in order to substantiate their claims, must demonstrate either (a) continuous adverse possession under color of title since January 8, 1906, supported by payment of taxes on the land, or (b) continuous adverse possession since March 16, 1858, supported by payment of taxes, but without color of title.

With respect to all lands and water rights found to have been lost by the Pueblos which might have been recovered by reasonable prosecution on the part of the United States, the United States was to reimburse the Pueblos the fair market value of

the lands and water rights (Sec. 8). On the other hand, the board was to report back to Congress the value of all improvements lost by non-Indian claimants whose claims were rejected (Sec. 7, 15).

Other provisions of the Pueblo Lands Act provided for the filing of suit by the United States "in its sovereign capacity as guardian of said Pueblo Indians" in the nature of a bill of discovery (sec. 1); the investigation of lands and improvements of successful non-Indian claimants which might be purchased for the benefit of the Pueblos (sec. 8), the patenting of lands to successful non-Indian claimants (sec. 13), the adjudication of non-Indian claims superior to the original Pueblo grants and the filing of recommendations by the Secretary of the Interior respecting such adjudications (sec. 14), and various other matters of procedure (secs 6, 9, 10, 11, 12, 18, 19).

Where lands for which the pueblo title was confirmed were inconveniently located, the Secretary of the Interior "with the consent of the governing authorities of the pueblo" might order them to be sold and the proceeds, after deducting the value of improvements of a losing claimant, were to be "paid over to the proper officer, or officers, of the Indian community" (Sec. 16).

Section 17 of the Pueblo Lands Act is a measure of substantive law directed to the prevention of future disputes rather than to the settlement of past disputes.

Inasmuch as past disputes had arisen generally out of controversies concerning the validity of purported transfers of land or interests in land by pueblo authorities or individual Pueblo Indians, this section laid down an absolute rule that no such transfer should be of any validity in the future, unless approved in advance by the Secretary of the Interior. Thus the final step was taken in assimilating pueblo lands to the status of other tribal lands. The section in question declares:

No right, title, or interest in or to the lands of the Pueblo Indians of New Mexico to which their title has not been extinguished as heretofore determined shall hereafter be acquired or initiated by virtue of the laws of the State of New Mexico, or in any other manner except as may hereafter be provided by Congress, and no sale, grant, lease of any character, or other conveyance of lands, or any title or claim thereto, made by any pueblo as a community, or any Pueblo Indian living in a community of Pueblo Indians, in the State of New Mexico, shall be of any validity in law or in equity unless the same be first approved by the Secretary of the Interior."

The constitutionality of the Pueblo Lands Act was upheld in a series of cases in the federal courts in which its provisions were applied.¹ The end results of the Pueblo Lands Act are thus described in the study of Herbert O. Brayer:²

Following the final adjudication of the pueblo titles, the special attorney for the Pueblo Indians was faced with

¹ See Chapter 15, sec. 18, for a discussion of the restrictions upon alienation of tribal lands generally.

² The possible application of this statute to internal pueblo affairs is discussed in sec. 5 of this chapter.

³ *United States v. Wooten*, 40 F. 2d 882 (1980), holding that tax payments, under the statutory requirement, need not have been made prior to delinquency; *Goona v. United States*, 45 F. 2d 873 (1980), discussed at p. 308, *supra*; *Pueblo de San Juan v. United States*, 47 F. 2d 446 (1981), holding burden is upon Pueblo to show error in finding of Pueblo Lands Board that lands lost by Pueblo could not have been recovered by reasonable prosecution on the part of the United States; *Pueblo of Poosah v. State of New Mexico v. Abo*, 50 F. 2d 12 (1981), discussed at p. 307, *supra*; *Pueblo de Taos v. Goodrich*, 50 F. 2d 721 (1981), holding that redemption of land by claimant after tax sale is not payment of taxes within the requirements of the statute; *United States v. Agudones Land Co.*, 62 F. 2d 859 (1981), holding claimant's adverse possession under color of title presumptively extends to areas covered by such title; *Pueblo de Taos v. Archuleta*, 64 F. 2d 897; *Sane v. Jansky* (1988), dismissing pueblo suits for want of reasonable prosecution where pendency constituted cloud on settlers' titles. See also Op. Sol. I. D. M. 2889, September 16, 1908, interpreting sec. 12.

⁴ *Pueblo Indian Land Grants of the "21 Abo"*, New Mexico (The Univ. of New Mexico Bulletin No. 884, 1989), pp. 30-31.

⁵ *Craze, loc. cit.* Leo Craze was connected with the Indian service for many years, serving as agent to the Hopi and Navajo Indians in Arizona and New Mexico, and as agent for the Pueblo Indians of New Mexico.

⁶ *An Act to Provide for the Lands within Pueblo Indian Land Grants, and for Other Purposes*, 48 Statutes 658.

the tremendous task of ejecting those claimants whose titles had been declared invalid. This official and the superintendent of the United States agency withheld any action in this regard until the awards made by the Pueblo lands board had been provided for by the Congress of the United States and paid to the holders of the rejected claims. Following this settlement the special attorney began the tedious process of clearing the Indian lands of all persons having no right to be upon them. At this writing, August 10, 1938, the special attorney for the Pueblo Indians, Mr. William Bishop of Albuquerque, states that all such non-Indian claimants have been removed. For the first time, therefore, since late in the seventeenth century, the Pueblo Indians of New Mexico are free from land controversy.

Under a special acquisition program the Indian service is proceeding rapidly to purchase such lands as were confined to non-Indians by the Pueblo lands board and the courts, and which were deemed desirable for the needs of the Indians. With the conclusion of this program the Pueblo Indians will have no grounds for further disputes over lands granted them by the Spanish authorities and confirmed by the United States.

The Pueblo Lands Act was implemented by a series of enactments outlining into effect the purposes of that act. Sums of money were appropriated for the expenses of the board¹ and for payments to the Pueblos and to non-Indian claimants, in the cases covered by the Pueblo Lands Act and in other cases which Congress deemed worthy of special consideration because of inadequacy of awards or special hardships.²

The Pueblo Lands Act was further implemented and amended by the Act of May 31, 1893,³ a comprehensive measure directed primarily to the execution of awards under the original act. Section 1 of the Act of May 31, 1893, provides that appropriations for awards to the Pueblos

* * * shall be expended by the Secretary of the Interior, subject to approval of the governing authorities of each pueblo in question, at such times and in such amounts as he may deem wise and proper; for the purchase of lands and water rights to replace those which have been divested from said pueblos under the Act of June 7, 1924, or for the purchase or construction of reservoirs, irrigation works, or other permanent improvements upon or for the benefit of the lands of said pueblos.

Section 2 of the act authorizes awards in addition to those made by the Pueblo Lands Board to the following Pueblos: Jemez, Nambe, Taos, Santa Ana, Santo Domingo, Sandia, San Felipe, Isleta, Picuris, San Ildefonso, San Juan, Santa Clara, Cochiti, and Pajarito. The Secretary of the Interior is directed to report back to Congress errors or omissions in the authorizations contained in this section "measured by the present fair market value of the lands involved" (p. 108-109).

Section 3 of the act authorizes money awards to white settlers and non-Indian claimants whose claims have been rejected by

¹ Act of January 20, 1926, 43 Stat. 758, Act of February 27, 1926, 43 Stat. 1014, Act of March 8, 1928, 44 Stat. 131, Act of April 20, 1928, 44 Stat. 830, Act of March 24, 1927, 44 Stat. 1178, Act of February 15, 1928, 45 Stat. 64, Act of May 20, 1928, 45 Stat. 883, Act of January 28, 1929, 45 Stat. 1094, Act of April 18, 1930, 46 Stat. 173.

² Act of December 22, 1927, 45 Stat. 1; Act of March 4, 1929, 45 Stat. 1592; Act of May 14, 1930, 46 Stat. 270, Act of February 14, 1931, 46 Stat. 1115, Act of March 4, 1931, 46 Stat. 1602, Act of April 23, 1932, 47 Stat. 51, Act of July 1, 1932, 47 Stat. 526, Act of February 17, 1933, 47 Stat. 820, Act of June 16, 1933, 48 Stat. 274, Act of June 18, 1933, 48 Stat. 254, Act of May 9, 1935, 49 Stat. 370, Act of August 20, 1935, 49 Stat. 800, Act of June 4, 1936, 49 Stat. 1469, Act of June 22, 1936, 49 Stat. 1767, Act of May 16, 1938, 49 Stat. 1294; Act of August 9, 1939, 50 Stat. 1037, Pub. No. 15, 79th Cong., 1st sess. (March 28, 1939); Pub. No. 68, 76th Cong., 1st sess. (May 10, 1939).

³ 46 Stat. 108. An exhaustive analysis of the reasons for this legislation will be found in Part 20 of the Survey of Conditions of the Indians in the United States (Tribal Comm., 2d sess., Hastings, San Francisco, 1937), pp. 1103-1117. See also American Indian Life, Bulletin No. 10 (January 1939), pp. 1-7.

(the Pueblo Lands Board (p. 108). Again the Secretary of the Interior is directed to report back to Congress errors in the amount specified measured by the present fair market value of the lands involved (p. 109).

Section 4 of the act directs the Secretary of Agriculture to issue a permit to the Pueblo of Taos "upon application of the governor and council thereof," such permit to grant to the Pueblo the right to use certain designated lands "upon which lands said Indians depend for water supply, forage for their domestic livestock, wood and timber for their personal use and as the scene of certain of their religious ceremonies" (p. 109).

Section 5 of this act regulates the manner in which the Secretary of the Interior may dispose of funds awarded to the Pueblo in purchasing lands, water rights, options, etc. (p. 110). This section contains the following provisions establishing the policy of pueblo control, subject to departmental consent, in the utilization of pueblo funds:

That the Secretary of the Interior shall not make any expenditures out of the pueblo funds resulting from the appropriations set forth herein, or prior appropriations for the same purpose, without first obtaining the approval of the governing authorities of the pueblo affected. And provided further, That the governing authorities of any pueblo may institute matters pertaining to the purchase of lands in behalf of their respective pueblos, which matters, or contracts relative thereto, will not be binding or considered until approved by the Secretary of the Interior. (P. 110.)

Section 6 of this act safeguards the right of the Pueblos to prosecute independent suits for the recovery of lands claimed by third parties. This section also provides that the Pueblos may enter into agreement with the Secretary of the Interior to abandon such suit and to accept instead awards provided by this act.

Section 7 of the act amends section 16 of the Act of June 7, 1924, the original Pueblo Lands Act, providing that the Secretary of the Interior may, "with the consent of the governing authorities of the pueblo," order the sale of land to the highest bidder whose such land although awarded to the Pueblo is not wanted (p. 111).

Section 8 of the act regulates the fees of attorneys employed by the Pueblos (p. 111).

Section 9 safeguards existing water rights (p. 111).

Section 10 provides that the awards authorized to be appropriated under section 2 of this act to the Pueblos shall be appropriated in three annual installments beginning with the fiscal year 1937 (p. 111).

D. THE DEVELOPMENT OF FEDERAL CONTROL

The development of plenary federal control over the Pueblos of New Mexico, inaugurated in the Shoshone Act, confirmed in the Sandoval case, and carried into effect by the Pueblo Lands Act and supplementary statutes, characterizes congressional legislation, judicial decisions, and administrative policies in the period from 1910 to the present. This period in the legal history of the Pueblos is characterized by several legislative developments which parallel the solution of pueblo land problems.

(1) A marked increase in the federal services provided for the New Mexico Pueblos by the Bureau of Indian Affairs, under authority of the regular appropriation acts.

(2) As a corollary of this extension of federal services, the imposition of various debts and liens against the Pueblos.

(3) A prohibition against the alienation of pueblo lands.

(4) A number of lesser statutes further defining the status of the Pueblo Indians.

⁴ 47 Stat. March 27, 1928, c. 235, 45 Stat. 372, protecting the watershed of Taos Pueblo within the Carson National Forest.

A brief commentary on these developments in the law governing the Pueblos is in order.

(1) The increase of federal services administered for the benefit of the Pueblos through the Department of the Interior is evident upon a reading of the appropriation acts for the Bureau of Indian Affairs and, beginning with the Act of May 24, 1925,⁴² for the Department of the Interior. The most important of the federal appropriations for the Pueblos, since 1910, are for irrigation,⁴³ drainage of pueblo lands,⁴⁴ increased educational facilities for the Pueblo Indians,⁴⁵ construction of bridges and roads,⁴⁶ and the establishment of a sanatorium for the Pueblo Indians.⁴⁷

A number of difficult questions have arisen in connection with the reclamation of pueblo lands through the Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District. This is a political subdivision of the State of New Mexico. Within the area of its operations lie the lands of several Pueblos. The Act of February 14, 1927,⁴⁸ authorized an appropriation of federal funds for reconnaissance work on the lands of Cochiti, Santa Domingo, San Felipe, Santa Ana, Sardinia, and Isleta Pueblos. Upon the completion of the survey thus authorized,⁴⁹ there was enacted the Act of March 13, 1928,⁵⁰ which authorized the Secretary of the Interior to enter into a contract with the Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District for conservation, irrigation, drainage, and flood-control work covering pueblo lands. The statute fixed a maximum construction cost of \$1,503,311, payable in not less than five annual installments. Such payments were to be made by the United States, subject to reimbursement "under such rules and regulations as may be prescribed by the Secretary of the Interior." To ensure such payments, the statute imposed a lien upon newly reclaimed pueblo lands and declared that reimbursement should be made out of rentals of newly reclaimed lands, or, if such lands were ever sold, out of the proceeds of the sale. No lien for construction costs was imposed on those lands already irrigated by the Pueblo Indians, and it was provided that "such irrigated area of approximately 8,848 acres shall not be subject by the district or otherwise to any pro rata share of the cost of future operation and maintenance or betterment work performed by the district." Further protection of Indian rights is contained in provisions assuring the priority of Indian water rights, preference to Indian lessees in the leasing of newly reclaimed lands, and free leasing of 4,000 acres of such lands to Indians cultivating the same.

Under the foregoing statute a contract was executed between the Secretary of the Interior and the Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District on December 14, 1928.

As construed by the Solicitor of the Interior Department, the statute and the contract permitted the district to charge operation and maintenance costs on pueblo lands outside of the 8,848

acres already irrigated but did not authorize the payment of such charges either by the United States or by the Pueblos.⁵¹ This omission was remedied by the Act of August 27, 1935,⁵² which authorized the Secretary of the Interior to contract for the payment of operation and maintenance costs on the newly reclaimed lands for 5 years "on a reimbursable basis."

Appropriations have been made from time to time by Congress to meet the obligations to the Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District assumed under the 1928 and 1935 acts.⁵³

(2) A number of the appropriations above discussed are, by the express language of the appropriation acts, reimbursable in accordance with rules and regulations which the Secretary of the Interior shall prescribe.⁵⁴

(3) While section 17 of the Pueblo Lands Act, as we have noted, bars transfers of pueblo land not approved in advance by the Secretary of the Interior, section 4 of the Act of June 18, 1934,⁵⁵ goes further and bars all transfers of tribal land except such as are made in exchange for lands of equal value.⁵⁶

The Act of June 18, 1934, applies to all the Pueblos of New Mexico except the Pueblo of Jemez, as a result of referendum elections held in each Pueblo pursuant to section 18 of the act. The present situation, therefore, is that the Pueblo of Jemez, with the approval of the Secretary of the Interior, may alienate pueblo lands or interests therein, but that the other Pueblos can alienate lands or interests in land only where two conditions are met: Land of equal value must be received in exchange; and the approval of the Secretary of the Interior must be obtained in advance.

(4) The admission of New Mexico to statehood was promptly followed by a series of legislative measures designed to prevent the further expulsion of Indian lands within the state. The Appropriation Act of June 30, 1918,⁵⁷ attached the following proviso to the regular appropriation for the survey and allotment of lands in severalty:

Provided, That no part of said sum shall be used for survey, resurvey, classification, appraisement, or allotment of any land in severalty upon the public domain to any Indian, whether of the Navajo or other tribes, within the State of New Mexico and the State of Arizona. (P. 78.)

⁴² Op. Sol. I. D., M. 27512, February 20, 1925.

⁴³ C. 745, 49 Stat. 887.

⁴⁴ This authorization was extended to 1945 by sec. 5 of the Act of June 29, 1933, 63 Stat. 778, 779. This act also authorized outright (nonreimbursable) federal appropriations for construction costs and past and future operation and maintenance charges on lands of the Albuquerque School, authorized payment, on a reimbursable basis, for extra construction work not contemplated in the original plan, and authorized reimbursable payments on lands newly acquired. 7 Op. Sol. I. D., M. 28108, March 15, 1935, holding that the Secretary may contract for payment of construction costs on newly acquired lands.

⁴⁵ Act of May 29, 1928, 46 Stat. 883, 900; Act of March 4, 1929, 45 Stat. 1823, 1940; Act of March 26, 1930, 46 Stat. 90, 104; Act of May 14, 1930, 46 Stat. 279, 282; Act of February 14, 1931, 46 Stat. 1115, 1128; Act of March 4, 1931, 46 Stat. 1202, 1207; Act of April 23, 1932, 47 Stat. 91, 102; Act of February 17, 1933, 47 Stat. 820, 831; Act of March 2, 1934, 48 Stat. 322, 371; Act of June 19, 1934, 48 Stat. 1021, 1033; Act of May 9, 1935, 49 Stat. 176, 188 ("final payment"); Act of June 22, 1936, 49 Stat. 1767, 1770; Act of August 9, 1937, 50 Stat. 564, 579; Act of August 28, 1937, 50 Stat. 755, 764; Act of May 6, 1939, 52 Stat. 231, 208 ("final payment").

⁴⁶ See, for example, Act of February 14, 1920, 41 Stat. 408, 423, and acts cited in preceding footnotes. And see Chapter 12, sec. 7.

⁴⁷ 48 Stat. 924, 25 U. S. C. 454. See Chapter 15, sec. 15C.

⁴⁸ On the effect of the restriction on alienation contained in sec. 17 of the Act of June 18, 1934, 25 U. S. C. 477, in the event that any of the Pueblos should be chartered thereunder, see Chapter 15, sec. 18.

⁴⁹ 88 Stat. 77.

⁴⁹ 49 Stat. 503.

⁵⁰ Practically all regular appropriation acts from statehood to date.

⁵¹ Act of February 14, 1920, 41 Stat. 408, 423; Act of March 8, 1921, 41 Stat. 1225, 1229; Act of May 24, 1922, 42 Stat. 552; Act of January 24, 1923, 42 Stat. 1174, 1183; Act of June 5, 1924, 43 Stat. 880, 403.

⁵² See Act of May 10, 1926, 44 Stat. 458, 468. See Act of January 12, 1927, 44 Stat. 694, 948.

⁵³ Legislation governing appropriations for a road through the Santa Clara Pueblo establishes a special control over the admission to the Puye Cliff Dwellings for the benefit of the Pueblo. Act of March 4, 1929, 45 Stat. 1522, 1586-1587.

⁵⁴ Act of March 29, 1930, 46 Stat. 90, 104.

⁵⁵ 48 Stat. 1038.

⁵⁶ The report in question, transmitted by the Secretary of the Interior on January 13, 1928 (House Doc. No. 141, 70th Cong., 1st sess.), estimated that the project would benefit approximately 132,000 acres, of which approximately 28,000 acres were Pueblo Indian lands. Of the latter, approximately 8,848 were found to be under cultivation.

⁵⁷ 45 Stat. 512. For regulations adopted pursuant to this law, see 25 C. F. R. 128.1.

This proviso is repeated in every regular Indian Bureau and Interior Department appropriation act up to and including the appropriation act of February 17, 1933.¹⁰

In the Appropriation Act of May 25, 1918,¹¹ the following item of permanent substantive law appears:

That hereafter no Indian reservation shall be created, nor shall any additions be made to one heretofore created, within the limits of the States of New Mexico and Arizona, except by Act of Congress. (P. 570)

"The Appropriation Act of June 22, 1930,"¹² continued a third limitation on the expansion of Indian lands in New Mexico, in the form of a proviso attached to the appropriation for land purchases pursuant to section 6 of the Act of June 18, 1931. This proviso, which has been substantially reappeared in each succeeding appropriation act,¹³ declared:

Provided, That within the States of Arizona, New Mexico, and Wyoming no part of said sum shall be used for the acquisition of land outside of the boundaries of existing Indian reservations. (P. 1705)

While these legislative barriers were being erected against acquisition of non-Indian lands for Indian use, the acquisition of Indian lands for non-Indian use was facilitated by the Act of May 10, 1920,¹⁴ entitled "An Act To provide for the condemnation of the lands of Pueblo Indians in New Mexico for public purposes, and making the laws of the State of New Mexico applicable to such proceedings." Under this act pueblo lands "may be condemned for any public purpose and for any purpose for which lands may be condemned under the laws of the State of New Mexico." Condemnation proceedings under this act must be brought in the federal courts, and notice of suit must be served upon the superintendent or other officer in charge of the particular public use the land is situated.¹⁵

This act is substantially similar to the general statute governing condemnation of allotted lands, but there is no parallel statute governing tribal lands generally, so that the Pueblos are subjected to a type of action from which other tribes are immune.

¹⁰ Act of August 1, 1934, 48 Stat. 532; Act of May 18, 1916, 39 Stat. 121; Act of March 2, 1917, 40 Stat. 906; Act of May 25, 1918, 40 Stat. 561; Act of June 30, 1919, 41 Stat. 7; Act of February 14, 1920, 41 Stat. 408; Act of March 2, 1921, 42 Stat. 1225; Act of May 24, 1922, 42 Stat. 534; Act of June 7, 1924, 43 Stat. 300; Act of March 3, 1925, 43 Stat. 1111; Act of May 10, 1926, 44 Stat. 479; Act of January 13, 1927, 44 Stat. 914; Act of March 7, 1928, 45 Stat. 309; Act of March 4, 1929, 45 Stat. 1062; Act of May 14, 1930, 46 Stat. 279; Act of February 14, 1931, 46 Stat. 1317; Act of April 22, 1932, 47 Stat. 81; Act of Feb. 17, 1933, 47 Stat. 820.

¹¹ 40 Stat. 563. A bill later a general prohibition against the creation of Indian reservations except by act of Congress, was included in the Appropriation Act of June 30, 1919, sec. 27, 41 Stat. 434 which was later supplemented by the Act of March 4, 1927, sec. 4, 44 Stat. 1147, prohibiting the alteration of reservation boundaries except by act of Congress. See Chapter 16, sec. 7.

¹² 41 Stat. 1707.

¹³ Act of August 9, 1937, 50 Stat. 564, Pub. No. 68, 76th Cong., 1st sess. (May 10, 1939).

¹⁴ 41 Stat. 408.

By the Act of April 21, 1928,¹⁶ general laws governing the acquisition of rights-of-way through Indian lands¹⁷ were made applicable to the Pueblos of New Mexico.

The extension of Indian liquor laws to the Pueblos, effected by the Reaching Act of 1910,¹⁸ called forth a special reference to the Pueblos in a provision of the Appropriation Act of August 24, 1911,¹⁹ exempting substantial wine from such laws.²⁰

A further piece of special legislation for the Pueblo Indians is found in the Appropriation Act of March 2, 1917,²¹ which contains a proviso to the effect that no part of the sum appropriated for pay of judges of Indian courts "shall be used to pay any judge for the Pueblo Indians of New Mexico, and that no such judge shall be appointed for such Indians by any United States official or employee."

This account of legislation peculiarly affecting the Pueblo Indians during the period of Statehood, would not be complete without a reference to the course of legislation affecting the expenditure of tribal funds. At first, the funds awarded to the Pueblos under the Pueblo Lands Act were expendable by the Secretary of the Interior for the purchase of land and water rights for such Indians.²² The purposes for which such funds might be expended were broadened in subsequent appropriation acts to cover fencing, irrigation, improvement, and the repayment of federal loans to Pueblos for "industry and self-support,"²³ and purchase of agricultural machinery.²⁴ Until the Act of May 31, 1933, however, discretion in the expenditure of pueblo funds was vested in the Secretary of the Interior. The act of that date made the consent of the governing authorities of the Pueblo concerned a condition precedent in the expenditure of pueblo funds. The principle thus established was generalized a year later in section 30 of the Act of June 18, 1931.²⁵

For almost decades the Pueblos have faced the choice of being treated like other Indian tribes and subjected to federal control of their internal affairs or being treated like non-Indians and finding themselves cut loose from federal services and then handicapped by lack of federal protection. Recent legislation and administration have overcome this dilemma by recognizing the right of self-government to be an inherent right of the Pueblos and, at other times, and by lessening the scope of federal supervision in the field of Indian affairs so that the Pueblos, like other tribes, may enjoy federal services and federal protection without surrendering control over their internal municipal life.

¹⁶ 41 Stat. 442. The reasons for this enactment are set forth in H. Rept. No. 816, 70th Cong., 1st sess.

¹⁷ 25 U. S. C. §§ 311, 312, 313, 314, 315, 317, 318, 319, 321, 44 U. S. C. 911-925.

¹⁸ Act of June 20, 1910, 36 Stat. 537. See p. 187, *supra*.

¹⁹ 37 Stat. 518.

²⁰ See Chapter 17, sec. 4.

²¹ 39 Stat. 929, 972.

²² See Act of December 32, 1927, 45 Stat. 2, at pp. 17-19.

²³ Acts of March 4, 1929, 46 Stat. 1592; May 14, 1930, 46 Stat. 270.

²⁴ Acts of February 14, 1931, 46 Stat. 1116; July 1, 1932, 47 Stat. 828; February 17, 1933, 47 Stat. 830.

²⁵ 48 Stat. 964, 996, 25 U. S. C. 478. See Chapter 6, sec. 10.

SECTION 5. PUEBLO SELF-GOVERNMENT¹⁶¹

At least since the *Shoshone* decision, in 1918, there has been no room for doubt that the Pueblos of New Mexico are Indian.

¹⁶¹ Although in matters of self-government each pueblo is autonomous, mention should be made of the all-Pueblo Council, which has functioned as a consultative body to matters of common concern to the New Mexico Pueblos since 1922. On the operation of this body, see American Indian Life, Bulletin No. 10 (October-November 1927), pp. 7-18.

tribes entitled to the same rights of self-government, under the Constitution and laws of the United States, as other Indian tribes. The scope of these rights of self-government has been outlined in Chapter 7 of this volume and need not be discussed further at this point. The actual exercise of these rights, however, by the Pueblos has given rise to at least three legal problems which deserve special mention, namely: (1) The legal au-

thority of pueblo officers, (2) the status of religious liberties of pueblo members, in view of the intimate connection between religious and political affairs in the pueblo system of government, and (3) the right of the Pueblo to control occupancy rights of individual members in pueblo lands.

(1) The question of the authority of pueblo officers has generally arisen in connection with the validity of agreements purportedly executed on behalf of a Pueblo. The case of *Pueblo of Santa Rosa v. Hall*,¹⁰¹ turned on the issue of whether the "captain" of an alleged Pueblo in the State of Arizona had authority to act for the Pueblo in executing a contract affecting tribal claims to land. The Supreme Court held that according to the custom of the Pueblo the "captain" would have no authority to act on behalf of the Pueblo in a matter of this importance, declaring:

That Luis was without power to execute the papers in question for lack of authority from the Indian council, in our opinion is well established. (17, 310-310.)

The suit based upon the alleged agreement with the pueblo "captain" was ordered dismissed "without prejudice to the bringing of any other suit heretofore by and with the authority of the alleged Pueblo of Santa Rosa" (17, 321).

The rule announced in the case of the Pueblo of Santa Rosa has been applied to the Pueblos of New Mexico. The Solicitor of the Department of the Interior held, in a memorandum of March 11, 1935, that a grant of a right-of-way executed by the Governor of Indian-owned Pueblo was invalid for the reason that "According to the custom of the pueblo, a grant of lands cannot be made by the governor, but only by the governor and council, or by an assembly of the entire pueblo."

In matters of lesser importance than the disposition of pueblo lands and claims, pueblo authority will generally be exercised by the civil officers or the civil council of the Pueblo. Among the Rio Grande Pueblos, the roster of officers generally includes a governor, the chief executive of the Pueblo, a lieutenant governor, and one or more war captains (who in addition to their religious duties generally act as police officers), *hacendos* (who are charged with care of graveyards and church property), and *sheriffs* (messengers of the Governor and council), all elected for 1-year terms. The civil council will generally include the officers and a number of "principales." The status of "principales" is a more or less permanent status generally conferred upon those who have held the post of governor and sometimes upon those who have held other elective offices in the Pueblo.

Within this general framework of pueblo government there are, of course, many variations of structure and except in the Pueblos of Laguna and Santa Clara, which operate under written constitutions,¹⁰² questions of governmental structure and authority would require specific inquiry into the custom of the particular Pueblo.

(2) Questions involving religious aspects of pueblo social life are fraught with such difficulty and complexity that it would be rash to attempt to formulate the law governing this field of pueblo life except in terms of very specific fact situations. It may be worth while, however, to note several covenants against hasty and tempting conclusions in this field.

In the first place, it must be recognized that while the Spaniards insisted upon a separation of religious and lay authority within each Pueblo, and the regular civil officers and civil

council were set up in response to this insistence, this separation has probably nowhere been completely carried through, except in the Pueblo of Laguna. Thus one may find that nominations to civil office are made by the *cargueros*, the native religious leaders of the Pueblo, and in some Pueblos, always elected unanimously thereto by the pueblo assembly.

In the second place, it should be noted that the distinction between religious and civil services required of pueblo members is a distinction on which two experts will seldom agree.

Finally, it should be remembered that the doctrine of separation of church and state, although fundamental in the government of the United States, has never been imposed by Congress as a formula to which the Pueblos must adhere.

In view of these difficulties, efforts to apply to the Pueblos customs of religious liberty which would apply to federal or state governments must be viewed with extreme reserve.

The memorandum submitted to Assistant Attorney General Blair by Special Assistant to the Attorney General G. A. Iverson, on October 2, 1935, dealing with suppression of the use of *piyote* in the Pueblo of Taos, illustrates the difficulties of the subject and provides a useful guide for further inquiries of this nature. In this case certain Indians were guilty in violation of a tribal custom or ordinance had been fined by the pueblo council and punished by having their land assignments taken away from them. The Iverson memorandum deals with the question of whether the Federal Government might intervene to correct an apparent injustice done to the people users of the Pueblo.

The memorandum reaches the conclusion that the Pueblo Indians are entitled to the protection of the First Amendment guaranteeing religious liberty, but that this amendment is inapplicable to the action of the Pueblo authorities themselves as distinguished from the action of federal authorities,¹⁰³ that the authority of the tribal court of the Pueblo was clear, that the executive officers of the United States would have no authority to interfere with the administration of justice by the pueblo court in matters affecting relations between members of the Pueblo,¹⁰⁴ that the revocation of an assignment by the Pueblo council, which had been imposed as a penalty, was in violation of the Act of June 7, 1924,¹⁰⁵ so that the Secretary of the Interior would be justified in taking the position "that the attempted execution is invalid and without force and effect,"¹⁰⁶ and finally, that the Federal Government would not be aided by any judicial proceeding to interfere with the action of the tribal council in these cases.¹⁰⁷

The Iverson opinion apparently assumed that the occupancy interest of the Indians concerned was an interest in land within the meaning of the Act of June 7, 1924, which governs the transfer of interests in land of the Pueblo Indians. "The factual correctness of this assumption with respect to the land of the Pueblo Indians of Taos is perhaps open to question."¹⁰⁸ This does not affect the validity of the argument presented in the Iverson memorandum that the officials of a Pueblo would not be authorized to transfer interests in land from one individual to another. If, however, no such action is attempted, that is to say, if what the individual pueblo member has is not an interest in land but a privilege of use terminable at the will of the Pueblo itself, it would appear that the limitation referred to in the Iverson memorandum is of no practical importance in the situation dealt with. If in point of fact the individual member has only a privilege of occupancy terminable at the will of the Pueblo, then the Pueblo

¹⁰¹ 273 U. S. 815 (1927).

¹⁰² That of Laguna was adopted by the Laguna Indians on January 1, 1908, without any specific congressional authorization or departmental supervision. That of Santa Clara Pueblo was adopted by the Indians on December 14, 1935, and approved by the Secretary of the Interior on December 20, 1935, pursuant to the Act of June 18, 1924, 43 Stat. 484, 25 U. S. C. 401 et seq.

¹⁰³ R. Memoranda, Lands Division D. J. [1930], 220, 221-223.

¹⁰⁴ *Ibid.*, pp. 231-236.

¹⁰⁵ 43 Stat. 630.

¹⁰⁶ R. Memoranda, Lands Division D. J. [1930], p. 230.

¹⁰⁷ *Ibid.*, p. 240.

¹⁰⁸ See pp. 393-396, *infra*.

would clearly be justified in terminating that occupancy without the approval of the Secretary of the Interior.

The Iveson opinion contains an illuminating analysis of the judicial authority of the Pueblo council:

The Indian officials who assumed to dispose of the emphyteusis in the instant case obtained their authority, whatever it was, from the Indian law under this governmental policy of self-development or self-determination. They constituted a determining body as a part of a local government which in its principal aspects contained the elements of representative government as that term is understood in our system. It appears to have been created upon deliberate action on the part of the tribe, and while its exercise of authority was necessarily limited by various and sundry acts of Congress, it rested upon what appears to have been a custom of long duration. Time it is not a court with such dignity as that for example of the Seneca Indians of New York who had adopted a constitutional charter relating to various domestic subjects connected with domestic relations and even property rights (*Rice v. Hughes*, 2 Fed. Supp. 167), but patently the absence of formality or regularity of procedure is not a requirement going on to affecting the validity or binding force and effect of conclusions reached or judgments announced within the scope of the limited authority of such an institution.

In what has been said above it is assumed that warship by the Indians and the practice of religious ceremonies in internal affairs of the Indians. Accordingly, if the use of people was antithetical as pernicious to the welfare of the Indians and the Indian Community, to regulate its use or prevent it altogether cannot be questioned because forsooth it was used as a part of a religious ceremony. It seems to me that the question in either event presents a tribal matter and mind under the authorities be left to tribal determination. Thus, the present Council may be wrong. It may be actuated by bias or prejudice against the members of the Native American Church. It may be that their actions were influenced by ulterior motives and that a wrong should be corrected, but as before stated, the Indians themselves created the tribunal and custom and usage support the validity of its judgments. Next year another election will probably be held and a different tribunal induced into office. The government of the Indians in this case being in a measure at least representative, they should be left in matters of this character to their own devices. There being no appeal from the judgment of the court, the right of appeal being purely statutory, the judgment cannot be reversed, but this fact does not affect either the jurisdiction or the power.¹¹⁸

(3) The right of the Pueblo to control occupancy rights of individual members in pueblo lands is essentially similar to the right of other tribes with respect to tribal lands, discussed in Chapter 9 of this volume. Although, as noted, the Iveson memorandum held that the council of the Pueblo could not, without the approval of the Secretary of the Interior, revoke or transfer an interest in land possessed by a member of the Pueblo, the assumption that individual Tewa Indians held such interests in land is not supported by any facts set forth in the Iveson memorandum. A recent memorandum of the Solicitor of the Interior Department on this point¹¹⁹ declares, after setting forth the language of section 17 of the Act of June 7, 1902:

Under the foregoing language, it must be held that if an assignment in the Santa Clara Pueblo amounts to a transfer of right, title, or interest in real property, any purported assignment, whether to an Indian or to a non-Indian, made by the pueblo without the prior approval of the Secretary of the Interior is without validity in law or equity. On the other hand, if an assignment does not convey an interest in the land itself, it does not fall within

the scope of the statute cited. It becomes important, therefore, to distinguish between those transactions which convey an interest in real property and those transactions which, while relating to the use of real property, do not create an interest therein.

This distinction has been considered by the courts in a great variety of cases which seek to distinguish an interest in land from a mere license. A recent decision in the Circuit Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit holds:

"A mere permission to use land, dominion over it remaining in the owner and no interest or exclusive possession of it being given, is but a license. (Citing authorities.) (*Trpa v. United States*, 70 F. (2d) 325, 326.) (C. C. A. 5, 1934.)"

The essential characteristics of a license to use real property, as distinguished from an interest in real property, is that in the former case the licensee has no vested right as against the licensor or third parties. He has only a privilege, which the licensor may terminate.

As Justice Holmes pointed out, in *Marion v. Washington Forken Club*, 227 U. S. 134, 135, "A contract binds the person of the maker but does not create an interest in the property that it may concern, unless it also operates as a conveyance. . . . But if it did not create such an interest, that is to say, a right in rem valid against the licensor and third persons, the holder had no right to enforce specific performance or self-help. His only right was to sue upon the contract for the breach." (At p. 133.)

But in its simplest terms, the rule is that a landowner does not transfer an interest in his land by allowing another to use the land. Thus, to give an example, a member of the landowner's family, inasmuch as he is "a bare licensee of the owner, who has no legal interest in the land," cannot derive from his legal privilege to use the land "a right against the landowner or against third persons." *Mellott's Trust v. Dixon*, 81 N. D. 701 (N. D. 1911). See also *Karlson Lumber Co. v. Kahuna*, (6 N. W. 307 (Wis. 1900)).

The distinction established by the cases between a license and an interest in land is entirely consistent with the purpose of the Pueblo Land Act of June 7, 1902.

A reading of the legislative history of that act shows that it was designed to stop the loss of pueblo lands by stopping transactions from which a claim against the pueblo might ultimately be derived. Thus if a pueblo, under the guise of making assignments, should in effect grant a life estate or even a leasehold interest to an individual member of the pueblo, there would be in transaction upon which a claim adverse to the pueblo might be founded either by the individual or by a third party to whom he might convey his rights. On the other hand, the action or inaction of the pueblo authorities in permitting a pueblo member to use a designated area of pueblo land would not of itself create any interest in land adverse to the title of the pueblo itself, any more than the decision of a family council to select certain rooms or buildings to certain members of the family would constitute a transfer of an interest in land.

In between these two extremes difficult " twilight zone " cases may appear. In these cases the court has been looked to the intention of the parties to determine whether the transaction was intended to create a right against the landowner and against third parties. If it was so intended, the transaction must be regarded as a conveyance of an interest in real property. If not, a mere license relationship is established.

Even the language of leasing will not suffice to create a lease relationship if the transaction leaves complete power over the land in the hands of the landowner. Thus, in the case of *Trpa v. United States*, 70 F. (2d) 325 (C. C. A. 5, 1934), the court found that an instrument which used the terms "landlord," "tenant," "lease," etc., was nevertheless a mere license, because the so-called "lessor," the War Department, had no power to lease the property or to grant more than a revocable permit to use the property.

It would be entirely improper for me to attempt to apply the general principles, above set forth, to an imaginary assignment that might be made in the future by an Indian under an imaginary ordinance that has not yet been passed. When an actual assignment is made or pro-

¹¹⁸ 8 Memoranda, Lands Division D. J. [1930], 230, 236, 227-228.

¹¹⁹ Memo Acting Sol. I. D., April 14, 1930.

¹²⁰ 43 Stat. 930, discussed at p. 390, *supra*.

posed and the bylaws, ordinances, unwritten customs or expressed intentions of the parties which bear upon the issues above presented are laid before us, I shall be glad to render an opinion on the question of whether such assignment involves a conveyance of an interest in land and is therefore invalid without prior Secretarial approval.

The foregoing discussion however should make clear

the right of the pueblo to grant a lease license for the use of lands to the members of the pueblo. It should be equally clear, under the principles above set forth, that the pueblo lacks power to grant more than a mere license and that any oral transaction or written instrument purporting to grant an interest in land valid against the pueblo itself or against third parties would be void at law and in equity.

SECTION 6. PUEBLO LAND TITLES

Without further reference to the history of pueblo land titles, dealt with in the earlier sections of this chapter, we may attempt a statement of the incidents of pueblo land ownership today. At the present time the land ownership of the Pueblos is of two types. There is, in the first place, land to which the Pueblos hold fee title, under grants of the Spanish, the Mexican, or the United States Governments, or by reason of purchases made by the Pueblo. In the second place, there is land to which legal title is held by the United States, the equitable ownership of which is vested in the Pueblo. Such lands include statutory reservations¹¹⁶ and Executive order reservations of lands formerly part of the public domain.¹¹⁷ Likewise, lands purchased by the United States for the benefit of the Pueblo, whether through the use of pueblo funds or through the use of grants, appropriations, may fall under this category. In its relations to third parties, however, the rights of the Pueblo are not substantially affected by the distinction between the two forms of title.¹¹⁸ As a legal owner or as an equitable owner the Pueblo has all the ordinary rights of a landowner with respect to third parties except the right of alienation. The Pueblo has the right to exclude third parties from its land,¹¹⁹ and it has the right to

qualify this exclusion by specific conditions, under which third parties will be permitted to enter upon pueblo lands. As a landowner the Pueblo may insist that its members pay a sum of money for the privilege of entering the pueblo lands, and that while they are within the pueblo boundaries they refrain from certain types of conduct which the pueblo authorities classify as offensive. As a landowner the Pueblo may grant and revocable rights of occupancy, grazing permits, or other licenses to nonmembers, provided that no property interest is thereby identified, and subject to the approval of the Interior Department where such approval is required by existing law. Likewise, the Pueblo may lease pueblo lands to members or to outsiders subject to the approval of the Secretary of the Interior. The necessity of obtaining the consent of the United States to any transaction involving alienation of a property interest, whether by sale, mortgage, exchange gift, or lease is a matter to which we have already given consideration at pages 380 and 385.

The legal authority of the Pueblo to exercise the rights of a landowner does not depend upon the peculiar facts with respect to the legal title of pueblo grant lands. Its rights are congruent with the rights of other tribes, which have been analyzed in Chapter 15 of this volume.

The limitations upon these rights, which generally submit to the limitations placed upon land ownership by other tribes, are made specific by the terms of the Pueblo Lands Act of June 7, 1924, which has been discussed on page 380. Briefly summarized, it may be said that in its relations with the states, the Federal Government, the members of the Pueblo, and third parties generally, the Pueblo is the owner of lands granted or reserved to it, except that it does not have the right to dispose of the land or any interest therein without the approval of the United States.

SECTION 7. THE RELATION OF THE PUEBLOS TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

That the Pueblos are wards of the United States in the sense in which that phrase was first used, i. e., that Congress possesses plenary power to govern the Pueblos, is a proposition that has not been and is doubt since the *Randall* case,¹²⁰ There remains the question how far Congress has exercised this power and, in particular, how far Congress has conferred upon the Executive branch of the Federal Government authority over the Pueblos. The question of the scope of Executive power with respect to the Pueblos is dealt with in a recent opinion of the Solicitor of the Interior Department¹²¹ from which the following passage is quoted.

One of the points on which administrative control is clearly established relates to the disposition of real property. Here the cases hold that the Pueblos have no power to dispose of real property except with the consent of the United States. Such consent may be given expressly by the Secretary of the Interior, or implicitly through a legal action involving pueblo lands. In the latter case the United States must be a party to the action, or else the

Pueblos must be represented by an attorney appointed by the United States, if the decree against the Pueblos is to have validity.

The chief authority cited for this statement is the case of *United States v. Caudillo*,¹²² in which the following question was certified to the Supreme Court:

1. Are Pueblo Indians in New Mexico in such status of tutelage as to their lands by that State that the United States, in such guardianship, is not barred either by a judgment in a suit involving title to such lands begun in the territorial court and pending to judgment after statehood or by a judgment in a similar action in the United States District Court for the District of New Mexico, where, in each of said actions, the United States was not a party nor was the attorney representing such Indians therein authorized so to do by the United States? (P. 438.)

This question the Supreme Court answered in the following terms, per Van Devanter, J.:

Many provisions have been enacted by Congress—some general and other special—to prevent the Government's

¹¹⁶ 23 U. S. 58 (1913), discussed at pp. 380-390, *supra*.

¹¹⁷ Op. Sol. I. D., M.29698, August 9, 1930.

¹²² 271 U. S. 432 (1926).

Indian wards from improvidently disposing of their lands and becoming homeless public charges. One of these provisions, now embodied in section 2131 of the Revised Statutes, declares: "No pueblo, grant, lease, or other conveyance of lands, or of any title or claim thereon from any Indian nation or tribe of Indians, shall be of any validity in law or equity, unless the same be made by treaty or convention entered into pursuant to the Constitution." This provision was originally adopted in 1831, c. 161, sec. 12, 1 Stat. 739, and, with others "regulating trade and intercourse with the Indian tribes," was extended over "the Indian tribes" of New Mexico in 1851, c. 74, sec. 7, 9 Stat. 587.

While there is no express reference in the provision to Pueblo Indians, we think it must be taken as including them. They are plainly within its spirit, and in our opinion, fairly within its words, "any tribe of Indians." Although sedentary, industrious and disposed to peace, they are Indians in race, customs, and domestic government, always have lived in isolated communities, and are a simple, unimproved people, ill-equipped to cope with the intelligence and armed forces of the Government. It is difficult to believe that Congress in 1851 was not intending to protect them, but only the nomadic and savage Indians then living in New Mexico. A more reasonable view is that the term "Indian tribe" was used in the acts of 1831 and 1851 in the sense of a body of Indians of the same or a similar race, united in a community under one leadership or government, and inhabiting a particular though sometimes ill-defined territory." *Montoya v. United States*, 180 U. S. 237, 240. In that sense the term easily includes Pueblo Indians.

Under the Spanish law Pueblo Indians, although having title to their lands, were regarded as in a state of tutelage and could alienate their lands only under governmental supervision. See *Chouteau v. Colonay*, 10 How. 263, 237. Text writers have differed about the situation under the Mexican law, but in *United States v. Pico*, 5 Wall. 693, 640, this Court, speaking through Mr. Justice Field, who was specially informed on the subject, expressly recognized that under the laws of Mexico the government "extended a special guardianship" over Indian pueblos and that a conveyance of pueblo lands to be effective must be "under the supervision and with the approval" of designated authorities. And this was the ruling in *Shenoi v. Depphin*, 1 Cal. 254, 273, et seq. Thus it appears that Congress in imposing a restriction on the alienation of these lands, as we think it did, was but continuing a policy which prior governments had deemed essential to the protection of such Indians.

With this explanation of the status of the Pueblo Indians and their lands, and of the relation of the United States to both, we come to answer the questions propounded in the certificate.

To the first question we answer that the United States is not barred from reasons why be stated. The Indians of the pueblo lands of the United States and hold their lands subject to the restriction that the same cannot be alienated in any sense without its consent. A judgment of decree which annuls a title or transfers the lands from the Indians, where the United States has not authorized or appeared in the suit, infinges that restriction. The United States has an interest in maintaining and enforcing the restriction which cannot be affected by such a judgment or decree. This Court has said in dealing with a like situation: "It necessarily follows that, as a trustee of the affected lands, contrary to the inhibition of Congress would be a violation of the constitutional rights of the United States arising from its obligation to a dependent people, no stipulations, contracts, or judgments rendered in suits to which the Government is a stranger, can affect its interest." The authority of the United States to enforce the restriction actually created cannot be impaired by any action without its consent." *Boyle and Miami Improvement Co. v. United States*, 238 U. S. 528, 534. And that ruling has been recognized and given effect in other cases. *Pittell v. United States*, 285 U. S. 201, 204; *Sunderland v. United States*, 238 U. S. 230, 232.

But, as it appears that for many years the United States has employed and paid a special attorney to rep-

resent the Pueblo Indians and look after their interests, our answer is made with the qualification that, if the decree was rendered in a suit begun and prosecuted by the special attorney so employed and paid, we think the United States is as effectively combined as if it were a party to the suit. *Bonfont v. Compagnie des Bateaux*, 217 U. S. 475, 480; *Leisner v. Murray*, 3 Wall. 1, 13; *Chute v. Fletcher*, 7 Fed. 823; *Alstott v. Eaden*, 3 Fed. 402, 404; *Jancy v. Gimmann Lion Co.*, 107 Fed. 597, 613 (17 pp. 141 to 144).

The decision reached in the *Chouteau* case has been followed in a number of cases arising on appeals from decrees of the Pueblo Lands Board.¹¹

The opinion of the Solicitor of the Interior Department quoted above goes on to analyze the scope of Federal executive power over the Pueblos in the following terms:

The power of the Executive extends to the bringing of suits on behalf of a pueblo in matters affecting pueblo lands and controlling the conduct of such litigation. The basis of such power is set forth in the language above quoted from *United States v. Chouteau* in which Mr. Justice Van Devanter said: "The suit was brought on the theory that these Indians are wards of the United States and that it therefore lies within it and is under a duty to protect them in the ownership and enjoyment of their lands" (271 U. S., at 437). Under section 1 of the Pueblo Lands Act which provides that "the United States of America, in its sovereign capacity as guardian of said Pueblo Indians, shall institute certain actions to quiet title of pueblo lands, a number of suits have been brought on behalf of Indian pueblos."

See for example *United States v. Board of National Missions of Presbyterian Church, South, Chouteau v. United States*, *supra*, *Pueblo of Pecos v. Abert*, *supra*.

In the last cited case the question was raised whether the pueblo itself was precluded from appealing an adverse decision sustained in an action instituted by the United States on behalf of the pueblo. The court decided:

"It thus appears that at any time prior to the filing of the field notes and plans by the Secretary of the Interior in the office of the Surveyor General of New Mexico (Pueblo Lands Act, sec. 18, 48 Stat. 610 [25 U. S. C. A. sec. 231 note]) either the United States or the pueblo may maintain an action involving the title and right to lands of the pueblo, but a decree rendered in a suit brought by the pueblo does not bind the United States, while a decree rendered in a suit brought by the United States does bind the pueblo."

The statutory power of the United States to institute actions in the Pueblo Indians necessarily involves the power to control such litigation. If the private litigant of the pueblo could dictate the avowals of the bill, or could prevail in questions of judgment in the introduction of evidence, there would be no substance to the guardianship of the United States over the Indians. There cannot be a divided authority in the conduct of litigation; divided authority results in hopeless confusion. If the United States has power in dispute with precedence prior to trial, as has been held, it certainly has power to decline to appeal at all, if it believes the decision of the trial court is without error." (At pp. 13 to 11.)

In view of the foregoing authorities it is clear that the United States is empowered by virtue of its relation to the pueblo and pursuant to special legislation based on that relationship to conduct and control litigation on behalf of the pueblos concerned for the protection of pueblo lands.

No attempt will be made in this opinion to analyze exhaustively the realm in which the Executive arm of the

¹¹ *United States v. Board of National Missions of the Presbyterian Church*, 27 Fed. 272 (C. C. A. 10, 1920); *Gowan v. United States*, 48 Fed. 22 878 (C. C. A. 10, 1901); *Pueblo of Pecos v. Abert*, 50 Fed. 12 (C. C. A. 10, 1891).

Federal Government is empowered to supervise acts of the pueblo government. It is enough for the present to point out on the one hand to the ongoing cases upholding such supervision in matters affecting the disposition of pueblo lands and titillation with reference to such lands and to note, on the other hand, that pueblo rights of self-government in matters internal to the pueblo have been consistently recognized in all the decided cases. In the Constitution of the Santa Clara Pueblo, approved by the Secretary of the Interior on December 20, 1885, an attempt was made to distinguish between matters over which the pueblo has sovereign power, under existing Federal law, and matters over which the Interior Department has final control. This attempt is embodied in the fifth numbered paragraph of Article IV, section 1 of the Pueblo Constitution. This paragraph deals with powers which are not specifically enumerated in section 10 of the act of June 18, 1841, but which are comprehended under the general phrase "all powers vested in any Indian tribe of tribal council by existing law," reads as follows:

"5. To enact ordinances, not inconsistent with the constitution and laws of the pueblo, for the maintenance of law and order within the pueblo and for the punishment of members, and the exclusion of members violating any such ordinances, for the raising of revenue and the appropriation of available lands for pueblo purposes, for the regulation of trade, inheritance, landholding, and private dealings in land within the pueblo, for the guidance of the officers of the pueblo in all their duties, and severally for the punishment of the welfare of the pueblo and for the execution of all other powers vested in the pueblo by existing law. *Provided*, That any ordinance which affects persons who are not members of the pueblo shall not take effect until it has been approved by the Secretary of the Interior or some officer designated by him."

A third point in the relation of the pueblo to the Federal Government is raised by the question whether the pueblos may resort to legal proceedings against the United States or its officers. While this question is essentially a question of legal procedure, the substantive rights of the pueblos must depend in a very large degree upon the answer given to this question. The question is distinctly and unmistakably answered in the opinion of the Supreme Court said by Mr. Justice Van Devanter, in *Lane v. Pueblo of Santa Rosa* (240 U. S. 110 (1916)), *supra*. In that case the pueblo of Santa Rosa was recognized as entitled to bring suit against the Secretary of the Interior to expunge that official from allowing, listing, or disposing of, its own lands of the United States, certain lands claimed by the Indian pueblo.

Again, in the case of *Pueblo de San Juan v. United States* (147 F. 2d 446 (C. C. A. 10, 1931)), *supra*, the right of a pueblo to bring suit against the United States, under the Pueblo Lands Act (43 Stat. 187), was upheld.

In accordance with the familiar rule a suit against the

United States must be based upon legislation through which the United States permits itself to be sued. Suits against officers of the United States based on alleged official acts require no such statutory authority.

A final question which the relation of the pueblo to the Federal Government has raised is the question whether the pueblos are entitled to the protection of the Federal Constitution with respect to acts done under Federal authority.

The opinion of the Supreme Court in the above-cited case of *Lane v. Pueblo of Santa Rosa* answers this question in the following terms:

"The defendants assert with much earnestness that the Indians of this pueblo are wards of the United States—recognized as such by the legislative and executive departments—and that in consequence the disposal of their lands is not within their own control, but subject to such regulations as Congress may prescribe for their benefit and protection. Assuming, without as deciding, that this is all true, we think it has no real bearing on the point we are considering. Certainly it would not justify the defendants in treating the lands of these Indians—to which, according to the bill, they have a complete and perfect title—as public lands of the United States and disposing of the same under the public land laws. That would not be an exercise of guardianship, but an act of encroachment. Besides, the Indians are not here seeking to establish any power or equity in themselves to dispose of the lands, but only to prevent a threatened disposal by individuals and officers in disregard of their full ownership. Of their capacity to maintain such a suit we entertain no doubt. The existing wardship is not an obstacle, as is shown by repeated decisions of this court, of which *Lozano v. Hitchcock*, 187 U. S. 658, is an illustration." (41 pp. 113 to 114.)

Again, it was held in the case of *Chavez v. United States*, *supra*, that Congress could not constitutionally deprive a pueblo of the right to plead a New Mexico statute of limitations. The court declared:

"We conclude that such Indian pueblos were entitled to the benefits of the New Mexico statutes of limitation and that the United States, as their guardian, may plead such statutes in their behalf."

"If this be true, then the Pueblo of Taos, having acquired fee simple title to the Townsite tract under section 3501, *supra*, prior to the adoption of the Pueblo Lands Act, could not be deprived of that title by legislative action." (41 pp. 878.)

In accordance with the foregoing decisions it is plain that while the Indian pueblos have been considered for certain purposes as wards of the Federal Government they are entitled not only to bring suit against that Government and its officers but to receive the same Government and officers the protections guaranteed by the Federal Constitution.

SECTION 8. THE RELATION OF THE PUEBLOS TO THE STATE

We have already noted that the terms upon which New Mexico was admitted to statehood left no room for a claim by the state to governmental power over the Pueblos. The general rule that the Pueblos are not subject to state control must, however, be qualified in several respects.

In the first place, as noted in Chapter 6 of this volume, pueblo lands, like other Indian reservations, are part of the state in which they are situated for purposes of state jurisdiction over non-Indians.

In the second place, Congress has made various state laws, such as laws respecting health and education,¹⁴⁶ applicable on Indian reservations, and these laws are as applicable to the Pueblos as to other Indian tribes.¹⁴⁷

In the third place, the judgments and decrees of the Pueblo In-

teriors, properly within its jurisdiction would appear to merit the same faith and credit that is owing to other recognized agencies of tribal government under the decisions discussed elsewhere in this volume.¹⁴⁸

A significant problem of the relation of the Pueblos to the State of New Mexico is raised by the possibility of suit by a Pueblo in a state court.¹⁴⁹ On this question an opinion of the Solicitor of the Interior Department¹⁵⁰ declares:

"It has occasionally been assumed that where a State has no jurisdiction over the land of an Indian pueblo, the

¹⁴⁶ See Chapter 14, sec. 3.

¹⁴⁷ Examples of such state or territorial courts are: *Pueblo of Laguna v. Pueblo of Acoma*, 1 N. M. 220 (1887), dispute over possession of sacred picture; *Pueblo de la O v. Pueblo of Acoma*, 1 N. M. 220 (1887), dispute over possession of document of title; *Pueblo of Jalesa v. Pueblo and Person*, 18 N. M. 388, 137 Pac. 80, 10 (1918), condemnation of rights-of-way.

¹⁴⁸ See Vol. I D., M. 22850, August 9, 1930.

¹⁴⁹ 201 U. S. C. 231.

¹⁵⁰ See Chapter 6, sec. 2.

pueblo has no standing in the courts of the State. This assumption is entirely erroneous. Despite the lack of State jurisdiction over pueblo lands, the pueblo may, nevertheless, bring suit in State courts, so far as State law permits and demand, in other respects, recognition as a public corporation. The judgments and ordinances of a pueblo are entitled to the same sort of recognition that State courts give to the acts of another State or nation. The pueblo as a sovereign body is not subject to suit in State courts, except with its own consent. The pueblo is not in that reason a pariah. It is entitled at the very least to all the rights which a foreign nation assert in the courts of a State.

The foregoing views are based upon the judgment of the Supreme Court in *United States v. Candelaria*.¹² In this case the United States, as guardian of the Pueblo of Laguna, brought a suit to quiet title. The objection was made that prior decisions in the state courts barred the action. The Court commented on the validity of the earlier decrees, in the following terms:

In their assent the defendants denied the wardship of the United States and also set up in bar two decrees rendered in prior suits brought against them by the pueblo to quiet the title to the same lands. One suit was described as begun in 1910 in the territorial court and transferred when New Mexico became a State to the succeeding state court, where on appeal a decree was given in the defendants' favor. . . . In the replication the United States alleged that it was not a party to either of the prior suits, that it neither authorized the bringing of them nor was represented by the attorney who appeared for the pueblo, and therefore that it was not bound by the decrees.

On the case thus presented the court held that the

decrees operated to bar the prosecution of the present suit by the United States, and on that ground the bill was dismissed. An appeal was taken to the Circuit Court of Appeals, which after outlining the case as just stated, has certified to this Court the following questions:

2. Did the state court of New Mexico have jurisdiction to enter a judgment which would be *res judicata* as to the United States, in an action between Pueblo Indians and opposed plaintiffs concerning title to land, where the result of that judgment would be to disavow a survey made in the United States of a Spanish or Mexican grant pursuant to an act of Congress confirming such grant to said Pueblo Indians? (Pr. 198 to 430.)

Coming to this second question, we eliminate so much of it as refers to a possible disregard of a survey made in the United States, for that would have no bearing on the court's jurisdiction on the binding effect of the judgment or decree, but would present only a question of whether error was committed in the course of exercising jurisdiction. With that eliminated, our answer to the question is that the state court had jurisdiction to enter into the suit and proceed to judgment on decree. (P. 414.)

The case of *Trinidad v. Prince*,¹³ establishing the proposition that an Indian, outside of his Pueblo, is within the scope of the state wrongful death statute, so that his administration may be entitled to recover damages in a state court against a non-Indian, demonstrates that where state law does not interfere with congressional or tribal power it may be invoked in certain cases between Indians and non-Indians. This case does not involve any peculiarities of pueblo law, and the general issues which it raises are dealt with elsewhere in this volume.¹⁴

¹² 271 U. S. 8, 412 (1926). That portion of the opinion in this case which relates to the last question certified is set forth and discussed above at pp. 396-397.

¹³ 42 N. M. 317, 78 P. 2d 115 (1918).

¹⁴ See Chapter 8, sec. 6, Chapter 19, sec. 7.

SECTION 9. THE PUEBLO AS A CORPORATE ENTITY

We have already noted that the Pueblos of New Mexico were given the status of corporations by one of the first acts of the New Mexican Territorial Government.¹⁵ This legislative characterization may be viewed as a transition into Anglo-Saxon terms of the corporate recognition which the Pueblos had long enjoyed under Spanish and Mexican law. In the case of *Lane v. Pueblo of Santa Rosa*,¹⁶ the Supreme Court declared, *per* Van Devanter, *J.*

During the Spanish, as also the Mexican, dominion it enjoyed a large measure of local self-government and was recognized as having capacity to acquire and hold lands and other property. With much reason this might be regarded as enabling and entitling it to become a suzerain, for the purpose of enforcing or defending its property interests. . . . See *School District v. Wood*, 13 Massachusetts, 388, 118, 1 Conder's Const. Law, 7th ed., p. 276. 1 Diction. Munic. Corp., 5th ed., secs. 50, 61, 65. But our decision need not be put on that ground, for there is another which arises out of our own laws and is in itself sufficient. After the Guadalupe Treaty Congress made that region part of the Territory of New Mexico and subjected it to "all the laws" of that Territory. Act August 4, 1848, c. 245, 10 Stat. 675. One of those laws provided that the inhabitants of any Indian pueblo having a grant in concession of lands from Spain or Mexico, such as is here claimed, should be a body corporate and as such capable of suing or defending in respect of such lands. Laws New Mex. 1861-2, pp. 176 and 418. If the plaintiff was not a legal entity and person under previous laws, it became such under that law; and it retained that status after Congress, included it in the Territory of Arizona, for the act by which this was done extended to that Territory all legislative enactments of

the Territory of New Mexico. Act February 21, 1883, c. 50, 12 Stat. 681. The fact that Arizona has since become a State does not affect the plaintiff's corporate status or its power to sue. See *Quinn v. Pueblo R. R. Co. v. Johnson, Topka & Santa Fe R. R. Co.*, 112 U. S. 434 (1912).

The corporate status of the Pueblos has been recognized in many cases.¹⁷

In *United States v. Candelaria*, the Supreme Court, *per* Van Devanter, *J.*, commented on the *Lane* case in these terms:

It was settled in *Lane v. Pueblo of Santa Rosa*, 240 U. S. 110, that under its various laws enacted with congressional sanction each pueblo in New Mexico—meaning the Indians comprising the communities—was a body corporate and enabled to sue and defend in respect of its lands. . . . That was a suit brought by the Pueblo of Santa Rosa to enjoin the Secretary of the Interior and the Commissioner of the General Land Office from carrying out what was alleged to be an unauthorized purpose and attempt to dispose of the Pueblo's Lands as public land of the United States. Arizona was named from unit of New Mexico and when in that way the pueblo came to be in the new territory it retained its juristic status. (Pp. 442-443.)

The incidents of corporate status¹⁸ attaching to the Pueblos are analyzed in a recent opinion of the Substantive of the Interior Department¹⁹ in the following passage:

It is clear that the decided cases leave no room for doubt on the proposition that the pueblos of New Mexico

¹⁵ Laws, New Mexico, 1851-1852, p. 418. See sec. 2, *supra*.

¹⁶ 240 U. S. 110 (1915).

¹⁷ *United States v. Candelaria*, 271 U. S. 8, 432, 442-443 (1926); *Pueblo of San Juan v. United States*, 108 U. S. 138 (1871); *Quincy v. United States*, 48 F. 2d 878, 879 (C. C. A. 10, 1900); *Pueblo of San Juan v. United States*, 47 F. 2d 446 (C. C. A. 10, 1901), cert. den. 284 U. S. 628.

¹⁸ The right of the Pueblos, as corporations, to receive standing payments under the Taylor Grazing Act (Act of June 28, 1890, 48 Stat.

are corporations, with power to bring suits against third parties, and liability to suits brought by third parties."

It is not so clear what manner of corporation the pueblos are. The most explicit characterization found in any of the Federal cases, heretofore decided is found in the case of *United States v. United States, supra*, where the Pueblo of Taos is classified under the category of "municipal or public corporations."

" * * By the Act of December, 1847, Rev. St. N. M. 1875, p. 429, section 68-101, N. M. Stat. Ann. Comp. 1923, the Indian Pueblos were given the status of bodies public and corporate and, as such, empowered to sue in respect of their lands. *Lake v. Pueblo of Santa Rosa*, 240 U. S. 110, 30 S. Ct. 185, 63 L. Ed. 504. A statute of limitation, in the absence of provision therein to the contrary, runs not only for, but against municipal or public corporations. *Metropolitan R. Co. v. Dist. of Columbia*, 132 U. S. 3, 11-32,

1209 as amended by the Act of June 28, 1916 40 Stat. 1076) is affirmed in two of the opinions of the Solicitor of the Interior Department which contain an exhaustive analysis of Pueblo corporate status. Op. Sol. I. D. M. 2839, February 15, 1907; Op. Sol. I. D., M. 2707, May 14, 1908. On the general problem of the corporate status of Indian tribes, see Chapter 14, *see 4*.

¹⁴ Op. Sol. I. D. M. 29098, August 6, 1909.

¹⁵ Insofar as the quoted statement indicates that a Pueblo has legal capacity to defend an action, the statement is amply supported by the language of the Supreme Court in the *Lane and Oandolea* cases, above quoted, and by certain decisions of the Territorial court. (See fn. 127 *supra*.) The inference, however, at a Pueblo may be sued without its consent would find no support in these opinions of the Supreme Court, and would run contrary to the rule that a sovereign body is immune from suits to which it has not consented. The application of this rule in Five Civilized Tribes cases has been upheld. *Turner v. United States*, 249 U. S. 354 (1919), *Idem v. Idem*, 106 Fed. 304 (C. C. A. 8, 1902), *Idem v. Choctaw Tribe of Indians*, 66 Fed. 372 (C. C. A. 8, 1902), and see *United States v. United States Fidelity Co.*, 108 F. 2d 804, 800 (C. C. A. 10, 1939). That a similar holding would be reached in the case of the New Mexican Pueblos is indicated by *United States v. Bandol*, 221 U. S. 28, 48 (1913).

108 Ct. 10, 33 L. Ed. 231, *Lafitte v. Bennett*, 131 Ind. 45 Indho 485, 203 U. S. 40, 58 A. L. R. 822; *Rowdell v. D. No. 5 v. Forney County*, 52 N. D. 43, 216 N. W. 232, 215. We conclude that such Indian Pueblos were entitled to the benefits of the New Mexico statutes of limitation and that the United States, as their guardian, may plead such statutes in their behalf." (P. 878.)

While the Pueblos of New Mexico fall within certain definitions of "municipal corporations,"¹⁶ it is not intended to suggest that they are municipal corporations of the State of New Mexico within the meaning of state statutes on the rights and powers of such corporations. Such an inference would run counter to the basic doctrines of tribal self-government and congressional sovereignty in Indian affairs. The term "public corporation" is therefore perhaps more appropriate as a characterization of the legal status of the Pueblos. The content of any term of characterization, however, must depend largely upon judicial decisions which have not yet been rendered.

¹⁶ "A municipal corporation, in its strict and proper sense, is the body politic and corporate constituted by the incorporation of the inhabitants of a city or town for the purposes of local government thereof. * * * It may, therefore, define a municipal corporation in its historical and strict sense to be the incorporation, by the authority of the government, of the inhabitants of a particular place or district, and authorizing them in their corporate capacity to exercise subordinate special powers of legislation and regulation with respect to their local and internal concerns. This power of local government in the distinct purpose and the distinguishing feature of a municipal corporation proper." 1 Dillon on Municipal Corporations (6th ed. 1911) sec. 31-32. The essential feature of local self-government has been discussed under an earlier heading. The fact that the Pueblo is a membership corporation rather than a stock corporation is (as obvious to call for discussion) the relation of the corporation to a particular area of land and the inhabitants thereof is made clear in the territorial statute establishing the corporate status of the Pueblo which has been quoted above.

CHAPTER 21

ALASKAN NATIVES

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SECTION 1. CLASSIFICATION OF ALASKAN NATIVES

The term "Natives of Alaska" has been defined to include members of the aboriginal races inhabiting Alaska at the time of its annexation to the United States, and their descendants of the whole or mixed blood.¹ Important native groups comprise the Eskimos, which are distinct from, although related to, the American Indians, the Kurok and Aleuts, and the Indians. Among the

Indian groups are the Athapascans, Tlingits, Indians, and Tsimshians, which include the Metlakshilans.² According to many reputable anthropologists, all these strains migrated to the New World by way of Bering Strait.

The Eskimos (including the Aleuts) constitute almost two-thirds of the natives.³ They inhabit the shores of the Arctic

¹ The following is some of the statutory provisions defining this term: The Act of June 27, 1908, 32 Stat. 1169, amending the Alaska game law, defines "Indian" to include "Natives of one-half or more Indian blood," and "Eskimo" to include "Natives of one-half or more Eskimo blood."

² Sec. 2 of the Act of April 10, 1954, 18 Stat. 794, 598, which grants special Indian privileges to "native Indians," defines "native Indian" to mean "members of the aboriginal races inhabiting Alaska when annexed to the United States, and their descendants of the whole or part blood." The term "Indian" is defined similarly in section 142 of the Act of March 3, 1879, 10 Stat. 1274, 1275.

³ See 15 of the Russian Act of September 1, 1907, 10 Stat. 900, 902, defines the term "natives of Alaska" as meaning—

"the native Indians, Eskimos, and Aleuts of whole or part blood inhabiting Alaska at the time of the Treaty of Cession of Alaska to the United States, and their descendants of whole or part blood together with the Indians and Eskimos who, since the year 1907 and prior to the enactment hereof, have migrated into Alaska from the Dominion of Canada, and their descendants of the whole or part blood."

By 19 of the Act of June 18, 1951, 48 Stat. 984, 988, provided: "For the purposes of this Act, Eskimos and other aboriginal peoples of Alaska shall be considered Indians."

C. 80, section 112 of the Penal Code of Alaska, Act of February 6, 1909, 35 Stat. 900, 908, which makes the sale of liquor to Indians a crime, provides:

"That the term 'Indians' . . . shall be construed to include the aboriginal tribes inhabiting Alaska when annexed to the United States, and their descendants of the whole or half blood, who have not become citizens of the United States."

The Indians, Eskimos and Aleuts legally fall within the category of Natives of Alaska. *In re Minkot*, 2 Alaska 200 (1901), 49 F. 2d 992 (1924), 22 F. 2d 207 (1928), 53 F. 2d 203 (1937).

² The Aleut, Iredikka, Curator of Universal Anthropology Smithsonian Institution, in "The Coming of Man from Asia in the Light of Recent Discoveries, Annual Report, Smithsonian Inst. for 1925, II Doc. No. 324, pt. 1, 74th Cong., 2d sess. (1916), p. 460, expresses the opinion that the Eskimo, though a later comer to Alaska, is a blood relation of the Indian.

The Eskimo appears to be a later offshoot from the same old stock that gave us the Indian. He came later, and in two subtypes, one invited to, the other invited from, the Indian. The relation of the Indian and the Eskimo may best perhaps be represented by a hand with outstretched fingers. The diverging fingers are the different types of the Indian, the thumb which should be double, represents the Eskimo. The thumb is farther apart but originates from the same hand, which is the old or paleo-Asiatic yellow-brown skin, a strain that gave us the ancestry of all the aboriginal Americans.

³ Latest studies by ethnologists have resulted in classifying all the natives except the Eskimos as remote offshoots of the North American Indian stock. I. Blue-Papered Britannica (14th ed. 1930), p. 602.

⁴ The 1940 census reports native Indians and Eskimos under six linguistic groups—Aleut, Eskimo, Athapascan, Indian, Tlingit, and Tsimshian. All other Indians come under United States or Canadian stocks.

⁵ See Jones, A Study of the Tribes of Alaska (1914).

⁶ See Survey of the Conditions of Indians in the United States, pt. 87 (Metlakshila Indians), 7th Cong. 2d sess., Training School Superintendent on Ind. Affairs (1909). For an account of the customs and civilization of these people through the indistinguishable efforts of the missionary, William Denman, see Aletander, The Apostles of Alaska (1909), and Wellcome, The Story of Metlakshila (2d ed. 1909). Also see The Metlakshila, vol. 1, Nov. 1-5 (1895-91), a magazine published at Metlakshila. The more recent history of these people is discussed in *Alaskan Pacific Fisheries v. United States*, 248 U. S. 578 (1918), aff'd 240 Fed. 274 (C. C. A. 9, 1917), and *Trustees of Alaska v. United States Park*, 298 U. S. 280, 282, 283 (C. C. A. 9, 1923), cert. den. 299 U. S. 708 (1923).

⁷ The slight definition of American Indians in the statute of which all serious students caution, is that they continued to be peopled essentially from northeastern Asia. The duration in relative of which exist to the day even white pairs in southern and eastern Asia, and that the only practicable route for man to Asia is a cultural stage as he must have been at the time of his first coming to America was that between northeastern Asia and Alaska.

⁸ *Id.* 190, 99 of Annual Report Smithsonian Inst. for 1905, II Doc. No. 324, 74th Cong., 2d sess. (1916), p. 403. See also Wislizen, The American Indian (1922), pp. 389-400; Jones, Anthropology—Physical and Cultural, *Waters from Asia to America*, 10 Ann. Washington Academy of Sciences No. 1 (1916), pp. 1-17.

⁹ Senator Charles Sumner alluded to this treaty on April 9, 1867, in a speech before the Senate of the United States during the ratification of the treaty between the United States and Russia for the purchase of Alaska. *Id.* The Works of Charles Sumner (1879), p. 264. This speech is a valuable summary of the contemporary knowledge of Alaska.

¹⁰ Fifteenth Census of the United States, (including Territories and Possessions), (1912), pt. 19, 20. On October 1, 1927, there were 10,428 Eskimos (including the Aleuts) and 10,055 natives of other linguistic stock. The total population was 50,278, of which the natives total slightly over half, or 29,983. For a discussion of the composition and distribution of the population, see Alaska, Its Resources and Development, II Doc. No. 486, 76th Cong., 2d sess. (1919), pp. 85-88, 153. The uncertainty of much of the contemporary writings on Alaska at the time of its purchase is evidenced by the fact that its population was then variously estimated at from 64,000 to 400,000. Probably the former figure was more nearly accurate, for it was adopted by the "Manuscript of 1867" for 1867 and the "Les Peuples de la Russie" the best authority at that time. It was estimated that there were not more than 8,600

Ocean, the islands of Bering Sea, and the Aleutian chain, and one-third of them live north of the Arctic circle.¹

The Aleuts inhabit the Aleutian Islands and the adjacent mainland, while the Athapascan Indians, perhaps the most primitive, occupy the interior, reaching the coast only at Cook's Inlet.² The coastal Indians, which include the Tlingits,³ a race of maritime nomads, the related Haidas, and the Tsimshians have their

Rusians and Creoles, and 8,000 aborigines under the direct government of the Russian American Co., and between 40,000 and 50,000 other aborigines who had only a temporary or casual contact with the company for purposes of trade. XI The Works of Charles Sumner (1875), pp. 261-263.

See 23th of Art. 3, Charter of the Russian American Company defines Creoles as follows:

Children born of a European or Siberian father and a native American mother, in or of a native American father and a European or Siberian mother shall be regarded as creoles, equally with the children of those latter, of whom a special record is preserved. See *Ex re Minook*, 2 Alaska 299, 314 (1904).

North, Alaska and its Resources (1870), p. 547, estimates that the population of Alaska about 1867 was 29,097, of which 28,814 were natives and 1,121 Creoles or half bloods. At present the mixed-blood population is increasing. XI Encyclopedia of the Social Sciences (1935), p. 260.

² Spicer, The Constitutional Status and Government of Alaska (1927), p. 98. Jarman, The Eskimos of Northern Alaska: A Study in the Field of Civilization, V Geographical Review (1913), pp. 80-101.

³ Osgood, The Distribution of the Northern Athapascan Indians, Yale University Publications in Anthropology, No. 7 (1936), Ethnography of the Tsimshian, ibid., No. 16 (1937).

⁴ Knapp and Childs, The Chilkats of Southeastern Alaska (1896).

SECTION 2. CLASSIFICATION OF NATIVES UNDER RUSSIAN RULE

In determining the status of the natives with respect to civilization and citizenship, the courts have given considerable weight to their ethnology, the state of their civilization and their relationship to the antecedent Russian Government.¹ During the 67 years prior to the acquisition by the United States of Alaska,² the Russian American Company, exercised practically absolute dominion over this country.³ The imperial law of Russia recognized the settled natives, including the Aleuts, Koliuks, Eskimos, and Tlingits, who embraced the Christian faith, as Russian citizens, on the same footing as white subjects.

... the independent tribes of pagan faith who acknowledged no restraint from the Russians, and pre-

ferred their ancient customs—were classed as uncivilized native tribes by the Russian law.⁴

The natives reside in small, widely separated villages,⁵ communities, or fishing camps, scattered along the 25,000 miles of coast and on the great rivers, principally along the southern and far northwestern coast. But the most part they do not fall into well-defined tribal groups occupying a fixed geographical area.⁶ Most of them are engaged in hunting and fishing, sometimes supplementing these occupations by agriculture. The raising of reindeer provides subsistence for some and is expected to become more important in their economy.⁷ An increasing number of natives are finding wage employment.⁸

¹ Anderson and Kells, Alaska Natives (1905), p. 6, cf. *supra*, Kiser, Indian Villages of Southwest Alaska, Annual Report, Smithsonian Inst. for 1927, II Doc. No. 58, pt. 1, 70th Cong., 1st sess. (1928), pp. 407-401, also see Clark, History of Alaska (1930), pp. 22-31.

² A description of an Eskimo village is contained in Anderson and Kells, *op. cit.*, pp. 12-17. Also see Hildemann, My Life with the Eskimos (1913).

³ Report of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs in Annual Report of the Secretary of the Interior (1887), pp. 200-201.

⁴ See *Ex re* Alaska—its Resources and Development *op. cit.*, p. 41, 1908.

⁵ Alaska—its Resources and Development, *op. cit.*, p. 41, for a table of the number of natives actually employed in all industries see Fifteenth Census of the United States, Outlying Territories and Possessions (1942), p. 27. Also see hearings before the subcommittee of the House Committee on Appropriations on the Interior Department Appropriations Bill for 1913, pt. 1, pp. 875-876.

¹ *Ex re Minook*, 2 Alaska 200 (1904); *United States v. Berlin*, 2 Alaska 442 (1905).

² Before its cession, this territory was called Russian America.

³ Organized in 1790 under a charter from the Russian Emperor. XI The Works of Charles Sumner (1875), p. 247. The company failed to renew its charter in 1868. Clark, History of Alaska (1930), pp. 50-59. See Anderson, Alaska Under the Russians, VII Washington Historical Quarterly (1910), pp. 278-295.

ferred their ancient customs—were classed as uncivilized native tribes by the Russian law.¹

The interest of the Russian Government in trade with the natives,² is indicated by the treaty made with the United States on April 17, 1824,³ which deals incidentally with the natives of Alaska. Article I permitted the citizens of both contracting powers to navigate and fish in the Bering Ocean and Article IV permitted trading with the natives. Article V excepted from this commerce the sale of "intoxicating liquors, firearms, other arms, powder, and munitions of war of every kind." * * *⁴ Several years later, Congress implemented this treaty by the Act of May 19, 1828,⁵ which provided for the punishment of violators of Article V.

¹ *Ex re Minook*, 2 Alaska 200, 218 (1904).

² See Sumner, *op. cit.*, pp. 292-293.

³ 8 Stat. 302. Ratified January 17, 1826, proclaimed January 12, 1826.

⁴ Art. IV limited to 10 years the migration of ships in the interior coast for the purpose of fishing and trading with the natives.

⁵ 21 C. 57, 4 Stat. 270.

SECTION 3. TREATY OF CESSION

Alaska was ceded to the United States by Russia for \$7,200,000 in gold by the treaty concluded March 30, 1867.¹ Article III, which deals with the inhabitants makes no distinction based on color or racial origin. It provides:

The Inhabitants of the ceded territory, according to their choice, reserving their natural allegiance, may remain in Russia within three years, but if they should prefer to remain in the ceded territory, they with the exception of uncivilized native tribes, shall be admitted to the

enjoyment of all the rights, advantages, and immunities of citizens of the United States, and shall be maintained and protected in the free enjoyment of their liberty, property, and religion. The uncivilized tribes will be subject to such laws and regulations as the United States may, from time to time, adopt in regard to aboriginal tribes of that country.

The Treaty thus divided the Alaskan inhabitants into the following three classes:

- (1) Those who returned to Russia within 3 years, and thereby reserved their natural allegiance;
- (2) Those who remained in the territory, except "uncivilized native tribes"; and
- (3) "Uncivilized native tribes."

¹ 15 Stat. 580. Ratified by the United States May 28, 1867, exchanged June 20, 1867, proclaimed by the United States June 20, 1867. For further details concerning the history of the purchase, see the bibliography cited, pp. 116, 117, in Spicer, *op. cit.* Also see Clark, *op. cit.*, pp. 60-80.

SECTION 4. SOURCES OF FEDERAL POWER

The primary sources of federal power over the Alaska natives are three:— First, since Alaska is a recognized territory,¹ it is subject to the paramount and plenary authority of Congress to enact laws for the government of the territory and its inhabitants.² Section 3 of the Organic Act of August 21, 1912,³ provides:

"That the Constitution of the United States, and all the laws thereof which are not locally inapplicable, shall have the same force and effect within the said Territory as elsewhere in the United States."

Second, the vacant, unincorporated and unappropriated land at the date of the Cession became a part of the public domain of the United States.⁴ Since 99 percent of Alaska consists of public lands,⁵ the federal control over its property is a vital source of power.

Third, it is said that Congress may enact any legislation it deems proper for the benefit and protection of the natives of Alaska, because they are wards of the United States,⁶ in the sense that they are subject to the plenary power of Congress over Indian affairs.

It has been said that from the viewpoint of constitutional power the question of the Indian or non-Indian origin of the natives is unimportant.⁷ In view of the broad powers over territories and wards, this statement is accurate. However, where the constitutional power is derived from a source wholly applicable to Indians such as the power to regulate commerce with Indian tribes,⁸ the distinction between Indians and non-Indians must be borne in mind.⁹

This exercise of federal power over territories, public property, and wards has been judicially sustained in two cases. The first, the *Alaska Pacific Fisheries case*,¹⁰ involved the right of the President to issue a proclamation without express statutory authority withdrawing from the public domain the waters adjacent to the Aleutian Islands and reserving the waters within 8,000 feet from the shore at mean low tide. The purpose of this reservation was to develop an Indian fishing industry.¹¹

¹ 41 Op. Sol. 1, 11 M 29147, May 1917. See Chapter 5, sec. 1.

² *Stream v. Ogilvie*, 7 *United States*, 133 U. S. 840, 732 (1890).

³ See Chapter 5, sec. 5.

⁴ C. 387, 37 Stat. 512.

⁵ 51-1 D. 39, 16 (1923).

⁶ *United States v. Brannan*, 2 Alaska 442, 448 (1905).

⁷ *Alaska, Its Resources and Development*, *op. cit.*, p. 144.

⁸ *Alaska Pacific Fisheries v. United States*, 218 U. S. 78 (1918) affg. 240 Fed. 274 (C. C. A. 9, 1917); *Territory of Alaska v. Aleutian Island Park*, 240 Fed. 274 (C. C. A. 9, 1917); *United States v. Brannan*, 2 Alaska 412 (1905); *United States v. Odoms*, 5 Alaska 125 (1914); *Neale v. United States*, 191 Fed. 141, 112 (C. C. A. 9, 1911); 49 L. D. 692 (1913), 50 L. D. 115 (1914); 51 L. D. 176 (1925). 52 L. D. 607 (1920); 51-1 D. 601 (1912); 54-1 D. 15 (1922); *op. Sol.*, 11 D. M 29147, May 1, 1917. See, *cf.* discussion this subject.

⁹ 54-1 D. 10 (1912); 53-1 D. 581, 595 (1922).

¹⁰ 51 Op. Sol. 1, see R. 11. See Chapter 5, sec. 7.

¹¹ For an example of the exercise of this power see Chapter 11.

¹² 240 Fed. 274 (C. C. A. 9, 1917) affg. 248 U. S. 78 (1918).

¹³ The Proclamation of April 28, 1914, 39 Stat. 1777, creating the Aleutian Island Fishery Reserve provides:

"* * * The waters within three thousand feet from the shore lines of mean low tide of all Aleutian Island, from Island, Walker Island, Lewis Island, Spruce Island, Hermit Island, and adjacent rocks and islets, and also the bays of said islands, rocks and islets, are hereby reserved for the benefit of the Metlakatla and such other Alaska natives as have joined them or may join

The Supreme Court of the United States enjoined the defendant corporation from maintaining a fish trap in the navigable waters within the territorial limit, holding that the creation of the reservation was a valid exercise of federal power, and that the reservation included the adjacent submerged land and deep water, supplying fisheries essential to the welfare of the Indians, who might otherwise become a public charge.

The decision was based on the inherent conclusion that Congress intended to assist the Indians in their effort to become self-sustaining and civilized, and that Congress undoubtedly had the power to reserve waters, which were the property of the United States, since it protected the food supply of the Indians. In reaching this decision, the Court stated that it was influenced by the following considerations:

"* * * the circumstances in which the reservation was created, the power of Congress in the premises, the location and character of the islands, the situation and needs of the Indians and the object to be attained." (P. 87.)

The Circuit Court of Appeals in a later case¹² involving the attempt of the Territory of Alaska to encroach upon the federal estate of the Indians by leasing an occupation lay on the output of a private salmon cannery on the Aleutian Island reservation, operating under a lease executed by the Secretary of the Interior, held that the Territory of Alaska was not authorized to levy such a tax, on the ground that the lease was an instrumentality of the Government to assist the Metlakatla Indians to become self-sustaining. The power of the Secretary of the Interior to execute the lease was also sustained.¹³

The exercise of federal power over other natives of Alaska has been similarly upheld. Thus by virtue of his power to supervise the public business relating to Indians, the Secretary of the Interior may supervise a reservation created to enable the Department (through the Bureau of Education) to maintain a school, and may enter into a lease with a third party for the operation of a salmon cannery.¹⁴

Furthermore, even prior to the extension of the Wheeler-Howard Act¹⁵ to Alaska, it was recognized that Congress possessed the power to create Indian reservations in Alaska.¹⁶

When in residence on these islands, to be used by them under the general Fisheries laws, and regulations of the United States as administered by the Secretary of Commerce.

¹² The Court also approved the portion of the regulations, prescribed by the Secretary of the Interior in 1915, reserving the Indians as the only persons to whom permits may be issued in opening salmon traps at these islands. See 25 C. P. R. 1-11 (1915).
¹³ *Territory of Alaska v. Aleutian Island Park*, 240 Fed. 671 (C. C. A. 9, 1923); *see also* 207 U. S. 708 (1923).

¹⁴ *See* 19 L. D. 592 (1914); *see also* 1917, April 10, 1917, which approves the Alaska Fisheries Act. *See also* *Butler v. Heckman*, 21 Alaska 188, 192 (1901), affg. *Heckman v. Butler*, 114 Fed. 81 (C. C. A. 9, 1902). The court said: " * * * no other other persons than the natives, who require any exclusive right other in navigating and fishing therein."

¹⁵ *Alaska Pacific Fisheries v. United States*, 248 U. S. 78 (1918), affg. 240 Fed. 274 (C. C. A. 9, 1917); *Territory of Alaska v. Aleutian Island Park*, 240 Fed. 274 (C. C. A. 9, 1917); 40 L. D. 115 (1925); 40 L. D. 592 (1922), cited in 88 U. S. 534 (1924).

¹⁶ For a discussion of the Wheeler-Howard Act and Alaska see 9 *Op. Sol.*

¹⁷ 18 Op. A. 367 (1887); 54-1 D. 502 503 (1922); *Alaska Pacific Fisheries v. United States*, 248 U. S. 78 (1918), affg. 240 Fed. 274 (C. C. A. 9, 1917).

SECTION 5. CITIZENSHIP

The Treaty of Cession provided for the collective naturalization of the members of the civilized native tribes of Alaska. Congress implicitly consented to this contract which obligated it to incorporate the inhabitants, except uncivilized tribes, as citizens of the United States, by extending certain laws to the

Territory and by passing the Organic Acts of 1881 and 1912.¹

The difficulty of defining civilization made the legal status

¹ Act of May 17, 1884, 23 Stat. 24, providing for a partial civil government. Act of August 24, 1912, c. 387, 37 Stat. 512, providing for a civil government. See *Spicer, op. cit.*, pp. 24-25.

of the natives of Alaska a matter of much doubt and uncertainty. The *Minnock* case⁴⁰ throws some light on the distinction between civilized and uncivilized tribes. In denying the application for citizenship of the son of a Russian father and an Eskimo mother, and the husband of a native woman, Judge Wickersham held that the applicant was not a Russian citizen though he was born in Alaska in 1840, and, together with his parents, was a member of the Greek Church and a subject of Russia at the time of the census. "The court held that Minnock was a citizen of the United States by virtue of the third article of the treaty with Russia, either as one of those inhabitants who accepted the benefits of the proffered naturalization, or as a member of an uncivilized native tribe who has voluntarily taken up his residence separate from any tribe of Indians and has adopted the habits of civilized life."⁴¹

In order to discover the intentions of the signatory nations, Judge Wickersham quoted and discussed portions of the charter of the Russian American Co. He also drew upon the science of ethnology to determine whether the tribe was civilized and quoted Prof. W. H. Dall⁴² of the Smithsonian Institution, as to which natives were civilized. The next year he quoted with approval portions from this opinion and again used the same technique to prove that natives belonging to the Athapascan stock were uncivilized at the time of the census and hence, as wards of the Government, were entitled to an injunction against the repossess of white men on their property.⁴³

The General Allotment Act gave to two additional classes of

⁴⁰ *In re Minnock*, 2 Alaska 200 (1904).

⁴¹ *Ibid.*, pp. 219, 220.

⁴² See in *T. supra*.

⁴³ *United States v. Berigan*, 2 Alaska 442 (1905).

SECTION 6. STATUS OF NATIVES

The legal position of the individual Alaskan natives has been generally assimilated to that of the Indians in the United States.⁴⁴ It is now substantially established that they occupy the same relation to the Federal Government as do the Indians residing in the United States; that they, their property, and their affairs are under the protection of the Federal Government; that Congress may enact such legislation as it deems fit for their benefit and protection; and that the laws of the United States with respect to the Indians resident within the boundaries of the United States proper are generally applicable to the Alaskan natives.⁴⁵

For example, it has been administratively held that the general laws enacted by Congress empowering the Secretary of the Interior to prohibit the estates of deceased Indians are applicable to Alaskan natives.⁴⁶

⁴⁴ 49 L. D. 802 (1921), 53 L. D. 804 (1922).

⁴⁵ *Delegate A. J. Diamond*, of Alaska, has said (82 Cong. Rec., pt. 9, pp. 176-180, 75th Cong., 2d sess. (1918)).

"I speak appropriations for the education and medical welfare of the natives of Alaska. . . . can be heard only upon the theory that the Government, and therefore Congress, owes a special duty to the natives of Alaska (C. 189). . . . is analogous to that owed by a guardian to his ward, a trustee to the beneficiaries of the trust, or a father to his children. (P. 185). . . . the Government . . . is bound in honor and good morals, to meet suitable measures for their benefit and their economic welfare. (P. 185)."

⁴⁶ 52 L. D. 897 (1929); 53 L. D. 803 (1922); *Alaska Pacific Fisheries Com. supra*; *United States v. Berigan*, 2 Alaska 442 (1905); *United States v. Confess*, 5 Alaska 126 (1914); *Territory of Alaska v. Annette Island Packing Co.*, 288 Fed. 871 (C. C. A. 9, 1925), cert. den. 268 U. S. 708 (1925).

⁴⁷ *Op. Sol. I. D.* 32, 27127, July 26, 1922, and sec. 1919, Compiled Laws of Alaska, 1928, referring to ward Indians. Also see 54 L. D. 16 (1922), in which the Solicitor of the Department of the Interior

Alaskan natives the status of citizenship: (1) Allottees, and (2) nonallottees who severed tribal relationship and adopted the habits of civilization.⁴⁷

The Territorial Act of April 27, 1915,⁴⁸ provided a method whereby a nonallottee could secure a certificate of citizenship.⁴⁹ This procedure included proof of his general qualifications as a voter, his total abandonment of tribal customs, and his adoption of the culture of civilization.

This statute became obsolete with the passage of the Citizenship Act,⁵⁰ which included the Alaskan natives,⁵¹ and was finally repealed in 1935.⁵²

In the case of *United States v. Launch*,⁵³ the court held that though the members of the Tlingit tribe would undoubtedly have been classed as uncivilized, under the provisions of Article III of the Treaty of Cession, they, together with other native Indian tribes of the Territory of Alaska, were collectively naturalized by the Citizenship Act. Consequently, proof of civilization is no longer a condition precedent to citizenship.

⁴⁸ The case of *Stude v. United States*, 191 Fed. 141 (C. C. A. 9, 1911), held that sec. 6 of the Act of February 8, 1887, 24 Stat. 388, 100, known as the General Allotment Act in confining citizenship on Indians who severed their tribal relation and adopted the habits and customs of civilized life, applied to the Territory of Alaska. *Contra In re Jones* position of *James Johnson*, 2 Alaska 558 (1906).

⁴⁹ C. 24, Laws of Alaska, 1915, p. 52, repealed by c. 34, Laws of Alaska, 1935, p. 73.

⁵⁰ For the effect of citizenship on land rights of the Alaskan natives, see sec. 8C, *infra*.

⁵¹ Act of June 2, 1921, c. 233, 43 Stat. 258. For a discussion of citizenship see Chapter K, sec. 2.

⁵² 53 U. D. 803 (1922).

⁵³ C. 34, Laws of Alaska, 1935, p. 73.

⁵⁴ 2 Alaska 568 (1927).

The placing of the Alaskan natives on the same footing as other American Indians was the culmination of a shifting policy which has been well described in an opinion of the Solicitor for the Department of the Interior:⁵⁵

In the beginning, and for a long time after the cession of this Territory Congress took no particular notice of these natives, but never intended to hamper their individual movements, confine them to a locality or reservation, or to place them under the immediate control of its officers, as has been the case with the American Indians, and no special provisions were made for their support and education until comparatively recently. And in the earlier days it was repeatedly held by the courts and the Attorney General that these natives did not bear the same relation to our Government, in many respects, that was borne by the American Indians. (16 Op. Atty. Gen., 111; 18 id., 159); *United States v. Peacock Revell* (4 Sawyer U. S., 311); *Dugh Waters v. James B. Campbell* (4 Sawyer U. S., 121); *John B. Smith et al.* (19 L. D., 323).

With the exception of the act of March 3, 1901 (26 Stat., 1095, 1101), which set apart the Aleutian Islands as a reservation for the use of the Aleutians, a band of British Columbian natives, who immigrated into Alaska in a body, and also except the authorization given to the Secretary of the Interior to make reservations for landing places for the canoes and boats of the natives, Congress has not created or directly authorized the creation of reservations of any other character for them.

It ruled that although the provisions of the Act of June 25, 1910, 36 Stat. 885, as amended, which relates to the administration of the restricted property of deceased Indians, are applicable to Alaskan natives, a subordinate officer, such as an employee of the Reindeer Service, lacks the power to settle such estates.

⁵⁵ 49 L. D. 892, 894-895 (1923). This portion of the opinion was quoted with approval in 53 L. D. 803 (1922). Also see 51 L. D. 89 (1920), 50 L. D. 838, 824-825 (1924).

Later, however, Congress began to directly recognize these natives as being, to a very considerable extent at least, under our Government's guardianship and enacted laws which placed them in the possession of the lands they occupied, made provision for the allotment of lands to them, and, in every way, sought to make them able to support themselves. The Government also gave them special hunting, fishing and other particular privileges to enable them to support themselves, and supplied them with rations and instructions as to their preparation. Congress has also supplied funds to give these natives medical and hospital treatment, and has made provision for their education. Appropriations to defray the expenses of both their education and their support.

Not only has Congress in this manner treated these natives as being wards of the Government but they have been repeatedly so recognized by the courts. See *Alaska Pacific Fisheries v. United States* (248 U. S. 78), *United States v. Corrigan et al* (12 Alaska Reports, 442), *United States v. Cadou et al* (15 id., 125), and the unpublished decision of the District Court of Alaska, Division No. 1, in the case of *Territory of Alaska v. Innuit Islands Packing Company et al*, rendered June 15, 1922.

From this it will be seen that these natives are now unquestionably considered and treated as being under the guardianship and protection of the Federal Government at least to such an extent as to bring them within the spirit, if not within the exact letter, of the laws relative to the education of the children of the United States. By the fact that in creating the territorial government of Alaska and vesting that territory with the powers of legislation and control over its internal affairs, including public schools, Congress expressly excluded from that legislation and control the schools maintained for the natives, and decided that such schools should continue to be maintained under the control of the Secretary of the Interior.

An explanation of the reasons for this changing policy will be helpful in understanding the legal position of the Alaskan natives. The United States at first followed the example of Russia. From 1807 to 1884, when the Organic Act of 1884⁴⁰ made Alaska a civil and judicial district, this vast land had hardly the shadow of a civil government and was little more than a geographical subdivision of the United States.⁴¹ Save for the occasional activity of the military authorities, the natives shifted for themselves.⁴² This neglect is indicated by the failure of the United States to provide a regular agent for them, as in the case of Indians generally. The responsible duties of such an official were delegated to a military commandant.⁴³

One of the few exceptions to the failure to enact legislation was the extension of prohibitory liquor laws to Alaska.⁶¹ However, these laws were flagrantly violated and little attempt to enforce them was made during the first two decades of American rule.⁶²

Although the purchase of Alaska on June 20, 1897, occurred while the United States still was making treaties with Indian tribes,⁶⁰ no attempt was made to enter into treaties with the

nalives. This was primarily because the reasons which were responsible for treaty making by the Federal Government with the American Indians¹ were not present in Alaska, where there was plenty of land and little danger of serious hostilities. Alaska was not considered Indian country² until 1878 when sections 20 and 21 of the Trade and Intercourse Act,³ prohibiting liquor traffic in Indian country and with the Indians, were extended to include this territory. There was therefore no necessity for statutes and treaties extinguishing Indian title. The legal theory was adopted of considering those Indians subjects and not dependent or domestic nations having titles to be extinguished. Reservations were not established with the exception of the Ammette Island Reservation and those for educational purposes.⁴

There was an absence of federal laws in most fields¹¹ and even the few which were considered applicable to Alaska were not enforced. Questions concerning the effect of tribal laws and customs were rarely raised. *In re Sub Quah*¹² was one of the few cases in which this issue was directly involved. In granting a writ of habeas corpus to the petitioner, a slave of a Thlingit Indian, the court said:

What, then, has the real *value* of Alaska Indians? Many of them have converted themselves into the members of churches, maintained a great interest in the education of their youth, and have adopted civilized habits of life. Their condition has been gradually changing until the attributes of their original sovereignty have been lost, and they are becoming more and more dependent upon and subject to the laws of the United States, and yet they are not citizens within the full meaning of that term. (P. 328-329)

The United States has at no time recognized an initial independence or relations among these Indians, has never treated with them in any capacity, but from every act of congress in relation to the people of this territory it is clearly manifest that they have been and now are regarded as a conquered and dependent people, and as such, the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction of its courts. Upon a careful examination of the habits of these natives, of their modes of living, and their traditions, I am inclined to the opinion that their system is essentially patriarchal, and that they are in the same relation to the United States as other Indians. They are practically in a state of vassalage, and sustain a relation to the United States similar to that of a vassal to a garrison, and have no such independence or sovereignty as will permit them to sustain a relation to the United States as an independent nation, with the fundamental laws of the United States. (P. 828)

Nevertheless, tribal custom and law is recognized in some cases.⁷³ In the absence of federal legislation, a marriage between the natives belonging to the uncivilized tribes, such as the Athapascans, when entered into according to long-established

¹⁰ Act of May 17, 1884, 28 Stat 24 For a discussion of the history and interpretation of this act, see Nichols, *Alaska* (1924), pp 71-118

⁶⁰ Clark, *op cit*, pp 81-87

* They (the Alaska Indians) are too little known, and their relations to other inhabitants of that country and to our own government too little ascertained, to make it practicable to consider them

Thayer, A People Without Law (1891), 68 Atlantic Monthly 540, 541
See also Hellenthal, The Alaskan Melancholia (1910), pp. 284, *et seq.*

See also *Reichmann, The Alaskan Melodrama* (1906), pp. 204, 18 seq.
 = The Attorney General upheld the validity of such delegation by the President 14 Op. A. G. 573 (1876). See also *In re Carr*, 5 Fed. Cas. No. 2432 (D. C. Ore. 1876), involving a false imprisonment by a military officer.

* Act of March 3, 1871, 16 Stat 514, 506, declared it to be the policy of the United States not to treat further with the Indians as tribes. See Chapter 8, sec 5

⁴⁷ See Chapter 3, loc. 4.

* See Chapter 1, sec. 3, and Chapter 17, fn. 85.

¹⁶ Act of June 30, 1884, 4 Stat. 729, 732-733, Act of March 3, 1873, 17 Stat. 510, 530.

¹⁰ Because of the restriction of native activities which accompanied the reservation policy among the Indians of the continental United States, the natives of Alaska, with the exception of the transplanted colony of Metlakatla, have steadfastly opposed the development of reservations in Alaska. This opposition was part of an insistent resistance to racial discrimination.

Alaska, Its Resources and Development, op cit, p 10

¹¹ A license to trade in Alaska is not required. See *Waters v. Campbell*, 20 Fed. Cls. No. 17264 (C. C. Que. 1870), and see Chapter 10, sec. 2.

²³ 31 Fed 327 (D C Alaska 1888), for a discussion of the power of the Federal Government over tribes see *Kay v United States*, 27 Fed 351

(D C Ore 1880), *modifying United States v Kie*, 20 Fed Cas No 155282;
(D C Alaska 1885), *United States v Sciulloff*, 27 Fed Cas No 1925.

⁷⁵⁴ I D 89 (1982).

customs is valid, irrespective of the territorial laws regulating marriage among the inhabitants.¹

The extension of the Whore Howard Act² to Alaska has removed almost the last significant difference between the position of the American Indian and that of the Alaskan native.³ The

¹This is in accordance with the general rule. *R. A. Brown, The Indian Problem and the Law* (1909), 39 Yale L. J. 407-417. Also see Chapter 7, sec. 7.

²Act of June 19, 1911, 36 Stat. 984, Act of May 7, 1906, c. 254, 49 Stat. 1270. These statutes are discussed in sec. 9, infra.

³"In holding that sec. 23 of the Act of June 25, 1910, 36 Stat. 953-961, regarding preference to purchase of Indian products applies to Alaskan natives, the Minister said:

In considering the application to Alaskan natives of laws relating to Indians it is well to bear in mind the following point: "The laws which regulate specifically in Alaska naturally differ from those which regulate in this country," and define them (including Indians, Eskimos, Aleuts, and other aboriginal tribes, Alaskan Indians of small towns at the Alaska Reorganization Act, the act authorizing the sale of liquor in districts to Indians in Alaska (see 112 Cong. R., Act of March 3, 1899, 30 Stat. 1251) and various acts appropriating funds for the education of the natives. However,

report of the Director of the Division of Territories and Island Possessions, Department of the Interior, for 1909 lists the "protection of the welfare of the native population," as the first of the "immediate considerations for the attainment of major ends." The Director, Dr. Rhoads Greening, later Governor of Alaska, also wrote:

The extension of the economic and social benefits of the Indian reorganization act to Alaska has paved the way for the security of approximately one-half of the present population of the Territory, whose stabilized future is not only an essential act of humanitarianism but also an important item of wholesome advance."

in the case of the application to the natives of laws drafted to cover the Indians in the United States, it is apparent that the law itself will refer only to "Indians," and the words there must be understood that the laws relating to Indians in the United States are applicable to the natives in Alaska in so far as they are consistent with the circumstances of the case. The act (and one example of such a law is the Indian Citizenship Act of June 2, 1924 (43 Stat. 2531, House Sess. 1-1) June 2, 1917.

⁴Annual Report of the Secretary of Interior (1910), p. 10.

SECTION 7. EDUCATION⁵

From 1854 to March 16, 1881, the Bureau of Education,⁶ rather than the Office of Indian Affairs, controlled native education and welfare work. Such service presents peculiarly difficult and important administrative problems.

The area of Alaska is about one-fifth the size of the United States. Many settlements are beyond the limits of transportation and require mail service, and one-third of the natives live north of the Arctic Circle.⁷ Villages are usually far apart and transportation is largely limited to boats on coastal waters, dog teams for interior travel, and neoplanes. Even on the coast and rivers, boats are infrequent, and in the winter can be used only in the south.

Neither the federal control over education on reservations, nor the system of annuities for educational purposes, nor the boarding school program was carried into this Territory. The population of commerce, and instruction in hand management were indicated with the educational system for northern and western Alaska.⁸ Vocational training was also established.⁹

Reservations have been created which are devoted to educational purposes,¹⁰ and are in diverse activities as native assistance

⁵See Chapter 12, sec. 2. For a discussion of native education see 1911-12 (1912), also see *Spicer*, op. cit. pp. 97-101, Alaska: Its Resources and Development, op. cit. pp. 11-11, Anderson and Bell, op. cit. p. 2.

⁶Now known as the United States Office of Education. See Cook, Public Education in Alaska, Bull. No. 12 (1916), Office of Education, Department of Interior, pp. 26-31.

⁷Commissioner of Indian Affairs (1909), in his annual report for 1911, wrote:

The administrative change which by responsibility for education in Alaska was transferred to the Office of Indian Affairs in March 1902, is undoubtedly important as an indication of a national unified policy for the education of various indigenous groups. Most important in this, however, is the fact that the Alaskan educational enterprise has been carried out in the past with a different philosophy and different practice. In contrast to the Indian Service, with its boarding schools, the Office of Education in Alaska until very recently confined its efforts to local communities, schools and programs of education that took into account in an indirect way the health and social and economic life of the native group. The Alaskan program, therefore, represented the other extreme from the Indian policy in the States. (P. 12.)

⁸*Spicer*, op. cit. p. 98.

⁹*Spicer*, op. cit. p. 98.

¹⁰Act of February 28, 1922, c. 320, 43 Stat. 978, authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to establish a system of vocational training for aboriginal native people of the Territory of Alaska, and to conduct and maintain suitable school buildings. See U. S. Bureau of Education, Department of Interior, A Course of Study for Alaskan Schools for Native of Alaska (1926), particularly pp. 2-3.

¹¹38 U. S. 111 (1909).

on road building¹¹ and the leasing of chambers¹² have been instituted as incidental to education.

Originally no differentiation was made between the education of the natives and the whites.¹³ As a result of the Act of February 27, 1906,¹⁴ a dual system of education was instituted, one part was mainly devoted to white children and the other to the children of the Natives.¹⁵

The interpretation of the term "civilization" as used in this statute was an issue in the case of *Myers v. Hula School Board*.¹⁶ In denying the petition for a writ of mandamus to require the school board to admit the plaintiff's children who were of mixed blood, the court took the view that civilization is achieved only when the natives have adopted the white man's way of life and associated with white men and women.¹⁷

¹¹*United States v. Rileyman*, 1 Alaska 467 (1915).

¹²*See Alaska, Fisheries v. United States*, 214 U. S. 78 (1925), aff'd 240 Fed. 273 (C. C. A. 9, 1917), 40 L. D. 752 (1922).

¹³The Organic Act of 1884 (Act of May 17, 1884, sec. 13, 21 Stat. 213), authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to provide for "the education of the children of school age in the Territory of Alaska, without reference to race." * * * This phrase was repeated in other enabling acts, such as the Act of March 3, 1899, 40 Stat. 1074, 1101, 41 Stat. 616, 619, see 7.

* * * * * schools for, and among the Eskimos and Indians of Alaska shall be provided for by an annual appropriation, and the Eskimo and Indian children of Alaska shall have the same right to be admitted to any Indian boarding school as the Indian children in the States or Territories of the United States.

For a discussion of this statute see *Sup. v. Hula School Board*, 2 Alaska 616 (1927). The Act of August 24, 1912, c. 877, sec. 3, 37 Stat. 512, creating the Territory of Alaska, expressly removed from the legislative power any power to amend this statute and acts amendatory thereof.

¹⁴*See Alaska, It. Resources and Development*, op. cit. pp. 42-44, and Anderson and Bell, op. cit. 202-204 for a discussion of segregation.

¹⁵Alaska 481 (1908). The court laid down the following test of civilization:

* * * as to whether or not the persons in question have stepped aside from old associations, former habits of life, and modes of existence, in other words, have exchanged the old barbaric, uncivilized conditions for the changed, new, and so different as to indicate an advanced and improved condition of mind, which denotes, and reaches out for something altogether different and unlike the old life.

Civilization * * * includes * * * more than a progressive business, a trade, a house, what man's clothes, and membership in a church. (P. 491.)

The attitude of the court toward the native culture is brought out in the case of *In re Oona-hi Conyung*, 20 Fed. 687 (D. C. Alaska 1887), involving the rights of a mother of a child attending a mission school. This case is discussed in Chapter 12, infra.

¹⁶Considerable stress was placed on the fact that the plaintiffs of the children were native and that the children joined in the hunting

The territorial legislature was first granted power over schools by the Act of March 3, 1917,¹⁴ which empowered it "to establish and maintain schools for white and colored children and children of mixed blood who lead a civilized life Pursuant to this act a writ of mandamus was granted¹⁵ compelling the city of Ketchikan, Alaska, to admit to its schools attended by the whites a resident child of mixed blood who led a civilized life, although she could attend an Indian school in the city, and thereby make room for the attendance of non-resident white children. The court said:

The legislative power of the territory of Alaska with regard to schools derived from this section makes no provision as to the segregation of children, nor does it refer to the race or color of the children to be provided for in the municipal schools, and such act must necessarily be construed in the light of the section quoted limiting the authority of the Legislature to provide schools for white and colored children and children of mixed blood (P. 147).

Only mission schools existed before 1867, the date of the purchase of Alaska, and 1884.¹⁶ Thereafter, until 1900, annual federal appropriations, ranging from a few thousand dollars to \$60,000, were made for the education of native and white children.¹⁷ For the next 7 years education was supported by a license tax. Schools in incorporated towns were under local control, while the Secretary of the Interior continued to direct rural schools. Beginning with 1907, annual appropriations in increasing amounts were made enabling the Secretary of the Interior, in his discretion, to provide for the education and support of the natives of Alaska.¹⁸ The territorial schools established in 1905 were supported by territorial and federal funds

and fishing expeditions of the native bands. Apparently the court did not recognize that hunting and fishing were iterations of social significance among the whites and a source of livelihood for some whites and many natives.

¹⁴ 39 Stat. 1141.

¹⁵ The schools were under the general supervision of the Territorial Board of Education authorized by the Legislature of Alaska, Spain, *op cit*, p. 98.

¹⁶ *Johnson v. Ellis*, 8 Alaska 140 (1929).

¹⁷ Healy, *The Federal Government and the Education of Indians*, and Holman, *Journal of Negro Education*, vol. 7, No. 3 (July 1918), p. 271. ¹⁸ The first statute, the Act of July 4, 1884, 23 Stat. 70, 91, appropriated \$15,000. Some appropriation acts, during this period, authorized the Secretary of the Interior to use a specified sum from the general education appropriation "for the education of Indians in Alaska," e.g., Act of March 2, 1885, 28 Stat. 876, 884.

¹⁹ Act of March 8, 1905, 33 Stat. 1136, 1138. See also Act of June 30, 1900, 34 Stat. 697, 720; Act of May 24, 1922, 42 Stat. 484, 485, 583. From 1881 to 1934 the United States has spent almost nine million dollars for native education and welfare. Anderson and Ellis, *op cit* p. 227.

and served white children and "children of mixed blood who lead a civilized life."¹⁹

The Indian Service maintains schools in approximately 100 villages.²⁰ During the fiscal year 1931-1932, 4,383 native children were enrolled in the federal schools, 1,874 in the territorial schools, and approximately 1,000 in mission schools.²¹

By the Act of May 14, 1930,²² the Secretary of the Interior was authorized to contract with school boards which maintained schools in certain cities and towns to educate children of non-tribal natives, including those of mixed native and white blood, to lease school buildings owned by the United States Government to such boards, and to pay such boards for services rendered an amount not in excess of the cost of operating a school for natives under present appropriations in such town.

Chapter 85, Laws of Alaska, 1915, authorized the Territorial Board of Administration of the Territory of Alaska to enter into a contract or contracts with the Secretary of the Interior for educational and welfare work among the Alaskan natives.²³

The Act of May 31, 1938,²⁴ authorized the Secretary of the Interior to withdraw and permanently reserve small tracts of land not exceeding 640 acres each, of the public domain in Alaska for schools, hospitals, and other necessary purposes in administering the affairs of the natives.²⁵

Congress has recognized that in many places the Alaska school service is the only federal agency in daily contact with the natives. The Act of March 3, 1909,²⁶ authorized the Attorney General to appoint as special peace officers employees of the educational service designated by the Secretary of the Interior. These officers were endowed with the ordinary authority of a policeman to arrest natives charged with the violation of any provision of the Criminal Code of Alaska or white men charged with the violation of any of its provisions to the detriment of any native of the Territory.²⁷

¹⁴ Act of January 27, 1905, see 7, 34 Stat. 518, 519.

¹⁵ Report of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs in Annual Report, Interior Department (1909), p. 25, Annual Report of the Governor of Alaska (1909), pp. 47-48.

¹⁶ Information supplied by Alaska Section, Office of Indian Affairs, Department of the Interior. The present appropriation for native education exceeds \$100,000 annually. Hearings before Subcommittee of House Committee on Appropriations, 70th Cong., 1st sess., on Interior Department Appropriation Bill for 1927, Pt. 11, pp. 777 et seq. ¹⁷ 37, 40 Stat. 279, 281.

¹⁸ This statute was passed to assume the benefits of the Johnson-O'Malley Act of April 16, 1934, 48 Stat. 800. See Chapter 12, see BA 100, 104, 62 Stat. 671.

¹⁹ This authority is proving of unusual assistance in the development of the Alaska program. Report of Commissioner of Indian Affairs in Annual Report, Interior Department (1938), p. 213.

²⁰ 45 Stat. 887.

²¹ Then described is the District of Alaska.

SECTION 8. PROPERTY RIGHTS

Problems relating to the property rights of Alaskan natives arise out of their activities in hunting and fishing, their use and ownership of land and their ownership of reindeer. Land, except mineral land, is comparatively unimportant in the Alaskan economy.²⁸ This is due to the fact that the population is sparse (averaging one person per 10 square miles)²⁹ and that most of

the land is unsuitable for agriculture.³⁰ Therefore, much greater attention must be paid to other forms of property.

A FISHING AND HUNTING RIGHTS³¹

Fishing is the most important industry of Alaska³² and from time immemorial has been the principal source of food for the

²⁸ Although the gross area of the land and water of Alaska is 580,400 square miles, only about 66,000 square miles are suitable for agriculture, *ibid.*, p. 7, and see Alaska, Its Resources and Development, *op cit*, p. 114.

²⁹ Sec. 2 of the Organic Act of Alaska, Act of August 24, 1912, c. 387, 37 Stat. 512, provides that the authority granted to the legislature of the Territory shall not extend to general laws of the United States or to the "game, fish, and fur-bearing laws and laws relating to fur-bearing animals of the United States applicable to Alaska."

³⁰ Alaska, Its Resources and Development, *op cit*, pp. 17, 11, 55-54. See Pacific Fisherman Yearbook (1930). There were 30,381 persons

²⁸ Clark, *op cit* pp. 106-180, Anderson and Ellis, *op cit* pp. 193-202, Thomas, *Beomeone Rehabilitation of the Indians of Alaska with Special Reference to Fishing, Trapping, and Reindeer*, Indians of the United States (Indians at Work, April 1940, Supp.), p. 51, Brooks, *The Future of Alaska*, Annals of the Association of American Geographers (December 1925), p. 178; Department of the Interior, *The Problem of Alaskan Development* (April 1940).

²⁹ Fifteenth Census of the United States, Outlying Territories and Possessions (1922), p. 7.

natives.¹¹¹ "For production is third in value of all commodities in Alaska as to total value."¹¹² Fur trading was the primary occupation of the Russians who came to Alaska during the latter half of the eighteenth century.¹¹³ Since that time the natives have depended on fur trading for a substantial part of their livelihood.¹¹⁴

The Bureau of Fisheries, formerly with the approval of the Secretary of Commerce, and now with that of the Secretary of the Interior, drafts fishing regulations respecting the areas in which traps may be operated, and then number "A" license for a trap must be obtained from the territorial treasurer, and to prevent obstructions to navigation, the Secretary of War must authorize the plans. In 1927 the number of traps in operation reached almost 800, but there has subsequently been a steady decline in this figure.

Judicial and legislative cognizance has been taken of the importance of fishing and hunting in the native economy. The Supreme Court of the United States in the *Alaska Pacific Fisheries* case¹¹⁵ said:

They (the Metlakathlans) were largely fishermen and hunters, accustomed to live from the returns of those vocations, and looked upon the islands as a suitable location for their country, located on the delta adjacent to the shore would afford a primary means of subsistence and a promising opportunity for individual and commercial development. (1st 88)

engaged in the fishing industry in Alaska in 1937. Salmon, which is the backbone of the Territory's economy structure, accounted for 75 percent of the total weight and 80 percent of the total value of its fisheries products in 1937, Annual Report of Secretary of Commerce (1938), p. 104. Also see reports on Alaskan fishing and fur seal industry, collected in *Bulletin of the Bureau of Fisheries*, vol. XLVII, No. 18 (1938).

¹¹¹ The salmon formed one of the important food supplies for the natives from prehistoric times. *Bulletin of Bureau of Fisheries*, vol. XLIV, No. 1041 (1928), p. 43. *Alaska Pacific Fisheries v. United States*, 248 U.S. 78 (1918), aff'd 240 U.S. 274 (1st C. 9, 1917), *Trilling v. Alaska v. American Island Packing Co.*, 280 Fed. 671 (C. C. 9, 1928), cert. den. 264 U.S. 708 (1923). Also see *Trilling v. Butler*, 110 Fed. 84 (C. C. 9, 1902), aff'd *Butler v. Trilling*, 1 Alaska 158 (1901), in which the court said: "The fact that at that time the Indians and other occupants of the country largely made their living by fishing was no doubt well known to the legislative branch of the government." * * * (P. 89). See also *United States v. Lynch*, 8 Alaska 145 (1929), and *Johnson v. Pacific Coast L. S. Co.*, 4 Alaska 234 (1904).

¹¹² The Indians, especially those of the Aleutian Report for 1937, p. 232, note the destruction of the inland primitive economy of the natives, instead of fishing and hunting for their own needs, their fish for, or work in the canneries. See also *Hearings on Alaskan Fisheries*, held pursuant to H. Res. 102, 70th Cong., 1st sess., pp. 118, 152, 444-449, 806. On employment of natives in canneries, see *ibid.*, p. 817.

¹¹³ Alaska, Its Resources and Development, *op. cit.*, p. 107. Also see pp. 84-90, 108.

¹¹⁴ XI, The Works of Charles Sumner (1875), p. 208, Alaska, Its Resources and Development, *op. cit.*, p. 84.

The fur-bearing aquatic mammals had been ruthlessly exploited during the period of Russian occupancy and were facing extinction at the time of the cession. Alaska, Its Resources and Development, *op. cit.*, p. 96, 100. Until the development of the gold industry, the fur resources were considered the most valuable by the Americans. It is, therefore, not surprising that, prior to 1884, legislation for the new territory was mainly confined to the protection of the seal fisheries and other fur interests of the District. See Doc. No. 144, 69th Cong., 1st sess. (1905-1906), p. 7.

¹¹⁵ Annual Report, Chief of Bureau of Biological Survey, Department of Agriculture (1937), p. 85.

¹¹⁶ Act of June 6, 1921, 43 Stat. 464, c. 872, sec. 1, amended by Act of June 18, 1926, 44 Stat. 702. The preparation and enforcement of these regulations are difficult tasks, especially since the Bureau lacks sufficient funds for biological research and enforcement. See *Hearings on Alaskan Fisheries*, held pursuant to H. Res. 102, 70th Cong., 1st sess. (1929), pp. 46-47, 183-190, 294, 510.

¹¹⁷ Alaska Pacific Fisheries v. United States, 248 U.S. 78 (1918), aff'd 240 U.S. 274 (1st C. 9, 1917); also see *Johnson v. Pacific Coast L. S. Co.*, 4 Alaska 234 (1904), Act of May 24, 1908, sec. 10, 35 Stat. 409, 413.

In many conservation statutes the natives are given special privileges. The Act of July 1, 1870,¹¹⁷ makes unlawful the killing of fur seals upon the Pribilof Islands, except during the months of June, July, September, and October in each year, and the killing of such seals at any time by firearms. The privilege of killing young seals necessary for food and clothing and old seals necessary for clothing and boats by the natives for their own use was permitted, subject to regulations of the Secretary of the Treasury.¹¹⁸

The validity of section 6 of the Act of July 27, 1908,¹¹⁹ which prohibits the killing of fur-bearing animals within the limits of the Territory, or in the waters thereof and empowers the court, in its discretion, to confiscate vessels violating this statute, was upheld in *The James B. Smith*¹²⁰ case. The court sustained the libel for the forfeiture of a boat owned by an Indian of the Malah Tribe, despite the contention that such forfeiture violated a treaty with this tribe.¹²¹

The Act of April 6, 1904,¹²² prohibits the killing of fur seals by United States citizens in waters of the Pacific Ocean surrounding the Pribilof Islands. It also prohibits the killing of fur seals from May 1 to July 31 in a circumscribed part of the Pacific Ocean, including Bering Sea.¹²³

Section 6 permits Indians dwelling on the coasts of the United States to take fur-bearing seals in open, unimproved boats not manned by more than five persons using primitive methods, excluding firearms. Such fishing may not be done pursuant to a contract of employment.¹²⁴ The Act of December 29, 1907,¹²⁵ prohibiting the taking of fur seals in the North Pacific Ocean contained a similar provision.

Section 3 of the Act of April 22, 1910,¹²⁶ provides that whenever seals are taken, the natives of the Pribilof Islands shall be employed in such killing and shall receive full compensation. Section 6 permits the natives of these islands to kill such young seals as may be necessary for their own clothing and the manufacture of boats for their own use, subject to regulations prescribed by the Secretary of Commerce. Section 9 authorizes the official to furnish food, clothing, shelter, and other necessities to the native inhabitants and to provide for their education.¹²⁷

The Act of August 24, 1912,¹²⁸ gave effect to the Convention of July 7, 1911,¹²⁹ between the United States, Great Britain, Japan,

¹¹⁷ 16 Stat. 180.

¹¹⁸ The Act of April 22, 1910, 18 Stat. 38, authorized the Secretary of the Treasury to study the fur trade in Alaska and "the condition of the people of Alaska, especially those upon whom the successful prosecution of the fisheries and fur trade is dependent." * * * By Act of April 5, 1900, 26 Stat. 40, the Secretary was authorized to study the condition of the seal fisheries of Alaska. See Alaska, Its Resources and Development, *op. cit.*, p. 90.

¹¹⁹ 16 Stat. 241, 18 U.S.C. 1905b.

¹²⁰ *United States v. James B. Smith*, 50 Fed. 108 (D. C. Wash. 1922).

¹²¹ *Treaty of Amity*, 1887, 12 Stat. 930.

¹²² Act 1, 28 H.U. 52.

¹²³ *Id.*, Art. 2.

¹²⁴ The Alaska Indians are subject to the prohibitions of this act save for the exception of sec. 6. 21 Op. A. G. 416 (1897).

¹²⁵ Sec. 6, 30 Stat. 228.

¹²⁶ C. 185, 36 Stat. 828.

¹²⁷ In this and subsequent acts, Congress has made appropriations for this purpose. More than 400 natives of these islands are largely dependent upon the United States for subsistence. Alaska, Its Resources and Development, *op. cit.*, p. 86.

¹²⁸ C. 878, 37 Stat. 450.

¹²⁹ 37 Stat. 1519. To terminate the *gummi* economy waste which threatened to destroy all the herds of fur seals, the United States arranged a conference of interested nations known as the International Fur Seal Conference which convened on May 11 to July 7, 1911. This meeting adopted the Convention of July 7, 1911, 37 Stat. 1542, between the United States, Great Britain, Japan and Russia. Ratification followed July 24, 1911. Ratified by the President November 24, 1911. Ratified by Great Britain August 26, 1911. Ratified by Japan November

and Russia by prohibiting citizens and subjects of the United States from killing fur seals, but by sections 8 and 11 natives of the islands were permitted to kill annually a sufficient number of male seals to provide food and clothing.

As early as 1802 Congress passed conservation legislation containing special exceptions for the natives of Alaska and the white residents. The Act of June 7, 1902,¹¹ as amended by the Act of May 17, 1908,¹² prohibits the wanton destruction of wild game animals or wild birds for the purpose of shipment from Alaska. It also provides that—

Nothing in this Act shall . . . prevent the killing of any game animal or bird for food or clothing at any time by natives, or by hunters or explorers, when in need of food, but the game animals or birds so killed during closed season shall not be shipped or sold.

Section 1 of the Act of June 14, 1900,¹³ as amended by the Act of June 25, 1938,¹⁴ without changing the provisions respecting natives, prohibits all companies, corporations, or associations not authorized to transact business under federal, state, or territorial laws and aliens without first permits, from catching or killing, except with rod, spear, or gaff, any fish of any kind or species in any of the waters of Alaska under the jurisdiction of the United States. By amendments to section 4 of the act for the protection and regulation of the fisheries of Alaska,¹⁵ killing at any species of salmon except by hand, rod, spear, or gaff in any streams of Alaska at any time month, is unlawful excepting in the Kasiluk, Unalakleet, Yakutat, and Kuskokwim Rivers. The exception of the two last-named rivers is applicable only to native Indians and permanent white inhabitants taking, using salmon under conditions provided by the Secretary of Commerce now by the Secretary of the Interior.¹⁶

Article II, clause 3, of the treaty between the United States and Great Britain for the protection of migratory birds in the United States and Canada provides:¹⁷

The close season on other migratory nongame birds shall continue throughout the year, except that Eskimos

and Indians may take at any season ducks, snipe, quail, geese, and ptarmigan, and their eggs, for food and their skins for clothing, but the birds and eggs so taken shall not be sold or offered for sale.

Regulations prohibiting the killing of whales, walrus, and sea lions have special provisions regarding natives.¹⁸ Many other rules regarding refuges and hunting of migratory birds grant special privileges to the natives.¹⁹

The Alaska Game Law²⁰ regulates the taking of food game during the regular season, but exempts the natives from the necessity of securing hunting and trapping permits in denials licenses. Native cooperatives or mission stores are also exempt.²¹ And, subject to regulations of the Secretary of the Interior regarding animals whose extinction is imminent, the law permits them to take game during the closed season when in absolute need of food and other game is not available.²² Section 8 empowers the Secretary of Agriculture, now Secretary of the Interior to safeguard the livelihood of the natives and conserve the fur animals requiring nonresident hunters to reside 3 years in the territory instead of one, before becoming eligible for resident trapping license.

B REINDEER OWNERSHIP

Reindeer constitute one of the most valuable assets of the natives supplying them with food and clothing and acting as

¹¹ Alaska, Its Resources and Development, *op. cit.*, p. 67. Department of Commerce Circular No. 266 North Slope, June 29, 1949, pp. 1 and 4, amended Act of February 14, 1903, 40 Stat. 1311, and Act of June 25, 1938, 52 Stat. 2309.

¹² 50 C. F. R. 92.1 See Act of January 14, 1947, 61 Stat. 739, sec. 11, which provides for exemption for natives, providing that they possess one-half or more of Indian or Eskimo blood, from the resident hunting and trapping license. Bureau of Biological Survey, Regulations for the Aleut in Island Reservations, Alaska (1930), Regulation 7, provides—

* * * in reserving islands for fur and fox trapping and other uses, primary consideration shall be given to the welfare of native villages and communities of the Aleutian chain. Permits involve a native or native interest shall be issued on island only for the benefit of the community or village of which he is a member.

An exemption of native residents from requirement of permit to capture certain game see Bureau of Biological Survey Regulations for the Administration of the Aleutian Islands Reservation, Alaska (1930), Regulation 3. Bureau of Biological Survey, Department of the Interior Wildlife Circular 1 (1930), Regulations Relating to Migratory Birds and Certain Game Mammals, Regulation 7 provides—

In Alaska, Eskimos and Indians may take, in any manner and at any time, and by any means and transiently, ducks, snipe, quail, geese, ptarmigan, and their eggs and skins for use for themselves and their immediate families for food and clothing.

And see 50 C. F. R. 92.3

Also see Cameron, The Bureau of Biological Survey (1929), p. 105.

¹³ Act of January 13, 1903, 40 Stat. 739, amended by Act of February 14, 1903, 40 Stat. 1311, and Act of June 25, 1938, 52 Stat. 2309. For a list of the laws protecting wildlife in Alaska and regulations of the Alaska Game Commission, Juneau, Alaska, see circular issued by the Commission. For history of Alaskan game legislation, see Cameron, The Bureau of Biological Survey (1929), pp. 110-124. On work of Alaska Game Commission see Annual Report of Governor of Alaska (1930), pp. 28-30.

¹⁴ Act of January 13, 1903, c. 75, sec. 11, 40 Stat. 739, 748, amended Act of February 14, 1903, c. 195, sec. 10, 40 Stat. 1311, 1313, and Act of June 25, 1938, sec. 6, 52 Stat. 2309, 1317-1318. See Consolidated Purchasing and Shipping Unit, Division of Alaska and Island Food Service, Department of the Interior, acts as agent for the native cooperative stores, buying their supplies, and selling, for their benefit, such items as reindeer meat and hides, fish, and walrus. The purchasing procedure is similar to that met by it in procuring supplies for governmental agencies.

¹⁵ A resident citizen or Alaskan native must obtain a registered guide license when acting as guide for a nonresident in any section of the Territory where the regulations of the Alaska Game Law and United States game laws contravene to supply and export. Compiled Laws of Alaska, 1935, sec. 61D. See Act of January 14, 1927, sec. 119, 41 Stat. 730, 744, 745.

8, 1911. Ratified by Russia October 22, 1911. Ratifications exchanged December 12, 1911. Proclamation December 14, 1911. A treaty between the United States and Great Britain, concluded February 7, 1913, 27 Stat. 754, providing for the preservation and protection of its seals, became effective on December 14, 1911, the date of the proclamation of the treaty between the United States, Great Britain, Japan and Russia.
¹⁸ 12 Stat. 127.

¹⁹ 35 Stat. 102. See 10 of the Alaska Game Law, Act of January 13, 1903, 40 Stat. 739, amended Act of February 14, 1903, 40 Stat. 1311, and Act of June 25, 1938, 52 Stat. 2309, empowers the Secretary of Agriculture to make regulations for taking game animals, etc., upon consultation with the Alaska Game Commission, but except as provided such regulations shall not prohibit:

* * * any Indian or Eskimo, prospector or traveler to take animals or birds during the closed season when he is in absolute need of food and other food is not available, but the shipment or sale of any animals or birds or parts thereof so taken shall not be permitted, except that the hides of animals so taken may be sold within the Territory. * * *

²⁰ 24 Stat. 203.

²¹ 22 Stat. 117.

²² Act of June 20, 1900, 34 Stat. 178, amended by Act of June 6, 1924, c. 272, 43 Stat. 404, and Act of April 16, 1924, 43 Stat. 694.

²³ Pursuant to the Reorganization Act of April 4, 1940, 56 Stat. 563, Reorganization Plan No. 2 transmitted May 9, 1940, 56 Stat. 2483, and Public Resolution No. 20, 76th Cong., 1st sess., approved June 7, 1940, the Bureau of Fisheries was transferred from the Department of Commerce to the Department of the Interior, effective July 1, 1939. On the same date, the Bureau of Biological Survey was transferred to the Interior Department from the Department of Agriculture. By Plan No. 3, April 2, 1940, the two Bureaus were consolidated under the name Fish and Wildlife Service, 12 Doc No. 881, 76th Cong., 3d sess.

²⁴ 50 Stat. 1702, signed August 16, 1936, ratification advised by the Senate August 29, ratified by the President September 2, and by Great Britain October 29; ratifications exchanged December 7 and proclaimed December 8, 1936.

herds of reindeer.¹²⁰ The animals were first introduced into Alaska from Siberia from 1801 to 1802 by Dr Sheldon Jackson, the United States General Agent in Alaska.¹²¹ The original purpose of importation was to augment the dwindling source of native food supply consisting of game and fish, which had been seriously depleted by the whites. The total importation by 1902, when shipments ceased, was about 1,280 head, and by 1933 the original stock expanded into a reindeer population estimated at 600,000 head.¹²²

The Federal Government, in recent years, has conducted numerous experiments on the cross-breeding of reindeer and native caribou,¹²³ on the control of predatory enemies, and on reindeer grazing.¹²⁴

The Federal Government has passed many statutes to protect the natives against food shortage due to periodic depletion of game or sea food and to encourage the raising of reindeer for their own subsistence and eventually for sale on the market.¹²⁵

¹²⁰ Supplement No 9 to the Public Health Reports, December 12, 1933, p. 3. Alaska, Its Resources and Development, *op. cit.* p. 124. "The importance of the reindeer industry to the social and economic welfare of these native people can scarcely be overemphasized." Also see *ibid.* p. 41, *Reindeer*, *op. cit.* pp. 95-100.

¹²¹ The District Court considered the importance of the reindeer to the natives in the construction of the Act of April 27, 1904, 33 Stat. 381, 702, 393, which provided that each road overseer in Alaska shall require all male persons between the ages of 18 and 50 to work on the public roads for 2 days or to be subject to a road tax. In the exercise of the overseer, the tax could be performed by the man with a team of dogs, horses, or "a reindeer team of not less than two reindeer and sleigh or cart." In holding that an Alaskan was subject to that duty the court said that the legislative intent to include the Eskimo was shown by the portions concerning reindeer. *United States v. Sitnagook*, 4 Alaska 607 (1918). Also see Annual Report of the Secretary of Interior (1937), p. 811, Annual Report of the Governor of Alaska (1939), p. 51.

¹²² "The wild reindeer were an important part of the Eskimo food supply before the coming of white men. . . . The introduction of reindeer quickly devastated them, rendering the Eskimos almost destitute." Anderson and Bella, *Alaska Native*, *op. cit.* p. 195. Also see Cameron, *The Bureau of Biological Survey* (1929), pp. 117-118 and the annual reports of the United States Bureau of Education, 1935-1936.

¹²³ Alaska, Its Resources and Development, *op. cit.* p. 122. The Fifteenth Census of the United States, *Outlying Territories and Possessions* (1922), p. 80, contains an estimate of 712,500 reindeer as of 1910. No longer, as in the past, in danger of starvation, some of the Eskimos have gained a livelihood by raising reindeer. Alaska, Its Resources and Development, *op. cit.* p. 41. Although it has been estimated that the Territory was capable of raising between three and four million animals (Reindeer of Bureau of Biological Survey. The Bureau of Education estimated ten million. Cameron, *op. cit.* p. 137), the predatory animals like wolves and coyotes have in recent years killed many reindeer, especially on the Arctic tundra. This menace imposed because the reindeer, formerly herded by attendants, have been allowed in recent years to roam, and are correlated only at certain seasons. By this change in herd management the reindeer scatter widely over the tundra, and increasing numbers of wolves and coyotes have seriously mistreated the industry. The territorial legislature, by apical hunting appropriations, has cooperated with the Reindeer Service, the Forest Service, Office of Indian Affairs, the Alaska Game Commission, and the Bureau of Biological Survey, which, since 1937, has resumed its work in investigating and reducing depredations of predatory animals. (Report of the Chief of the Bureau of Biological Survey (1937), pp. 56, 59-60. *Id.* (1938), p. 98.) Despite these efforts toward predator control, a recent survey indicated that coyotes and wolves are increasing, and that their depredations on reindeer herds are becoming more serious. *Ibid.* (1939), p. 67.

¹²⁴ Report of Chief of the Bureau of Biological Survey (1937), p. 51.

¹²⁵ Reindeer in Alaska, Department of Agriculture Bull. No. 1081 (1922), and Progress of Reindeer Grazing Investigations in Alaska, Bull. No. 1421 (1928). Also see Cameron, *op. cit.* (1929), pp. 118-119, 128, 234, 196-197.

¹²⁶ 81 L. D. 135, 157 (1925), see Act of March 4, 1907, 84 Stat. 1295, 1388; Act of May 24, 1922, 42 Stat. 952, 954; Act of January 24, 1923, 42 Stat. 1174, 1203; Act of June 5, 1924, 43 Stat. 890, 427; Act of March 3, 1925, 42 Stat. 48, 81; 31 Stat. 1181; Act of January 12, 1927, 41 Stat. 984, 985. Also see United States v. Sitnagook, 4 Alaska 607 (1918); 88 L. D. 71 (1910); 94 L. D. 13 (1912). Outside capital gradually established a commercial reindeer business. Alaska, Its Resources and Development,

"The Bureau of Indian Affairs" gives instructions to the natives and distributes reindeer on terms which enable them eventually to acquire a qualified ownership. The Government, however, retains a reversionary ownership so that an act of the territorial legislature imposing a tax upon each reindeer killed for market was held unapplicable to reindeer killed for market by natives of Alaska.¹²⁶

It has been administratively held¹²⁷ that Congress had conferred upon the Secretary of the Interior the power to make regulations and impose restrictions upon the disposition of reindeer transferred to the natives by the Government, and these regulations may be enforced by suit to recover the annual illegally transferred or its value.

Despite the safeguards created by statute and administrative rules, by 1920 about a quarter of all the reindeer in Alaska was owned by whites.¹²⁸

The most important law relating to reindeer is the Act of September 1, 1897,¹²⁹ which is designed to establish for the natives of Alaska a self-sustaining economy by acquiring for them the whole reindeer business, and to develop native activity in all branches of the industry. The Secretary of the Interior is empowered to acquire by purchase or other lawful means, including condemnation, "reindeer, reindeer-equipment, materials, cold-storage plants, warehouses, and other property, real or personal, the acquisition of which he determines to be necessary in the effectuation of the purposes of this Act" (see 2), and to make distribution thereof to the natives or to their organizations¹³⁰ under such conditions as he may prescribe (see 8). He is also

¹²⁷ *op. cit.* p. 123. In the Report of the Governor of Alaska for 1925, p. 65, it was estimated that at the 200,000 reindeer in Alaska, two-thirds belonged to the natives. In the 1938 Report, p. 46, it was estimated that of the 744,000 reindeer, 67 per cent were owned by the natives.

¹²⁸ The Act of March 4, 1921, 41 Stat. 1367, 1400, authorizes the Commissioner of Education to sell male reindeer and invest the proceeds in the purchase of female reindeer for distribution by him among the natives who had not been supplied with them.

¹²⁹ In 1929 the supervision of the reindeer was turned over to the Governor, but on July 1, 1937, the reindeer service was transferred from his supervision to the Office of Indian Affairs, Governor's Report (to 1938), p. 46. Under supervision of herds and the business of the native cooperative stores had been handled by civil teachers, and hence full responsibility for the reindeer service was placed under the Education Division of the Indian Office. Annual Report of the Secretary of the Interior, 1937, p. 232.

¹³⁰ 51 L. D. 136, 147-158 (1925).

The following discussion by the Solicitor of the regulations gives an idea of the administrative system:

"As has already been indicated, the absolute ownership of all reindeer in Alaska was in the Government originally, and such interests in them as are held by the natives grow out of contractual relations between the individual natives and the United States, based on regulations based for that purpose. By these regulations the natives who hold reindeer are divided into two classes, one known as "apprentices," to whom a stated number of reindeer are apportioned by the Government from its herds, and the other as "herders." The regulations provided that the reindeer issued to these natives shall revert to the Government in the case of the death of either an apprentice or a herder without heirs, or with heirs who are not competent or do not manifest a desire to take charge of the herd, or in the case of an apprentice who is married, or where a herder becomes incompetent and fails to reform within one year, or continually neglects his herd, and the members of his family are not competent to control the herd and fail to provide a competent herder.

Both apprentices and herders are required to enter into a contract with the Government, of which the regulations mentioned are made a part, and in which there are other stipulations calling for the reversion of the herd to the Government under certain contingencies.

¹³¹ *Op. Rel. I. D.* 20000, September 16, 1931.

¹³² Cameron, *op. cit.* pp. 117-118.

¹³³ 80 Stat. 900. See Annual Report of Secretary of Interior (1937).

¹³⁴ 80-7.

¹³⁵ Alaska, Its Resources and Development, *op. cit.* p. 123.

A survey by that Department (Department of the Interior) in 1938 indicated 78 native reindeer associations with 1,678 members owning herds varying in size from a few hundred to twenty thousand head. Less than 20 of these herds were owned by other than natives.

authorized to issue rules and regulations to prevent the transfer or devise of land to non-natives (see 10), and regulate the ranging of reindeer on public lands (see 14).¹⁰⁰ Criminal sanctions are provided for violations of this statute (see 10 and 14), and \$2,000,000 is authorized to be appropriated for expenditure by the Secretary of the Interior in carrying out the provisions of this act (see 10).¹⁰¹ By the Acts of May 9, 1908,¹⁰² and June 25, 1908,¹⁰³ a total of \$50,000 was appropriated for a survey and appraisal of the property and resources authorized to be acquired for the natives. This study has been made under the supervision of a congressional committee authorized by the Act of May 9, 1908, which is recommended to Congress that funds be made available to carry out the purposes of the Reindeer Act.¹⁰⁴ By the Third Decade Appropriation Act, fiscal year 1919,¹⁰⁵ \$720,000 was appropriated for the purchase of reindeer, equipment, abattoirs, corrals, etc., owned by non-natives and \$75,000 was appropriated for administrative expenses. Payments for reindeer are limited to an average of \$4 per head.¹⁰⁶

C LANDS

Congress and administrative authorities have consistently recognized and respected the rights of the natives of Alaska in the land occupied by them.¹⁰⁷ The rights of the natives in many respects the same as those generally enjoyed by the Indians residing in the United States, viz the right of use and occupancy, with the fee in the United States.¹⁰⁸

Article III of the Treaty of Cession¹⁰⁹ provides that the members of the civilized native tribes shall be protected in the free enjoyment of their property.

Section 8¹¹⁰ of the Act of May 17, 1884,¹¹¹ establishing a civil government in Alaska and extending to it the laws of the United

¹⁰⁰ Of the estimated 118,000 square miles of grazing land in Alaska, 200,000 square miles are considered suitable only for reindeer raising. Alaska, its Resources and Development, *op cit*, pp 123, 124.

¹⁰¹ *Id.*

¹⁰² 35 Stat. 201, 311.

¹⁰³ 35 Stat. 1311, 1312.

¹⁰⁴ Hearings before the Subcommittee on the House Committee on Appropriations, Third Cong., 1st Session on the Interior Department Appropriation Bill for 1919, pt II, pp 397 et seq. Also see hearings before same committee on the bill for 1914, pt II, pp 462, et seq.

¹⁰⁵ Act of August 9, 1910, 63 Stat. 1301, 1317. Act of May 10, 1909, 33 Stat. 689, 708, now read \$4,000 out of the \$70,000 appropriation for reindeer service, for the purchase and distribution of reindeer.

¹⁰⁶ This limitation does not apply to the purchase of reindeer located on Nuyuk Island. Act of August 9, 1910, 51 Stat. 1301, 1315.

¹⁰⁷ United States v. Bergrum, 2 Alaska 442, 448 (1906), 19 L D 139 (1891), 21 L D 486 (1890), 20 L D 317 (1889), 28 L D 427 (1890), 47 L D 434 (1909), 50 L D 315 (1924), 62 L D 397 (1920), 68 L D 194 (1930), 83 L D 593 (1932).

¹⁰⁸ The following acts of Congress contain provisions protecting the Alaska natives in the use and occupancy of land occupied by them at the time:

Act of May 17, 1884, 23 Stat. 21, 29; Act of March 8, 1891, 26 Stat. 1005, 1100; Act of June 8, 1900, 31 Stat. 821, 840. The Act of June 10, 1935, 49 Stat. 1981 authorizes the "Tribes and Native Indians of Alaska to sue the United States to determine property claims."

For a discussion of the power of Congress over land, see *see* *U. supra* and Chapter 8, *see* 6.

¹⁰⁹ 10 L D 318 (1904).

¹¹⁰ 15 Stat. 536, 642 (1867). The full text of this provision is set forth in section 8 of this chapter.

¹¹¹ This section provides in part:

"That the Indians or other persons in said district shall not be disturbed in the possession of any lands actually in their use or occupation or now claimed by them, but the terms under which such persons may be disturbed in such lands is reserved for future legislation by Congress."

Section 12 empowers the Secretary of the Interior to select two officers, who together with the Governor shall constitute a Commission to examine and report on the condition of the Indians, "what lands, if any, should be reserved for their use," etc.

¹¹² 28 Stat. 24.

States relating to mining claims is the first legislation which recognizes the rights of Alaska Indians to the possession of lands in their actual use and occupancy.¹¹² In interpreting this provision, the court in *Heckman v. Butler*, said:

The prohibition contained in the act of 1884 against the disturbance of the use of possession of any Indian or other person of any land in Alaska claimed by them is sufficiently general and comprehensive to include idle lands as well as lands above high-water mark. Not is it sufficient that Congress, in first dealing with the then sparsely settled country, was disposed to protect its few inhabitants in the possession of lands, of whatever character, by means of which they eeked out their hard and precarious existence. The fact that at that time the Indians and other occupants of the country largely made their use by means of hunting and the well known to the legislative mind of the government, as well as the fact that that business, if conducted on any substantial scale, necessitated the use of parts of the idle lands in the milking out and hauling in of the necessary supplies. Congress saw proper to protect by its act of 1884 the possession and use by these Indians and other persons of any and all land in Alaska against intrusion by third persons, and so far has never deemed it wise to otherwise provide. (Pp 88-89)

A subsequent judicial decision¹¹³ also stresses the importance of interpreting the statute in the light of the communal habits of the natives.

It is well known that the native Indians of this country by their peculiar habits live in villages here and there, in some of which they remain and in others of which they are during certain seasons nomadic, that while their habits are somewhat nomadic, they have well-settled places of abode, and these usually are not abandoned, though they thus vacate them for a few seasons at a time. The history of the habits of these people is well understood. (P 229)

It is believed that the language of this act does not refer to lands held by Indians in severalty, but as to holdings by them collectively in their villages and such places as were occupied by them, that their methods of life were well understood by the lawmakers, and that they were understood to occupy lands in common either in villages where they lived, or in fishing, hunting, and like places.

No doubt I think exists as to the rights of those Indians who had occupied some particular tract of land solely and exclusively by themselves, and had actually occupied the same continuously before the time and since the passage of the act of May 17, 1884. I could maintain his possessory right to this property by virtue of this act, and the rights of the native might and should have possessory lands such circumstances. But it is evident to the court that the native Indians who occupied the land in dispute, if they occupied it exclusively and continuously, if they were in the actual undisputed possession thereof at the time the act of 1884 went into effect, were occupying it as a village, where a number had settled, and were there as common occupants, and not as individual claimants to any particular portion of the same. If they occupied the same exclusively as a village or otherwise, their right to the same must be protected, if protected at all, under section 8, above referred to. If the Congress of the United States have made no provision for this class of incidents acquiring title to lands since the act of 1884, then they may not obtain title. (Pp. 229-230)

¹¹² *Heckman v. Butler*, 119 Fed 88 (C C A 9, 1902), *aff'd* *Butler v. Heckman*, 1 Alaska 198 (1901), *United States v. Bergrum*, 2 Alaska 442 (1906), 47 L D 384 (1908), 49 L D 399 (1920).

¹¹³ *Upham v. Pacific Coast S S Co*, 2 Alaska 244 (1904).

¹¹⁴ Of the following excerpt from an administrative holding, 47 L D 11 831, 839-837 (1908):

Congress had a purpose in withholding from those Indians the title to their possessions, especially with respect to mining claims. It protects them in their possessions under the legal title held by the United States by the treaty of cession, but it does not mean that they shall not be disturbed in the possession of any lands

This act protects land held by Indians and other persons in Alaska at the time of its passage and not lands subsequently acquired,¹²⁰ nor land occupied within a public reservation.¹²¹

The Act of March 3, 1881,¹²² which extends the Homestead Law to Alaska and provides for the acquisition by an individual group or association of 160 acres of land for trade or manufacturing purposes, expressly excepts "any lands . . . to which the natives of Alaska have prior rights by virtue of actual occupation . . ." "The possessory rights of the natives cannot be interrupted by the granting of townships."

Section 1 of the Act of May 26, 1906,¹²³ authorizes the township trustee to issue a restricted deed to an Alaskan native for a tract in a township occupied and set apart for him. Section 3 provides that whenever the Secretary of the Interior "shall find unoccupied public lands to be claimed and occupied by natives, as a town or village, he may issue a patent therefor to a native who shall convey by restricted deed such land to the individual native, exclusive of his enclosed by streets or alleys."

The determination of persons eligible to receive patents under this act was delegated to the Department of the Interior, which has frequently changed its interpretation of the natives eligible to acquire title to the public domain. Regulations¹²⁴ were promulgated providing that the act applied only to natives who had not seemed of citizenship under the Territorial Law.¹²⁵ Although the wisdom of permitting the issuance of unrestricted deeds to natives, solely because of their citizenship was questioned,¹²⁶ such regulations were authorized by law.¹²⁷

Though the statute provided that all of the deeds should contain restrictions on alienation, levy, sale, and encumbrance, the township trustees exercised discretion as to whether natives should receive restricted or unrestricted deeds, and they reached an understanding with the General Land Office that natives leading a civilized life should be treated in all respects as white citizens, but that the lands possessed by other Indians or natives should not be assessed nor conveyed but should be set apart for them as Indian possessions.¹²⁸

Section 10 of the Act of May 14, 1898,¹²⁹ extending the homestead laws of the United States to Alaska, authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to reserve for the use of the natives of Alaska,

suitable tracts of land along the water front of any stream, inlet, bay, or sea shore for landing places for canoes and other craft used by such natives . . .

or (usually) in their actual use or occupation, or claimed by them at the date of that act.

Such recognition by Congress of a right of occupancy and possession prevents the acquisition of title to such lands without legislative authority, and while the title remains in the Government the Indians' right to occupancy cannot be impaired nor can the land be surveyed for sale or charged or burdened with any obligation or encumbrance that would not be lawfully imposed upon public lands of the United States or other lands to which it holds the title. It was obviously contemplated by the act that these Indians should enjoy title and privilege of a land owner except the title to encumber the land or to convey title thereto.

¹²⁰ *Heckman v. Hatter*, 110 Fed. 88 (C. C. A. 9, 1902), aff'd *sub nom. v. Heckman*, 3 Alaska 188 (1901); *Columbia Contract Co. v. Hampton*, 101 Fed. 60 (C. C. A. 9, 1904); 18 L. D. 120 (1891), 47 L. D. 731 (1908).

¹²¹ 26 L. D. 104 (1896).

¹²² 20 Stat. 1096, 1100. Discussed in Memo. Acting Sol. I. D. February 17, 1939.

¹²³ 26 L. D. 427 (1899), 28 L. D. 537 (1899). The Department of the Interior has referred to approve townships, which would interfere with the native use of water for domestic purposes, 24 L. D. 812 (1897), or which would interfere with the native use of a right-of-way, 26 L. D. 612 (1898).

¹²⁴ 44 Stat. 920.

¹²⁵ 50 L. D. 27, 46 (1928).

¹²⁶ Memo. Acting Sol. I. D., February 17, 1939.

¹²⁷ *Ibid.* For a discussion of citizenship, see sec. 5, *supra*.

¹²⁸ 50 L. D. 27, 46 (1928), 51 L. D. 601 (1928).

¹²⁹ Memo. Acting Sol. I. D., February 17, 1939.

¹³⁰ 20 Stat. 408, 418.

Title to such reserved land cannot be acquired by any individual or group of individuals, even with Indian consent.¹³¹

In the case of *United States v. Lynch*,¹³² it was held that an order of the Secretary of the Interior reserving certain Indian lands for a landing place for the boats of the natives did not reserve any land for any particular natives and that the United States was the proper party to sue in an action of trespass. The court stressed the communal nature of the life and occupation of the Indians as it made to congressional intention.

There has been no legislation by Congress particularly pertaining to the lands occupied by the Indians of Alaska on May 7, 1884. It is true that there is a provision for the Indians of the United States to enter lands under the Homestead Act, 24 Stat. 106 (43 U. S. C. A. § 180). This act is also applicable to the Indians of Alaska who may enter lands under the Homestead Act, but the entry of lands under the Homestead Act is necessarily restricted to lands above the line of ordinary high-water mark. There is no specific provision of legislation relative to the acquisition of title to public lands by Indians occupying them on May 17, 1884, that I am aware of.¹³³ (P. 373.)

Section 27 of the Act of June 6, 1900,¹³⁴ establishing a civil government in Alaska, provides that—

The Indians . . . shall not be disturbed in the possession of any lands now actually in their use or occupation,

The case of *United States v. Brington*¹³⁵ held that this statute not only prohibits an entry, under the Land Laws, upon land occupied by the natives but also forbids any other action which will disturb their possession and encumbrance, and any attempt to dispossess them by contract. The court also held that the United States, and not an individual Indian, was the proper party to sue on a mandatory injunction against trespass on Indian land.

Under the Act of May 17, 1908,¹³⁶ the Secretary of the Interior may allot nonreserved land not exceeding 160 acres to any native who is the head of a family or who is 21 years of age. It also provides that such allotment shall be deemed the homestead of the allottee and his heirs forever and shall be inalienable and non-taxable until Congress provides otherwise.

Title remains in the United States,¹³⁷ and monies received from trespass on timber on such allotted land is not paid to the allottee, but must be deposited in the public funds of the United States.¹³⁸

After the approval of an allotment, the allottee's rights are

¹³¹ 50 L. D. 317 (1921), 48 L. D. 762 (1921), 52 L. D. 607 (1926), modified in 54 L. D. 194 (1924).

¹³² 1 Alaska 568 (1907).

¹³³ An administrative finding, 50 L. D. 715, 817-818 (1924), interpreting this provision, states:

. . . there is no authority under existing law by which these lands can be sold . . . As previously shown, until Congress grants some statute title, the right of the natives in Alaska is simply one of use and occupancy. Nor does the reservation of a designated area for their benefit result in placing actual title in the Indians . . . the title or other lands occupied by or reserved for the Indians at Kotikchan, Alaska, cannot be disposed of under existing law but that the power rests with Congress, by statute, with or without the consent of the Indians, to provide in the future disposal of these lands.

See 44 L. D. 441 (1916), for a discussion of the riparian rights of the natives.

¹³⁴ 31 Stat. 821, 830.

¹³⁵ 1 Alaska 143 (1907). Accord *United States v. Cadwalder*, 5 Alaska 126 (1904).

¹³⁶ Also see *United States v. Ombao*, 5 Alaska 126 (1914).

¹³⁷ C. 2409, 46 Stat. 197. Only a small area is held by beneficiaries under this act. Land Use in Alaska, Preliminary Report, Advisory Committee on Land Use and Subcommittees to Alaska Planning Council (1938), p. 60.

¹³⁸ See 50 L. D. 815 (1924).

¹³⁹ 44 L. D. 118 (1917). The trespass occurred prior to the approval of the allotment.

not defeated by a subsequent reservation by Executive order of a tract of land, which includes the allotment.²⁰

In the words of a recent administrative holding²¹:

That Congress did not intend that an allottee's right should be less than a "vested right," or be subject to extinction at the pleasure of the Executive branch of the Government, is very clearly shown by the fact that it went further in the act conferring that right than it has done in other kindred statutes by declaring in emphatic words that "the land so allotted shall be deemed the homestead of the allottee and his heirs in perpetuity."

Actual occupancy and continuous use of a tract of land by a native, prior to its inclusion within a national forest, confers upon the occupant a preference right to an allotment, even though the application for an allotment was filed subsequent to the creation of a reservation.²²

The Allotment Act²³ does not limit the use of the land by the allottee nor the duration of his occupancy, nor the character of his improvements.²⁴

The Secretary of the Interior was empowered by section 2 of the Act of May 1, 1890²⁵:

... to designate as an Indian reservation any area of land which has been reserved for the use and occupancy of Indians or Eskimos by section 8 of the Act of May 17, 1884 (23 Stat. 26), or by section 14 of section 15 of the Act of March 3, 1891 (26 Stat. 1103), or which has been heretofore reserved under any executive order and placed under the jurisdiction of the Department of the Interior or any bureau thereof, together with additional public lands adjacent thereto, within the Territory of Alaska or any other public lands which are actually occupied by Indians or Eskimos within said Territory. *Provided*, That the designation by the Secretary of the Interior of any such area of land as a reservation

shall be effective only upon its approval by the vote, by secret ballot, of a majority of the Indian or Eskimo residents thereof who vote at a special election duly called by the Secretary of the Interior upon thirty days' notice. *Provided, however*, That in each instance the total vote cast shall not be less than 80 per centum of those entitled to vote.

A provision is also made that this act shall not affect existing rights.

There have already been a number of administrative interpretations of this act. It has been held that a reservation may include sufficient water frontage to protect and provide for the fishing occupations of the Indians.²⁶ Although water in connection with the reservation of the uplands cannot be independently reserved under section 2, waters adjacent to any lands already reserved or being reserved may be reserved for the natives occupying the rest of the reservation.²⁷ Waters may be withdrawn extending as far from the shore as the territorial limits of Alaska.

Adopting the test formulated in the Supreme Court in the *Utaska Pacific Fisheries* case,²⁸ it was held to be the intent of Congress that under section 2 only those adjacent waters may be reserved which are essential for the effective use and are an integral part of the reserved land. A recent opinion²⁹ on this question advised:

It appears that for all practical purposes the extent of water designated by the President in connection with the Attu Islands Reservation, namely, 3,000 feet from the shore at mean low tide, should be used as the standard and even as the maximum unless it is shown that the natives have been using and actually need a further area (19-9-10).

The principal part of each reservation must be land upon which the natives are actually residing.³⁰

²⁰ Op. Sol. I. D., M-28078, April 19, 1937.

²¹ *Ibid*.

²² *Alaska Pacific Fisheries v. United States*, 248 U. S. 78 (1918), affg 240 Fed. 274 (C. C. A. 9, 1917). This case is more fully discussed in note 4, *supra*.

²³ Op. Sol. I. D., M-28078, April 19, 1937.

²⁴ *See* Sol. I. D., September 14, 1917. Op. Sol. I. D., M-28078, April 19, 1937.

SECTION 9. TRIBES AND ASSOCIATIONS

Indian villages have been organized under the Municipal Incorporation Law of Alaska³¹ and the Indian Village Act.³² It is reported that some Indian villages not organized under either of these laws have an informal organization with a council, usually elected annually.³³

Section 39 of the Act of June 18, 1894³⁴ provides that Eskimos and other aboriginal peoples of Alaska shall be considered Indians for the purpose of the act, and section 13 provides that sections 9, 10, 11, 12, and 38 shall apply to the Territory of Alaska. These provisions relate to tribal organization, loans for economic development and for tuition in vocational schools, and preference to Indians for positions in the Indian Service. The Act of May 1, 1890,³⁵ extends to Alaska all the remaining sections

except sections 2, 3, 4, and 18, relating to tribal lands and reservations, which are largely inapplicable to this territory. This act offered a new source of federal protection to the natives "who in the past," according to Commissioner of Indian Affairs Collier, "have seen their land rights almost universally disregarded, their fishing rights increasingly invaded, and their economic situation grow each year more desperate."³⁶

The Act of May 1, 1890, was passed to remedy the failure of the Act of June 18, 1894 to extend the incorporation and credit privileges of that act to the organizations in Alaska, and, what was equally important, to authorize a type of organization more suited to the existing native groupings and activities than the organizations authorized for Indians in the States.

By an oversight, apparently, of the congressional conference committee considering the Act of June 18, 1894, section 17 of that act providing for incorporation of tribes, was omitted from the list of sections made applicable to Alaska, and this resulted in the ruling that the credit funds made available by section 10 to incorporated organizations could not be made available in Alaska in the absence of the privilege of incorporation.³⁷ The

³¹ Compiled Laws of Alaska for 1934, ch. 44. Pursuant to this act Klawock was organized as a city of the first class and Hyaburg and Selman, as cities of the second class.

³² Session Laws of Alaska for 1915, ch. 11, amended Session Laws of Alaska for 1917, ch. 25, repeated Session Laws of Alaska for 1929, ch. 28, villages like Angoon and Hoonah, organized before the repeal of this law, continue to function, although their status is doubtful.

³³ *Id.*, if not all, of these villages are within the sites of the Tongass National Forest Reservation.

³⁴ 48 Stat. 684.

³⁵ C. 254, 40 Stat. 1280.

³⁶ Annual Report of Secretary of Interior (1890) p. 168.

³⁷ *Op. Sol. I. D.*, M-38078, April 19, 1937.

omission was remedied in the Act of 1890 by the express extension of section 17 to Alaska organizations and by the provision that the groups of Indians authorized to organize may receive charters of incorporation and credit loans in accordance with the Act of June 18, 1894.²⁰⁰

The type of organization authorized by the latter act was the organization of Indian bands or tribes, or the Indians residing on a reservation. However, since most of the natives in Alaska do not live on reservations and are not grouped as bands or tribes, as in the States,²⁰¹ and since most of the natives live in native villages or communities and many groups of natives work in particular kinds of occupations or have other ties that bind their interests together, it was provided in section 1 of the Act of May 1, 1898, that

groups of Indians in Alaska not heretofore recognized as bands or tribes, but having a common bond of occupation, or association, or residence within a well-defined neighborhood, community, or rural district, may organize to adopt constitutions and bylaws and to receive charters of incorporation and Federal loans under sections 16, 17, and 10 of the Act of June 18, 1894 (48 Stat. 884)

The criterion of organization was adopted from section 9 of the Federal Credit Union Act,²⁰² and the interpretation of this language by the authorities administering that act is looked to for guidance in determining the eligibility of native groups seeking to organize.

Under the interpretation and application of the Act of May 1, 1898, the Interior Department has held, as a matter of law and policy, that, like a band or tribe, a group which may organize under the act must be a previously existing group, bound by common interests or economic ties, and not a newly formed group established solely for the purpose of receiving benefits under the Indian Reorganization Act. The Interior Department has also held that, as in the organization of a band or tribe, the group may organize itself as a unit and include in the outset all those natives who belong to the group, although individuals may withdraw later from the organization.

The instructions on organization in Alaska, approved by the Secretary of the Interior on December 22, 1897, set forth the kinds of organization possible under the act:

(1) A group consisting of all the native residents of a locality may organize to carry on municipal and public activities as well as economic enterprises. This type of organization would be suitable for exclusively native villages. Authority for municipal activities is based on the provision of section 17 of the

²⁰⁰ From the standpoint of the Alaskan economy, this means that credit funds may be loaned to finance such enterprises as fishing, trading, cannery operations, and reindeer development. Report of Governor of Alaska for 1938, p. 45.

²⁰¹ Annual Report of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs (1937), pp. 200-201.

The native villages vary "from 30 or 10 to 300 or 400 persons. Except in southeastern Alaska, these villages are widely separated and have little or no communication with each other. The village and not the ethnological tribe is the unit." Letter by R. L. Walrus, in Hearings before the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs on March 28, 1933, on S. 1100, 72nd Cong., 1st sess., p. 10.

* * * It was established that the villages in Alaska were the natural form of Indian organization and that no tribal organization existed as they are known in the United States. It was found that the word "tribe" was used in Alaska to denote ethnic or language groups and did not signify "domestic dependent nations" as the tribes were recognized to be in the United States (Memo. Rel. 1, 11, and 12, 1940).

* * * While the native organizations and associations in Alaska do not have the character or status of tribes, they may equally be considered instrumentalities of the United States where they are operating under a loan agreement from the United States or are organized and chartered as Federal corporations under the Indian Reorganization Act (Memo. Rel. 1, 11, June 10, 1940).

²⁰² Act of June 26, 1894, c. 750, 48 Stat. 1215, 1216, 12 U. S. C. 1759.

Act of June 18, 1894, providing that the constitutions may contain all powers of an Indian group recognized under existing law. The best example of this type of organization is the organization of the Eskimo villages.²⁰³

(2) Groups comprising all the native residents of a locality may organize solely for business purposes without contemplating municipal activities. This type of organization is especially suitable in the case of Indian groups residing at white communities, which communities already provide for municipal activities. Examples of such an organization are the organizations at Craig²⁰⁴ and Sitka.²⁰⁵

(3) A group not comprising all the residents of a locality but comprising persons having a common bond of occupation or association may organize to carry on economic activities. In the case of such organizations, cooperative and democratic features in the method of organization are encouraged and no wide a line among the natives is sought as is possible in the circumstances of the case. An example of such an organization is the Ildvaburg Cooperative Association, composed of resident Native fishermen of Ildvaburg who have a "common bond of occupation in the fish industry, including the catching, processing and selling of fish and the building of fishing boats and equipment."²⁰⁶

As of February 1, 1941, 88 native groups had organized and received charters under the Alaska act.²⁰⁷

Although the Alaskan Native Brotherhood, is neither a tribe nor a group organized under the Act of May 1, 1898, it must be considered in any survey of native organizations. The Brotherhood was organized in the fall of 1913 with the unannounced objective of preparing the natives of Alaska to exercise the rights and duties of citizenship. The Brotherhood is governed by an annual convention composed of delegates from its "local camps."

²⁰³ See, for example, Constitution of the Native Village of Shishnaad, ratified August 2, 1936, and charter ratified on the same date.

²⁰⁴ Constitution of the Craig Community Association, ratified October 8, 1938, and charter ratified on the same date. This association, composed of about 200 members of the Ildva and Tlingit tribes residing in the neighborhood of Craig, granted loans to many members with which they bought new boats, made repairs, and purchased their oil boats. See Alaskan Fisheries Hearings, II, Reel 102, 76th Cong., 1st sess., pt. II (1939) p. 628.

²⁰⁵ Constitution of the Sitka Community Association, ratified October 11, 1938, and charter ratified on the same date.

²⁰⁶ Constitution of the Ildvaburg Cooperative Association, ratified April 14, 1938, and charter ratified on the same date. Also see Annual Report, Governor of Alaska (1939), pp. 60-61.

²⁰⁷ Act of May 1, 1938, sec. 1, 40 Stat. 1250, 18 U. S. C. 382.

Ildvaburg Cooperative Association of Alaska, constitution and charter ratified April 14, 1938; Kwakew Cooperative Association of Alaska, October 4, 1938; Craig Community Association of Craig Alaska, October 8, 1938; Sitka Community Association of Alaska, October 11, 1938; Organized Village of Kwanan, October 15, 1938; King Island Native Community, January 31, 1939; Native Village of Alka, May 28, 1939; Native Village of Nikolski, June 12, 1939; Native Village of Wales, July 29, 1939; Native Village of Shishnaad, August 2, 1939; Native Village of Kasiluk, August 28, 1939; Iliamna Indian Association, October 22, 1939; Angoon Community Association, November 15, 1939; Nome Eskimo Community, November 28, 1939; Native Village of Elin, November 24, 1939; Native Village of White Mountain, November 25, 1939; Native Village of Tyonek, November 27, 1939; Stehbins Community Association, December 5, 1939; Native Village of Nantux, December 28, 1939; Native Village of Unalakleet, December 30, 1939; Native Village of Minto, December 30, 1939; Native Village of Riverdale, December 30, 1939; Native Village of Gambell, December 31, 1939; Native Village of Fort Yukon, January 2, 1940; Native Village of Nuniplukuk, January 2, 1940; Native Village of Kwetluk, January 11, 1940; Native Village of Venetie, January 25, 1940; Ketchikan Indian Corporation, January 27, 1940; Native Village of Shaktoolik, January 27, 1940; Native Village of Dionede, January 31, 1940; Native Village of Chagane, February 8, 1940; Native Village of Kivalina, February 7, 1940; Native Village of Point Hope, February 20, 1940; Native Village of Selawik, March 15, 1940; Native Village of Barrow, March 21, 1940; Native Village of Tetlin, March 28, 1940; Native Village of Koryuk, August 24, 1940; Native Village of Saxman, January 14, 1941.

Executive officers, including the Grand Secretary, who is the administrative head, are elected annually.⁴⁰

The Grand President becomes a member of a permanent "Executive Committee" which exercises the powers of the convention between sessions.

"This society takes an active interest in legislation and other matters which affect the natives."⁴¹

Unique among native communities is that of the Metlakathla Indians. Encouraged by federal officials, about 800 of these Indians migrated in 1887 to the Annette Islands in southeast Alaska from their homes in Metlakathla, British Columbia.⁴² A ruling of the Attorney General⁴³ held that the President of the United States lacked authority to establish a reservation for these Indians on the public domain without congressional sanction, because they were aliens, born outside of the boundaries of the United States proper. By the Act of March 4, 1887,⁴⁴ Congress created a reservation for the use of these immigrants and such other Alaskan natives, as might join them, to be used in common under rules and regulations prescribed by the Secretary of the Interior.⁴⁵ By the Act of March 4, 1907,⁴⁶

Congress permitted these Indians to be licensed as masters, pilots, and engineers of steamboats and as operators of motor boats as if citizens of the United States. Congress granted collective naturalization by the Act of May 7, 1934,⁴⁷ to the Metlakathlans and the Indians who emigrated from British Columbia and later than January 1, 1900 and resided continuously in Annette Island.

The community has flourished; it owns a salmon cannery⁴⁸ which is operated under a lease from the Department of the Interior. Out of their receipts they have built up a large trust fund⁴⁹ in the Treasury of the United States, bearing a percent interest.

The community income is used by the directors at the town council for civic improvements, care of dependents, etc. From the profits, the community has built and equipped a hydro-electric plant which furnishes each house with electricity free of charge.

The privilege of joining the Metlakathla community and occupying any part of the Island is subject to vote of the Metlakathla council. To obtain membership, except by birth, requires the approval of three-fourths of the members of the town council. The land and resources of the reservation are held in common; individuals occupy land by permits from the council. Local self government is recognized in rules and regulations of the Secretary of the Interior.⁵⁰

⁴⁰ For a brief discussion of this organization see testimony by Judge Wickham before the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs on March 21, 1912 on S. 1196, 22nd Cong., 1st sess., pp. 30-31.

⁴¹ "The significance of the Metlakathla as the representatives of an important portion of the natives is shown by the fact that the delegate from Alaska declined to sponsor legislation extending the Wheeler-Howard Act to Alaska until learning its views. 83 Cong. Rec. pt. 9, p. 180 (1938)."

At the outset a number of "local camps" and many efforts had vigorously opposed the provisions of the Wheeler-Howard Act offering to "Indian reservations" because they thought that these provisions would deprive them of some of their rights of citizenship. When it was demonstrated that this fear was groundless, the Executive Committee approved the measure. *Ibid.* 180.

⁴² For a full account of the development of this colony see Department of the Interior, *The Problem of the Alaskan Development* (April 1940) pp. 44-47. See also in 7, *supra*.

⁴³ 18 Op. A. 11 577 (1877).

⁴⁴ 20 Stat. 1095, 1101.

⁴⁵ Reciprocity of the Interior Lane issued such rules and regulation on January 28, 1917. 25 17 P. R. 17-3 68.

⁴⁶ C. 2029, 34 Stat. 1111.

⁴⁷ C. 221, 48 Stat. 667. The Alaska legislature had urged Congress to grant citizenship to these Indians. 11 *Ann. Alameda*, No. 10, *Laws of Alaska* (1929), pp. 411-412. For a private act naturalizing a single Metlakathla see Act of April 15, 1938, 52 Stat. 1299.

⁴⁸ See Survey of Conditions of the Indians of the United States, pt. 17, (Metlakathla Indians, Alaska), 74th Cong. 2d sess., Hearings, 8 Subcommittee on Ind. Aff. The success of this community is discussed in Hearings on Alaskan Fisheries held pursuant to H. Res. 162, 76th Cong. 1st sess. (1939) pp. 158, 159, 168, 162, 650, 719-723, 917, 900.

⁴⁹ Act of August 28, 1917, 40 Stat. 873.

⁵⁰ 25 C. P. R. pt. 1 (Rules and Regulations for Annette Island Reserve, Alaska (1915)).

CHAPTER 23

NEW YORK INDIANS

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There are more Indians in the State of New York than there are in Wyoming, Colorado, and Utah combined.¹ Because of the persistence of traditional forms of tribal organization,² and because of treaty arrangements with New York which preceded the Federal Constitution and special dealings with the state since that time, the various New York tribes have a peculiar status, which has been the subject of a series of cases, federal³

and state,⁴ and at least two excellent legal studies.⁵ While the complexity of the subject, and limitations of space and time preclude an extensive analysis of the status of the New York tribes, in this work, two aspects of the subject may be briefly treated: the history of federal and state relations, and the present status of these tribes with respect to local government.

¹ As of January 1, 1936, the Indian population of these states was, according to the Indian Office: New York, 16,610; Wyoming, 2,324; Colorado, 856; Utah, 2,184.
² See American Association of Indian Affairs, Inc., News-Letter Supplement, May 15, 1936.

³ *Pellens v. Blacksmith*, 10 Ill. 208 (1836) (denying right of alienation of ultimate fee to Seneca lands to dispossessed Indians); *New York Carol Carter v. Double*, 21 How. 306 (1853) (A statute of the State of New York making it unlawful for any other than Indians to settle upon tribal lands in New York is not contrary to the Constitution or a usurpation of federal power. It is evidence of state power to make police regulations); *New York Indians*, 5 Wall. 701 (1860) (denying power of New York to tax land of New York Indians); *Seneca Nation v. Christy*, 162 U. S. 283 (1906) (Seneca Indians barred by statute of limitation in the suit, under New York statutes to invalidate conveyances, of land to private individuals); *New York Indians v. United States*, 170 U. S. 1 (1898) (Under Treaty of Buffalo Creek, January 16, 1828, 7 Stat. 550, the New York Indians were held entitled to value of certain lands in Kansas, set apart for these Indians and later sold by the United States, as well as for amounts of money agreed to be paid

upon their removal); *Onondaga Indians of Canada v. United States*, 30 U. S. 116 (1808) (Onondaga Indians of Canada claim to share in land under decision of Supreme Court in 170 U. S. 1); *New York Indians v. United States*, 10 U. S. 148 (1803) (claims arising out of alleged unexecuted stipulations of the Treaty of Buffalo Creek of January 16, 1828, 7 Stat. 550); *New York Indians v. United States*, 41 U. S. 102 (1832) (claim of New York Indians excluded from the membership rolls to share in judgment rendered in suit reported in 10 U. S. 148); *Kennedy v. Broker*, 231 U. S. 536 (1913) (Hunting and fishing rights of Seneca Indians on ceded lands); *United States ex rel. Kennedy v. Tyler*, 209 U. S. 43 (1925) (State court jurisdiction over lands and minerals of the Seneca Tribe); *Seneca v. United States*, 61 U. S. 681 (1828) (claim of New York Indians not considered in the absence of jurisdictional act). See also, on power of state and federal government over New York Indians, note, Ann. Cas. 20145, 632, 633-651; note, Ann. Cas. 19151, 371, 375.

⁴ See *Patterson v. Council of Seneca Nation*, 245 N. Y. 433, 137 N. E. 734 (1927), and cases cited.

⁵ Ruse, *The Position of the American Indian in the Law of the United States* (1934), 10 J. Comp. Leg. 78, Pound, *Nationals without a Nation* (1922), 22 Colum. L. Rev. 97.

SECTION 1. HISTORICAL BACKGROUND⁶

The Iroquois Indian Confederacy, sometimes called the Five Nations or the Six Nations, consisted of the Seneca, Cayuga, Onondaga, Oneida and Mohawk tribes of Indians and, during the

latter period of its existence, the Tuscarora tribe. They occupied all of what is now northern and western New York, and their league is acknowledged by historians as being the triumph of

⁶ Material on the historical background of the New York Indians and their relations with various colonial governments and the United States

is taken, almost in its entirety, from the brief in the case of *United States v. Christie*, 23 F. Supp. 846 (D. C. W. D. N. Y. 1938), filed by the

Indian legislation. Not only did the Iroquois outstrip all other Indians both of Mexico in their political institutions, but they were likewise the most powerful. Their territory at one time extended from the hills of New England to the Mississippi River and from upper Canada into North Carolina. Other tribes occupying this expanse were either annihilated, expelled, subjugated, aligned with, or absorbed by the Iroquois. The Iroquois' possession of the strategic water routes (the natural gateway to the interior) along with their power and control over the important western fur trade, gave to these Indians a position in history which has profoundly influenced the present day status of all American Indians.

The controlling object and interest of the Dutch who settled New York, was to trade with the Indians. Their meager needs for land did not affect the Iroquois who were situated to the north and west of Albany (Fort Orange) and in their desire for trade they took particular pains to cultivate the friendship of the

Department of Justice on behalf of the United States. The statements therein contained are corroborated by statements found in *New York Indians: United States, 1701 to 1812*.

An interesting account of the tribes inhabiting western New York during the early colonial period, some of whom no longer reside in the State is contained in a memorandum of John B. T. Reeves, Chief Counsel Office of Indian Affairs, who appears in H. Doc. No. 1590 add. Com. ed. sec. (1915), and reads as follows:

With colonists in what is now western New York found the country more or less densely populated by aborigines of various tribes, principally the Senecas, Cayugas, Oneidas, Onondagas, and Mohawks. The Senecas, Cayugas, and Onondagas were the most numerous, known among themselves as *Iro-quois* as we are, but generally designated by the name *Sagoyew* by the whites. The Senecas during the early days. In the Iroquois confederacy the Onondagas, as the founders of the league, kept the central fire, the Mohawks guarded the doors in war, and the Cayugas the doors in peace. The Cayugas were stationed between the central fire and the east, while the Senecas were stationed between the central fire and the west.

About 1710 the Senecas, then living in North Carolina, became involved in quarrels with white settlers and adjoining Indian tribes, these Indians were severely defeated in battle they migrated to New York and were finally united with the five tribes just mentioned, thus making the Six Nations of New York, by which name the Indians are now most commonly known. At the period of its greatest strength—the latter part of the seventeenth century—the Iroquois League numbered 15,000 souls, and even to this day the union still continues to some extent, although its component membership as to tribes has unusually changed.

With the exception of the Onondagas and a part of the Senecas, these Indians sided with the mother country in the Revolution and were left unprotected and unprotected in the treaty of peace between Great Britain and the confederated Colonies. Naturally, considered among them at the close of the Revolution, due to the fact that in the main they had sided with the losing party in the great struggle, the Mohawks migrated to Canada and settled on lands provided for them by the British Government, while a remnant of this tribe still lives. By treaty the Mohawks (and the State where they lived) they had no land in New York, and subsequently the Six Nations Indians were formally adopted by the Six Nations in place of the Mohawks.

The Cayugas also sold their land to the State and gradually migrated westward locating first in the Ohio Valley and finally removing to the Indian Territory and became assimilated with other tribes there. A few Cayugas still remain in New York, residing principally with the Senecas and Onondagas. We later on mention of the Seneca tribe—being frequently designated "The Tonawanda Band of Seneca Indians." The State paid the Cayugas at the rate of 4 shillings per acre and thereafter sold the land for 10 shillings per acre. About 1883 representative of the tribe began to petition the State for the difference in price between the one paid to them and that received by the State. Finally, in 1890, the legislature of the State passed an act to compensate and adjust and settle the claim of the Cayuga Indians against the State for a sum not exceeding \$27,131.50, with an additional allowance of \$27,131.50 in case the claim should be found to be correct.

The Onondagas also, by various means, sold all of their land, except about 150 acres of the State, and removed to the reservation in Wisconsin procured from the Menominee by treaty with the Federal Government. The 150 acres, in New York belongs to the Onondagas but some have been divided in severalty under State laws, as a tribe these Indians are known no more in that State. Six Cayugas remain in New York and are regarded as of no importance at this time, via the Senecas, Tonawandas, Cayugas, Onondagas, St. Regis, and Shushewab, the latter, however, never having secured a unit in the Six Nations although at one time they did give tribute to the Mohawks. (P. 17)

See appendix of H. Doc. No. 1590 68d Cong., 4d sess., supra, for a list of treaties, statutes, documents, and cases relating to the New York Indians. For a discussion of treaties between New York State and the New York Indians, see *Seneca Nation of Indians v. Chertie*, 196 N. Y. 125, 27 N. Y. 276 (1881).

Iroquois and accordingly afforded them the status of independent nations which they demanded.

When the English took over the Dutch colony in 1664, they were careful to continue a trade which was to make Albany the fur capital of North America during the latter part of the seventeenth and the early part of the eighteenth centuries.

A RESISTANCE BY IROQUOIS TO FRENCH

The French fully appreciated the importance of the Iroquois. The Iroquois and Dutch (later the English) possession of New York made necessary for the French a chain of forts some 2,000 miles in length, and it was ever the purpose of the French to reduce the length of this to about 300 miles by taking possession of New York.

Division of fur trade to the English was effected by the Iroquois from as far as what is now Illinois and Wisconsin, and this along with the Iroquois occupation of northern and western New York was an obstacle to the trade and territorial interests and ambitions of France.

The official French attitude toward these Indians might well be considered as summed up in a letter written by Du Châtelier in 1681:

There is no doubt, and it is the universal opinion, that if the Iroquois are allowed to proceed they will subdue the Illinois, and in a short time render themselves masters of all the Ottawa tribes, and divert the trade to the English, so that it is absolutely necessary to make them out friends at this juncture.

Failing to cultivate a friendship which was detrimental to the Iroquois' independence and trading interests, the French spent about a hundred years in trying to destroy the Iroquois. In this they failed.

The Iroquois resisted every attempt upon their territory, and independence with unparalleled tenacity and with very little or no aid from their allies, the English, until quite late in the struggle, when the English, at the request of the Iroquois, established one or two under-manured forts in their territory.

New York was cognizant of the importance of the Iroquois, both from the standpoint of trade and colonial defense.

The friendship of these Indians was a highly important, if not a decisive, factor in the struggle of France and England for this Continent. The history of this struggle, as enacted in America, is largely the history of these Indians, who in defending their own lands, played an international role which brought them recognition in treaties between France and England. It is no wonder that the Iroquois were "courted and conciliated" by England and that their national character was scrupulously observed and recognized.

*Brothhead, Documents Relative to the Colonial History of the State of New York (1835) (Edited by E. B. O'Callaghan), vol. 9, p. 163.

*Laurentian Governor Clark, in an address to the Assembly on April 15, 1741, said:

"The house at Oswego being of highest importance to the front, ought by all means to be preserved from falling into the hands of the French. If you suffer Oswego to fall into the hands of the French I must fear you will lose the Six Nations, an event which will expose the whole country to the merciless and unrelenting cruelty of a savage enemy. . . . wherefore at any expense Oswego ought to be maintained that the delivery of the Six Nations may be preserved." (New York Assembly Journal 1681-1766 (1891 ed.), 22d Assembly, 6th session, p. 709)

*This is illustrated by the following excerpt from a memorandum of the Lands Division of the Department of Justice:

In 1768, acting under a Commission of the British Crown, Sir William Johnson entered into a treaty with the Six Nations by the terms of which the boundaries of the Iroquois Confederacy were defined and located, and the territory of these Nations was mutually set apart from the lands of the Colony of New York. By this treaty the Indians sold and granted to the King's full and entire Title of Land situate in North America at the Back of the

B. AFFAIRS OF IROQUOIS AS AFFECTING ALL COLONIES

With their territory, dominance, and influence extending into many of the colonies, interference with these Indians inevitably affected the interests of the colonies as well as the Crown.

"The international aspect of the Iroquois resulting from the extent of their territory and influence, made relations with them of serious concern to all of the northern and central colonies, and more than one treaty with these Indians was negotiated by several of the colonies acting together. Such was the Treaty of 1745 between the Iroquois and New York, Massachusetts, Connecticut, and Pennsylvania. Franklin's famous Plan of Union of the colonies was proposed at one of the joint conferences, held in June 1754 at Albany, by the States of New York, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Pennsylvania, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Maryland "for the purpose of treating with the Six Nations and conceiving a scheme of general union of the British American Colonies."¹⁰

Another action favouring control by the central authority of the Crown was the conflict of land settlements and trade. More than one self-seeking colony would act in such a manner (or sanction the actions of its settlers or traders) as to encroach the entire frontier in an Indian war—the consequences of which often would be borne by all of the colonies.

C. SHIFT OF CONTROL OF IROQUOIS AFFAIRS FROM ALBANY TO COLONY TO CROWN

Relations with the Iroquois were in the beginning for the most part a matter of trade and nominally conducted in the name of the King of England. In fact, the actual management of affairs with the Iroquois was with the city of Albany. The charter of this city of 1690 gave to Albany the

Male & only Monarch of the Trade with the Indians as well within this whole County as without the same to the Eastward Northward and Westward thereof as far as his Majesty's Dominion here does or may extend.¹¹

Though Albany was the principal of North America during colonial days, the regulation of affairs with these Indians was not a municipal matter as is readily seen from the foregoing, and accordingly the colony assumed an ever increasing control until the charter was finally revoked. But regulation of the relations with the Iroquois was no more a colonial matter than it was a municipal proposition and therefore the Crown of England abandoned its nominal control in favor of an active and actual supervision.

D. NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL ASPECT OF IROQUOIS AS AFFECTING FEDERAL CONSTITUTION

1 *Iroquois in Revolutionary War*—At the beginning of the Revolutionary War the Confederate Government took immediate steps to secure the neutrality of the Iroquois, and though the League remained neutral, the several tribes took sides, some with the colonies, some with their traditional ally, the Crown,

and some fought on both sides.¹² The Senecas participated throughout the war with England.

Sullivan's campaign against the hostile tribes of the Iroquois was one of the major military operations of the Revolutionary War against Indians. The long years of incessant warfare with the French and the havoc wrought by Sullivan's expedition had broken the power of the Iroquois, and they were left by England at the end of the war to make their separate peace with the newly created Union.

2 *Importance to union of peace negotiations with Iroquois*—The treaty of peace between the United States and the Iroquois was considered of considerable importance to the Central Government. Washington, in 1783, made a personal trip to the lands of the Iroquois to humiliate himself with conditions. The negotiations of peace in 1784 were closely followed by Washington in Virginia and Jefferson in Paris, and such personalities as James Madison, James Monroe, Lafayette, and General Butler were present as negotiators in observance.

The Iroquois insisted on acting in their collective capacity and, though they had been harried by Sullivan's expedition, any effort to expel the hostile tribes of the Iroquois from their ancient lands or any attempt to break up the League into its several tribes, would have been attended in a prolonged frontier war which the new Union was not prepared to prosecute.

The controlling purpose of the Central Government was to make peace with the Iroquois and to drive a wedge between them and the western tribes—to separate the Iroquois from the subjugated western tribes and to undermine the influence of the League over them.

New York on the other hand was more than anxious to rid the state of the hostile Senecas, Cayugas, Onondagas, and Mohawks and to move the friendly Oneidas and Tuscaroras to a small part of the lands of the Senecas in western New York. She considered herself as supreme (under the Articles of Confederation) in dealing with the New York Indians and intended to separate the different tribes of the Iroquois. In her futile attempt to carry out these purposes she stopped at nothing, even arresting agents of the Confederate Government who were trying to negotiate the treaty of peace.¹³

Had New York's attempts in obstructing the peace treaty prevailed over the efforts of the Central Government in this respect, New York would have probably consolidated the Iroquois instead of dividing them, and this might well have resulted in a united League serving as the agent head of a cruel, prolonged, and costly Indian war of all of the western Indians (more than 35 tribes) under the influence and leadership of the Iroquois.

Though under the Articles of Confederation there was a question of whether the Confederate Government was invading the rights of the State of New York relative to the Iroquois, the necessity of the times and the importance of these Indians in relation to all of the states made it imperative that the Central Government take definite action.

¹⁰ "When the Revolution came, the Six Nations as a whole determined on neutrality, but left the constituent tribes to side with either party, which they did." *McCandless v. United States*, 25 F. 2d 71, 72 (C. C. A. 8, 1928).

¹¹ Richard Henry Lee, later President of the Continental Congress, in writing to George Washington concerning the efforts of New York to obstruct the treaty, said:

"* * * I understand, from Mr. Wolcott, that the commissioners of the United States met many difficulties, driven as they were by New York, which they overcame, at last, by much firmness and perseverance. It is unfortunate when private views obstruct public measures, and more especially when a state becomes opposed to the States, because, it seems to confirm the predictions of those who wish us well, and who are well disposed from a discord arising from different interests." (Bellaugh, James Curtis, *The Letters of Richard Henry Lee* (1811), vol. 2, p. 208.)

British Settlement, bounded by a line which we have now agreed upon and do hereby establish as the Boundary between us and the British colonies in America." This is followed by a description of the boundaries, with its beginning and ending. (New York Colonial Documents, Vol. 8, p. 188. *Ethnology Bureau Report*, Vol. 2, 1897, p. 684.) (C. I. B. Memo 56 (1925).)

¹² Massachusetts Historical Society Collections (1880), series III, vol. 3, p. 6.
¹³ *N. Y. Colonial Laws*, vol. 1, pp. 106, 211.

The ensuing treaty was in effect three treaties: (a) A treaty of peace and general amnesty between the Iroquois and the United States with provisions for prisoners of war and a relinquishment of their claim to roughly all lands west and south of what is now New York; (b) a treaty with Pennsylvania relinquishing all lands in that state; and (c) a treaty between New York and the Oneidas and Tuscaroras, relinquishing certain of their lands.

In the drafting of the Federal Constitution Madison, who had attended the Treaty of 1784 and realized the importance of placing the management of affairs of the Iroquois Indians in the hands of the proposed United States Government, introduced a resolution on August 18, 1787, intending to give Congress the power:

To regulate affairs with the Indians, as well within as without the limits of the United States.¹

The principles of this resolution are embodied in the Constitution of the United States.

E EFFECT OF TREATIES OF 1789 AND 1794

The United States entered into the treaties of 1789² and 1794³ with the Iroquois (Six Nations) Indians recognizing the Indians as distinct and separate political communities capable of managing their internal affairs as they had always done. These treaties were entered into for the purpose of meeting a serious situation confronting the United States. Great Britain still retained possession of certain forts in New York and the Northwest Territory in violation of the treaty of peace, and was apparently encouraging and provoking the western Indians and the Iroquois to hostilities against the United States—even providing them with arms with which to resist encroachments upon their lands.

The settlement of the Northwest Territory brought the usual friction between the Indians and the settlers which broke out into frontier wars. The Iroquois felt a responsibility toward these western tribes since they believed that part of the difficulties of these tribes, which were now dependent on the Iroquois, was due to the sale by the Iroquois of all of their western lands. The problem confronting the Federal Government was to make peace with the Iroquois, and particularly the Senecas, before the almost inevitable strife began and thus prevent the Iroquois from acting as a spear head in a united general offensive by the scores of western Indian tribes (once subjects of the Iroquois) under their leadership and directing influence.

The Treaty of 1789⁴ granted to the Iroquois a substantial amnesty and they in turn agreed to continue at peace. Thereafter certain of the influential Seneca chiefs were induced to go to the West on behalf of the peace efforts of the United States. These western Indian wars, nevertheless, created a decided mistrust, particularly among the Senecas and the United States prudently entered into a third treaty with the Iroquois (Six Nations) in 1794⁵ of mutual peace, and restoring certain of the Seneca's lands to them within the State of New York west of a line drawn due south from Buffalo to the Pennsylvania line.

These several treaties⁶ guaranteed to the Iroquois (Six Nations) the right of occupancy of their well defined territories and had the effect of placing the tribes and their reservations beyond the operation and effect of general state laws.

F FEDERAL MANAGEMENT OF NEW YORK INDIAN AFFAIRS

1. *Education and civilization*—Some of the first efforts and experiments of the United States Government in educating Indians were with the New York Indians. For a number of years the only effort to educate these Indians was by the aid rendered by the Federal Government and private philanthropy. By about 1890, the State had been making slight efforts to educate the Indians in the State but such efforts were admitted by the State to have done probably as much harm as good.

Aside from the sporadic aid the State gave to the Indians mainly in the way of education, the State left the Indians to manage their own internal affairs as they saw fit, as had been implicitly guaranteed by federal treaty. Such activities merely confer a privilege on the Indians and are not an attempt to regulate their internal affairs or tribal matters.

2. *Restrictions on alienation of lands*—Pursuant to the specific delegation of authority by the Constitution to regulate Indian commerce, Congress immediately imposed restrictions upon the alienation of Indian lands. Where the States claimed the fee title subject to Indian occupancy as claimed by Georgia, or the "quærention right" as claimed by New York, all purchases were prohibited except in treaties under supervision of the United States.

Many, but not all, purchases from the Seneca Nation of Indians (with the exception of one very small tract of a few acres), whether by the State of New York or its grantee of the "quærention right," were made by treaties under the supervision of United States agents appointed for that purpose pursuant to the restrictive act of Congress. Approximately four million acres

¹ Treaties of October 22, 1784, January 9, 1789, and November 11, 1794, *supra*.

² For a further discussion see Chapter 12, sec. 2.

³ From time to time New York has enacted sundry laws pertaining to the Indians within her borders, has provided schools for their youth, appointed attorneys to protect their interests, and has delegated jurisdiction in some instances to her courts to entertain their complaints." 1E Dec No 1890, 68d Cong., 8d sess., 1916, p. 111.

⁴ The State of New York has for 100 years or more legislated for and dealt with the Indians within its borders. The Revised Statutes of the State of New York of 1882, pp. 272-288, show the extent and purport of this legislation. Beginning with chapter 26 of the Laws of 1813 (N. Y.), prohibiting the purchase of occupancy of any Indian lands in New York by any person without the consent of the legislature, these statutes contain provisions for the improvement of the reservations, to prevent the destruction of timber on the same for the appointment of peacekeepers on certain reservations and giving them jurisdiction of actions for divorce and to hear actions to determine title to real estate between Indians, to authorize certain Indians to hold land in severalty and to sell and buy the same, provisions for the appointment of attorneys to represent the Indians, and for the support of schools, millinery, and churches on the reservations, to authorize the construction of railroads upon Indian lands, to prohibit the sale of liquor to the Indians, to establish laws of descent among them, and to provide the manner of conveying their lands and restoring conveyance of the same, police regulations, and for the purchase of lands of Indians by the state. 1L D Memo 85 D J (1929).

See also *United States ex rel Kennedy v. Tuley*, 269 U. S. 8 (1926), *United States v. Walden*, 264 Fed. 111 (D. C. W. D., N. Y., 1924), and *Seneca v. United States*, 44 Fed. 178 (C. C. N. D., N. Y., 1890).

⁵ See Chapter 15, sec. 18.

¹ Treaty October 22, 1784, with the Six Nations, 7 Stat. 15.

² Elliot, Jonathan, The Debates in the Several State Conventions on the Adoption of the Federal Constitution, vol. 5, (1787 ed.), p. 489.

³ Treaty of January 9, 1789, 7 Stat. 88.

⁴ Treaty of November 11, 1794, 7 Stat. 44.

⁵ Treaty of January 9, 1789, 7 Stat. 88.

⁶ Treaty of November 11, 1794, 7 Stat. 44, interpreted in 1 Op. A. G. 495 (1821).

of land from time to time were thus purchased from the Seneca Indians under federal authority.⁴

3 *Removal to the West*—*Treaties of 1818 and 1842*—In 1817, and perhaps before, Governor Tompkins of New York was arguing for the removal of the New York Indians by the United States to the West.⁵ The question of removal was obviously a function which could be executed only by the Federal Government. Whether the Indians were to be removed at all, and if so, where to, could only be determined by the Federal Government.

On February 12, 1816, the Secretary of War, by authority of the President, gave the New York Indians permission to negotiate with the western tribes, at their own expense, for the purchase of lands. In 1819 and 1821, the Government aided some 10 Indians representing certain New York Indian tribes, in exploring Wisconsin with a view of selecting lands and making arrangements with the Indians residing there for a portion of their country.⁶

On August 18, 1821, the Menomonee Indians ceded to the Stockbridge, Oneida, Tuscarora, St. Regis, and Muncie Nations lands in Wisconsin for a consideration paid by these tribes. All but the last named of these tribes were New York Indians. The settlement of members of these tribes on the lands was one of the first removals in the Federal Government's policy of removal of Indian tribes to the West. The ancient right of the New York Indians in these western lands was in dispute. On February 8, 1811, the United States, to settle conflicting claims, negotiated a treaty with the Menomonee⁷ and Winnebago⁸ for the benefit of the New York Indians. The lands in which they were previously entitled to share with the other tribes, were reduced to exclusive possession and two parcels: one of 500,000 acres, and one of 89,120 acres, were purchased for a consideration of \$20,000 paid by the United States, and set aside for the New York Indians.

These lands were set apart in Wisconsin for the future home of the New York Indians provided they removed thereto within 8 years. However, most of the New York Indians failing to migrate had already moved to the West.

In the meantime, Wisconsin was being settled by whites and the Indian reserve was needed for expansion. Accordingly, a treaty was negotiated with the New York Indians to exchange these lands in Wisconsin for lands in Kansas and by treaty of January 15, 1838,⁹ this exchange was made. Those of the New York Indians who had already migrated to Wisconsin were secured in the possession of their lands. The first allotment of lands in severity in the United States was to these Indians, an action which anticipated by almost 40 years the general policy of the Federal Government as embodied in the general allotment act of 1887.¹⁰

The treaty negotiated by the Federal Government with the New York Indians made an exchange of 1,824,000 acres of land in fee simple in Kansas for 487,000 acres at Green Bay, Wisconsin.

⁴ The State of New York, acquired from the Indians all the western one-half of that state by nearly 200 treaties not participated in by the United States Government. (See list of Plaintiff in Error in *Boyles v. United States*, No. 111, vol. 20, p. 8, annexing motion to dismiss, Records and Briefs in United States cases, United States Supreme Court.)

⁵ 1 L. O. Memo. D. J. 35 (1828). This memorandum analyzes many of the decisions of the New York courts concerning the New York Indians.

⁶ Indian Office Letter Book C. p. 271.

⁷ *New York Indians v. United States*, 30 C. Cls. 418, 411, 418 (1895).

⁸ 7 Stat. 342.

⁹ 7 Stat. 550, incorporated in *New York Indians v. United States*, 170 U. S. 1 (1898), *United States v. New York Indians*, 178 U. S. 484 (1899), *New York Indians v. United States*, 40 C. Cls. 468 (1906), and 8 Op. A. G. 624 (1841).

¹⁰ Act of February 8, 1887, 24 Stat. 388, 25 U. S. C. 381, et seq.

son. In addition, Congress was to appropriate the sum of \$400,000 for the use of the Indians in emigrating from New York to Kansas and in establishing themselves after arriving in Kansas.

All of the New York tribes of Indians assented to this treaty. However, the St. Regis Indians, with their reservation lying in New York and Canada, entered into a supplemental article to the effect that they would not be compelled to remove unless they chose to do so.¹¹ No difficulties were encountered in the negotiation of the treaty except with the Seneca Indians. With these Indians, there was also a deed to the Ogden Land Co., so called (grantee of New York's preemption right), of all of the Seneca's lands, consisting of the valuable Buffalo Creek Reservation of 40,000 acres, some of which land comprises the site of the city of Buffalo, as well as the Tonawanda Reservation of 12,800 as it existed at that time, and the Cattaraugus (21,050 acres) and Allegany (30,100 acres) as they now exist.

This deed to the Ogden Land Co., so called, was denounced by the Indians on the ground that it had not been signed by a majority of the chiefs of the Seneca Nation, and that bribes, liquor, and fraud had been used and practiced by the Ogden Land Co. in securing many of the signatures of the chiefs to the deed. The treaty was nevertheless recognized as binding by the Federal Government.

The Seneca Nation refused to move to the West or leave its reservations and the Federal Government was not inclined to repent in respect to the New York Indians any such forced removal as was experienced by the southern Indians a decade before. The Ogden Land Co. accordingly negotiated the compromise Treaty of May 20, 1842,¹² whereby the company released to the Senecas the Allegany and Cattaraugus Reservations and the Senecas released the Buffalo Creek and Tonawanda Reservations. The original consideration was proportionately reduced. The value of the improvements of the individual Indians was to be determined by appraisers appointed by the Secretary of War and the Ogden Land Co.

The Senecas on the Buffalo Creek Reservation gradually withdrew to the Cattaraugus and Allegany Reservations.

In 1848, the United States appointed a special agent for the removal of such of the New York Indians as desired to move to their western lands. He enrolled 271 Indians, of whom 78 did not leave New York with the party. He arrived in Kansas on June 15, 1848, with 191 and 17 arrived later. Of this number, 17 returned to New York. Only 32 received patents or certificates of allotment in accordance with the terms of the treaty, and of those, none settled permanently in Kansas.¹³ A council was called by the Indian Commissioner June 2, 1848, to determine the final disposition of the Indians on emigration. Only 7 persons requested to be enrolled.¹⁴

4 *State encroachment on ceded reservations*—The Legislature of the State of New York, expecting the Indians to remove from the ceded reservations, in 1840 and 1841, enacted laws for the assessment and collection of taxes and for the surveying of the lands, laying out roads and the construction of bridges on the ceded reservations. The Act of May 6, 1840, was declared void by the state courts on the theory that the state could not tax the lands of the Indians, and the Supreme Court of the United States, in *The New York Indians*,¹⁵ in considering the "saving clause" of the Act of May 4, 1841, said:

* * * "But no sale for the purpose of collecting said taxes shall in any manner affect the right of the Indians to occupy and land." It is true that this clause underlines

¹¹ Supplemental articles of February 13, 1888, 7 Stat. 561.

¹² 7 Stat. 599.

¹³ Sen. Rep. No. 910, 62d Cong., 1st sess., pp. 3-6.

¹⁴ *New York Indians v. United States*, 80 C. Cls. 414, 427 (1896).

¹⁵ 6 Wall. 761 (1868).

to save this right, which the act of 1819 did not, but the rights of the Indians do and depend on this or any other Statutes of the State but upon treaties, which are the supreme law of the land, it is in these treaties we must look to ascertain the nature of these rights, and the extent of them. (P. 705.)

5 *Federal recognition of Seneca constitution*—In 1848 a convention of the Seneca Nation was called which promulgated a complete constitution, which provided for the abolition of the chiefs, the establishment of an elective council and courts, and in general altered and modified the entire tribal form of government, though not abolishing it.

There was some question of whether this constitution represented the wishes of the majority of the Indians, and the United States investigated the matter and decided to recognize the new form of government as it might apply to the Indians on the Allegany and Cattaraugus Reservations. William Medill, Commissioner of Indian Affairs, by letter of February 2, 1849, directed the United States Indian agent for New York as follows:

The new form of Government of the Indians on the Cattaraugus and Allegany Reservation having been adopted by a majority, will be recognized by the Government, and so far as may be necessary, the relations of the Government with those Indians will be made to conform thereto.

6 *Separation from Seneca Nation of Tonawanda band*—As to the Tonawanda Reservation, the compromise Treaty of 1842⁴ did not assist the Ogden Land Co. in gaining possession. The Indians on that reservation protested that they had not been a party to the treaty of either 1838⁵ or 1842 and refused to move. In fact none of the chiefs of this band of the Seneca Nation had signed either treaty and the other bands of the Seneca Nation (Cattaraugus, Allegany, and Buffalo Creek), by "selling out" the Tonawanda Reservation, had caused the latter band to split off from the Seneca Nation, an action which was recognized by the Federal Government when the Seneca Nation (Allegany and Cattaraugus) adopted their constitution.

The appraisers appointed by the Government and the Ogden Land Co. had attempted to appraise the lands and improvements of the Tonawanda Reservation pursuant to the treaty stipulations.

It had been prevented from so doing by the Indians in possession, and had been removed and left off the land, the Indians not even delaying to procure legal process.

The Ogden Land Co., however, paid into the United States Treasury the whole amount awarded by the arbitrators, and "by force attempted to eject some of the Indians from possession." The Indians brought the matter into the courts by the action of *Blacksmith v. Fellows*,⁶ which reached the United States Supreme Court in 1856 as *Fellows v. Blacksmith*.⁷ The Supreme

⁴ 7 Stat. 386, *supra*.

⁵ 7 Stat. 550, *supra*.

⁶ N. Y. State Assembly, Doc. 51, vol. 8, 1489, p. 80.

⁷ N. Y. 401 (1853).

⁸ 19 How. 866 (1866).

Court decided that even though the Indians had sold their lands they were to be considered as on the land under their original right of possession and entitled to the protection of treaties and that they could be removed only by the United States Government.

The formal recognition by the United States of the Tonawanda tribe of Indians, by the Treaty of 1877,⁸ as a separate and distinct tribe of Indians, and independent of the Seneca Nation on the Allegany and Cattaraugus Reservations, is significant in view of the history of the hands of the Seneca Indians. The Tonawandas were satisfied with their chiefs who had refused to participate in the sale of their lands, and this tribe has continued to regulate its internal affairs under its original tribal form of government and has continued to enforce its ancient laws, usages, and customs as modified by practice.

7 *Indian leases*—Prior to 1875, the village of Salamanca on the Allegany Reservation grew up through numerous alleged leases of Indian lands, ostensibly under state laws and authority, but contrary to federal laws. A careful consideration of the validity of these leases under state authority led state courts to the conclusion that such leases were void as being in violation of federal restrictions on Indian lands against leasing or alienation. To place these illegal leases on a legal basis, the state legislature passed a concurrent resolution as follows:

Whereas, The Legislature of the State of New York has, at different times, ratified and confirmed leases between Indian and white settlers on the Allegany Indian reservation in said State, and

Whereas, The courts of this State have decided that said ratification is null and void, the Congress of the United States alone possessing power to deal with and for the Indians, and, now therefore,

Resolved (if the Senate concur), that our Senators and Representatives in Congress be requested to lay the matter before Congress, at an early day, and procure the passage of a law, or take some action in the relief of said white settlers.

Resolved (if the Senate concur), That a copy of this resolution be furnished to each of the members of the Senate and Congress from this State.⁹

Congress legitimized part of these leases for 5 years and provided for the establishment of certain villages on the Cattaraugus and Allegany Indian Reservations, and further provided for new and renewal leases.¹⁰ Provision was also made for the extension of the highway laws of the State of New York over the Allegany and Cattaraugus Reservations of the Seneca Nation "with the consent of said Seneca Nation in council." By this act, as amended by Act of September 30, 1890,¹¹ and Act of February 28, 1901,¹² the Federal Government has legitimized leases on the Allegany and Cattaraugus Indian Reservations and continues to do so.

⁸ Twenty of November 5, 1877, 11 Stat. 785.

⁹ N. Y. Session Laws, 1875, 68th sess., p. 819.

¹⁰ Act of February 10, 1875, 18 Stat. 350 (Seneca), discussed in *Benson*

v. United States, 14 Fed. 178 (C. C. N. D. N. Y. 1890).

¹¹ 26 Stat. 558 (Seneca Nation).

¹² 31 Stat. 619 (Seneca Nation). Also applicable to Oil Springs Reservation.

SECTION 2. THE PRESENT STATUS OF TRIBAL GOVERNMENT⁴⁵

The Indian reservations now occupied by the New York Indians are the Allegany, Cattaraugus, Oil Springs, Conplanter,⁴⁶ Tonawanda, St. Regis, Tuscarora, Onondaga,⁴⁷ Shinnecock,

⁴⁵ Material in this section is based, except where otherwise noted, on a report of Paul Gordon on New York Indians (Indian Office Files, 10085).

⁴⁶ The Conplanter Reservation is actually in Pennsylvania, but residents are recognized by Seneca of the Allegany and Cattaraugus Reservations.

and Poosapatuck. All save the Shinnecock and Poosapatuck, which are on Long Island, are inhabited by descendants of the famous Iroquois League of Six Nations (originally Five Nations), the sixth, the Tuscarora, joining the League in 1722. The Tuscarora and Onondaga Reservations are held by the Tuscarora and Onondaga Nations. The St. Regis Reservation

⁴⁷ For a discussion of the Onondaga Reservation, see Memo by C. B. Collett, 6 L. D. Memo D. J. 179, April 29, 1925.

vation is held by the St. Regis Mohawks, the Tonawanda by the Tonawanda Band of Senecas, and the Allegany, Cattaraugus, and Oil Springs Reservations by "The Seneca Nation of Indians," a corporate body under the laws of New York. The Comptroller Reservation of Pennsylvania is held by the descendants of Cornplanter, who unite with the Seneca Nation in affairs affecting that nation.¹⁰ The Indians of this reservation are grouped with those of the Allegany Reservation for purposes of local government and voting.

A SENECA NATION

The government of the Seneca Indians is covered by Articles 4 and 5 of the New York Indian Code.¹¹ The constitution now in force among these Indians provides for three departments of government: executive, legislative, and judiciary. The legislative power is vested in a council of 10 members elected biannually, 5 from the Cattaraugus Reservation and 5 from the Allegany Reservation.¹²

The executive power is vested in a president who presides, fills vacancies, and has a casting vote.¹³

The judiciary power is vested in peacekeepers' and surrogate's courts. The peacekeepers' courts are composed of three members each from the respective reservations.¹⁴ Peacekeepers' courts are given powers to enforce the attendance of witnesses in the same manner as provided for courts of justices, of the peace of the state.¹⁵ Peacekeepers have, by statute, jurisdiction

¹⁰ Members of the several nations have intermarried and have taken up residence "abroad," with the result that members of every nation are found on every reservation.

¹¹ McKinney's Cons. Laws of New York Annotated, Bk. 25, New York Indian Code.

¹² The Allegany Reservation, claimed by the Senecas, contains 80,499 acres, and is located on both sides of the Allegany River in Cattaraugus County, N. Y. It is about 40 miles long and averages from 1 to 3 miles in width. It is a part of the area specifically reserved to the Seneca Indians in the treaty with Robert Morris at "Big Tree" September 17, 1797. This reservation is subject to the "preemption right or claim" of the United Land Co. to which reference is hereafter made fully made.

¹³ The Cattaraugus Reservation contains 21,680 acres, located principally in Erie County, a small part lying in each of the counties of Chautauque and Chautauque. This reservation was conveyed to the Seneca Indians by William Wallace, et al., predecessors of the United Land Co., by agreement dated June 28, 1892 (7 Stat. 70), in return for which the Seneca Indians surrendered to the company certain other lands which had been reserved to them by the treaty at Big Tree. This reservation is also subject to the preemption right of the United Land Co., such right being specifically retained in the agreement referred to.

¹⁴ The Oil Spring Reservation, located partly in Allegany and partly in Cattaraugus Counties, contains only 640 acres. Its name is derived from a muddy pool, about 20 feet in diameter, located near the center of the tract, from which the Indians formerly obtained a sort of crude petroleum locally known as "Seneca oil," and which was used quite extensively by them in earlier days for medicinal purposes. The Seneca fully understood that this tract was reserved to them in the sale to Robert Morris at Big Tree, but title thereto does not appear from an examination of the treaty itself. At any rate, this reserve was included in a sale by Robert Morris to the United Land Co., so-called, and several adverse conveyances transferred title by deed dated February 28, 1850, one Philomena Pattison became the ostensible owner of a part thereof. On taking possession, the Seneca Indians began an action in ejectment against Pattison. A verdict in favor of the Indians was rendered by the lower court, but the case was appealed to the supreme court of the State and finally to the court of appeals, both of which affirmed the decision of the trial court, and the Indians have since remained in undisturbed possession. A written opinion of the case does not appear to have been handed down, but the pleadings, transcripts of evidence, judgment, and decree of the court are still on file in Little Valley the county seat of Cattaraugus County. (If Dec. No 1860, 63d Cong., 2d sess., 1915, pp. 11-12.)

¹⁵ *Ibid.*, sec. 41, 42. See amended constitution of the Seneca Nation, 1893, which provides for annual election of councilors (sec. 2).

¹⁶ Constitution, *supra*, sec. 5. See, too, New York Indian Code, *supra*, sec. 72.

¹⁷ New York Indian Code, *supra*, sec. 41.

¹⁸ *Ibid.*, sec. 46. Although the New York Indian Code expressly provides for similarity in proceedings only insofar as compelling attendance

to grant divorces between Indians residing on the reservations and to determine all questions between individual Indians involving title or possession of lands.¹⁷ Appeal may be taken to the council.¹⁸

The surrogate court is composed of one person from the Allegany and one from the Cattaraugus Reservation, elected by voters of each reservation for a term of 2 years. The procedure is the same as in the surrogate court of the state, and appeal may be taken to the council.¹⁹

Trials taking is declared to be a prerogative of the council, subject to approval by three-fourths of the legal voters and consent of three-fourths of the members of the reservation.²⁰ The constitution provides for a clerk and a treasurer,²¹ and permits the council to provide for highway commissioners, overseers of the poor, assessors and policemen.²² Officers may be removed for cause.²³

Male Indians of 21 or over who shall not have been convicted of a felony are eligible to vote and hold office.²⁴

As witnesses is concerned, the 1893 constitution provides for such liability also in jurisdiction and proceedings. (Sec. 4.)

"On the power of the peacekeepers' courts of the Seneca Indians of the Cattaraugus Reservation, see *Washington v. Parker*, 7 F. Supp. 120 (D. C. W. D. N. Y. 1934).

The federal courts lack jurisdiction over national questions relating to property rights of individual Indians of the Cattaraugus Reservation, *United States v. Seneca Nation*, 274 Fed. 645 (1 C. W. D. N. Y., 1921), *see v. Mayher*, 2 F. Supp. 699 (D. C. W. D. N. Y., 1935).

The court in *Rees v. Mosher*, 2 F. Supp. 690 (D. C. W. D. N. Y., 1933), described the Seneca government as follows:

In 1849 the Seneca Indians adopted a so-called "Constitutional Charter," abolishing the ancient form of government by chiefs, and setting up a new form of government composed of legislative, executive, and judiciary departments. In the judiciary department it provided for Peacekeepers' courts, in which the jurisdiction was to be the same as in courts of justices of the peace of the state of New York, except in point of venue, and the settlement of blood and personal estates, in which case the Peacekeepers' shall have such power as shall be conferred by law.²⁵ It also provided that "all cases of which the Peacekeepers have no jurisdiction may be heard before the Council, or such courts of the state of New York as the Legislature shall appoint." The council in the lawmaking body. This charter also provided that all laws of the state of New York, not inconsistent with the provisions of the charter, were to continue in full force. This charter was amended in 1868 to provide that these courts have "exclusive jurisdiction in all civil cases arising between Indians residing on said reservation except those of which the Surrogate's Court has jurisdiction." Since the organization of New York state that state has written upon its statute books many laws relative to the management of the affairs of the Indians in these reservations. The Indian charter contemplates a measure of control by the state. The General Indian Law of New York state is included in chapter 26 of the Consolidated Laws, and among its many provisions with reference to the Seneca Indians we find it thus provided for a Peacekeepers' Court, with "authority to hear and determine all matters, disputes and controversies between any Indians residing upon such reservation, whether arising upon contracts or on wrongs, and particularly for any encroachments or trespass on any land cultivated or secured by any one of them, and which shall have been entered and described in the clerk's books of records" (section 40), and, further, "Jurisdiction . . . to hear and determine all questions and actions between individual Indians, residing thereon involving the title to real estate on such reservations." It is clear that the provisions of the Indian charter and this section of the Indian law include actions such as the one here being the action brought before the Peacekeepers' Court. Section 66 of the Indian Law, New York, provides for an appeal from the decision of the Peacekeepers' Court to the council, which was the lawmaking body in the Indian reservation. Here we have both the tribal law and the state law purporting to confer jurisdiction.

The Peacekeepers' Court did not originate with the state. It was the creation of the Indians themselves. As the court in *Malina v. Seneca*, *supra*, said, "It is an Indian court which has been recognized and given strength and authority by statute. It does not have the same force as a state court." *Malina v. Seneca*, 245 N. Y. 187 (N. Y. 1924), 171.

²⁵ New York Indian Code, *supra*, sec. 50.

²⁶ Amended Constitution, *supra*, sec. 4.

²⁷ *Ibid.*, sec. 5.

²⁸ *Ibid.*, sec. 8.

²⁹ *Ibid.*, sec. 9.

³⁰ *Ibid.*, sec. 10. The statute (New York Indian Code, *supra*, Art. 4, sec. 42, 43) contains no requirement that voters shall not have been convicted of felonies.

"The council is given power to make laws not inconsistent with the Constitution of the United States, the State of New York, or the Seneca Nation."

"The constitution may be altered or amended at any time by a prescribed process."

B TONAWANDA BAND OF SENECA

"The government of the Tonawanda band is separate and distinct from that of the rest of the Seneca Nation."

"The legislative branch of the government of this band is placed in a council of the chiefs, who are apparently chosen as in the days of the Confederate League of the Iroquois. The power and jurisdiction of this council is recognized and supported by the Indian code of the New York State law."¹ The council is given power to pass laws not inconsistent with this law and is given jurisdiction over criminal trespasses, lands, and fences."²

"The judiciary appears to be in the hands of three peacekeepers elected annually by Tonawanda Senecas, males over 21 years of age may vote. Peacekeepers fix cases involving land boundaries and differences among Indians, and hear suits for divorce."

Additional officers are a president, clerk, treasurer, and marshal.

C ST. REGIS MOHAWKS³

"The local government of the St. Regis Mohawks⁴ is covered by a separate article of the Indian code of the State of New York."⁵ This permits and supports a local governmental unit of three elected chiefs, and three sachetems, who serve when the

chiefs are unable to do so.⁶ One chief and one sachem are elected each year, to serve for a period of 3 years,⁷ by male Indians 21 or over residing on the American side of the international boundary, and entitled to draw yearly annuity money.⁸

"The three chiefs have power to pass by-laws not inconsistent with law, relating to common land, fences and animal trespasses,⁹ have jurisdiction over allotment of lands,¹⁰ then consent is necessary for sales of timber,¹¹ and they may hear differences arising among Indians regarding trespass and titles to land."¹² The only other elective officer provided for is that of clerk.¹³

D TUSCARORA NATION

"The Tuscarora Reservation is governed by chiefs of the Tuscarora Nation,"¹⁴ tacitly recognized by the New York code,¹⁵ who have been given power to allot lands,¹⁶ and control timber sales.¹⁷ The statute does not provide for a peacekeepers' court on the Tuscarora Reservation. The statute provides no mechanism for election of chiefs and they appear to be chosen by ancient methods.

¹Ind. sec. 109, 110.

²Ind., sec. 110.

³Ind., sec. 108.

⁴Ind., sec. 107.

⁵Ind., sec. 102.

⁶Ind. sec. 101, 101.

⁷Ind., sec. 106.

⁸An attorney is appointed by the Governor who acts as treasurer and prosecutor for the band.

⁹The Tuscarora Reservation lies in Niagara County about 9 miles northeast of Niagara Falls, and contains 6,249 acres. The Tuscarora Indians having been adopted by the Iroquois League as one of the Six Nations by deed dated March 10, 1785, the Seneca Nation granted 1 square mile (640 acres) to the Tuscarora Indians. (Liber 1, folio 60, Land Records of Niagara County.) It is reported that subsequently the Holland Land Co., assignee of Robert Morris, "ratified" this grant, and gave to the Tuscaroras 1,250 acres more, but no record of any paper title to this effect can be found. At any rate, the Tuscaroras occupy and claim these lands, as a part of their present reserve, which is subject to the pre-emptive right of the Ogden Land Co. (7 Stat. 580), although the Indians deny this, basing their claim on a decree of the State court in Buffalo handed down in 1830. This suit resulted from an agreement with the Federal Government, January 15, 1838, under which the Six Nations were to remove west of the Mississippi River, and in anticipation of their removal the chiefs of the Tuscarora Tribe executed a deed to Thomas Landin Ogden and Joseph Fellows, purchasers of the Ogden Land Co., containing a release of the Ogden and Fellows, as owners of the pre-emptive right, the 1,250 acres it related to. The deed was placed in the hands of Herman B. Potter, in view pending the performance of certain conditions precedent to delivery. The expected removal failed to materialize, and in 1840 War B. Chew et al., chiefs of the tribe, instituted suit against Herman B. Potter and Joseph Fellows. (Thomas B. Ogden then being deceased), looking to a revocation and cancellation of the deed. A verdict in favor of the Indians was rendered and the deed canceled by the decree of the court, which incidentally in placing the matter in statu quo, as far as the pre-emptive right of Ogden and Fellows was concerned. The execution of the deed was an admission of the existence of the pre-emptive right, and the contention of the Indians that the decree of the court annulling the deed also effectually extinguished the right of pre-emption in the Ogden people does not appear well founded. The records in the case are still on file in the county clerk's office at Buffalo.

About the year 1800 a delegation of Tuscarora Indians visited the governor of North Carolina and negotiated a sale of their lands in that State for approximately \$15,000, which money was deposited with the United States in trust. In 1804 Congress authorized the Secretary of War to purchase with this money additional land for these Indians. With these funds 4,820 acres, lying to the south and east of the 1,250 acres already occupied by them, were purchased for the Tuscarora Indians. Title to these lands was taken by the Secretary of War in trust for the Indians, but subsequently (January 5, 1800) the lands were conveyed directly to the Tuscarora Tribe who now own the fee. (Book "A" p. 5, Niagara County clerk's office.) (11 Doe No. 1890, 44th Ct., 3d Ser., 1912, pp. 13-14.)

¹⁴New York Indian Code, supra, Art. 7.

¹⁵Ind., sec. 95.

¹⁶Ind., sec. 90, 98.

¹Amended Constitution, supra, sec. 37. The statute (supra in 61 sec. 738) limits the legislative power of the council to the passing of by-laws and ordinances relative to common land, fences, trespass of animals.

²Ind., sec. 10.

³NY New York Indian Code, supra, in 49, which deals with the Tonawanda Senecas separately in Art. 6.

⁴The Tonawanda Reservation now comprises but 7,749 acres, lying partly in Erie, Seneca, and Niagara Counties. Originally it comprised upward of 45,000 acres, being a part of the lands reserved to the Seneca Indians in the sale to Robert Morris at Big Tree. This reservation was conveyed to Thomas Landin Ogden and Joseph Fellows by agreement with the Six Nations, dated January 15, 1838 (7 Stat. 630), and the subsequent treaty with the Senecas of May 20, 1842 (7 Stat. 580). The lands embraced within the present reserve were purchased from Ogden and Fellows in the sum of \$100,000, in accordance with Article 8 of the treaty with the Tonawanda Indians, dated November 6, 1807 (11 Stat. 738). Title was first taken in the Secretary of the Interior, who held the lands until February 14, 1864, on which date, by deed, they were conveyed to the commissioners of the State of New York, in trust and in fee for the Tonawanda Indians.⁵ This settlement effectually extinguished whatever pre-emption right the Ogden Land Co. ever had in and to the lands within this reservation.⁶ (11 Doe No. 1900, 63d Cong. 1d Sess., 1015 p. 13.)

⁵Ind., sec. 82. Although this section provides for the filling of vacancies in elective offices by the chiefs if they do not specifically provide that only a chief may be elected.

⁶Ind., sec. 80.

⁷See Memo of C. B. Collett, 6 L. D. Memo D. J. 236, May 14, 1896.

⁸Ind.

⁹Subsequent to an act of the New York Legislature in 1791 authorizing the sale of waste lands in New York, Alexander McComb attempted to purchase all lands between Lake Champlain and the St. Lawrence, proposing to enclose a tract 6 miles square for the St. Regis Indians. His offer was rejected. In 1792, 1793, and 1794, the Seven Nations of Canada, Iroquois, who had sided with the British in the Revolution, waited upon the Governor of New York asserting their rights to a greater area, but without favorable result. In 1795 the New York Legislature authorized the Governor to appoint a Commission to extinguish the Indian titles to lands in the northern part of the state. On May 31, 1798, 7 Stat. 65, a treaty was made before Ogden as Commissioner for the United States by which the St. Regis Indians ceded all lands to the United States except an area 8 miles square at St. Regis, a mile square on the Salmon River, reserving \$3,500 and an annuity of \$380.

¹⁰New York Indian Code, supra, Art. 8.

E. ONONDAGA NATION

The governing body of the Onondaga Nation appears to be a council of chiefs chosen and installed according to customs of ancient tradition. This body is recognized by inference by the Indian code of the New York State law.²⁵ It has jurisdiction to lease lands with the consent of the agent,²⁶ and its consent is necessary before timber may be removed.²⁷ It also settles disputes among Indians.

F. CAYUGA NATION

The Cayuga Nation²⁸ has no reservation of its own,²⁹ but maintains a tribal organization of chiefs, four chiefs forming the governing body, with headquarters on the Cattaraugus Reservation.³⁰

G. SHINNECOCK INDIANS

The Shinnecock Indians,³¹ occupying the 450-acre Shinnecock Reservation on Long Island, have always been distinct and

separate from the Iroquois League, although at one time it is said they paid tribute to the Mohawks.

The New York Indian code³² provides for the election of three trustees by the adult males who have lived on the Shinnecock Reservation for 6 months prior to the election date.³³ These trustees have authority over tribal land and timber matters.³⁴ Authority, however, is vested in the justices of the peace in the town of Southampton to pass on issues of tribal lands proposed by the trustees.³⁵

H. POOSEPATUCK INDIANS

About a dozen families were reported in 1936 to occupy the 50-acre Poosepatuck Reservation on Long Island.³⁶ There appear to be no extant statutes specifically relating to this reservation, which had its origin in a grant by Governor William Smith in 1700.³⁷ Land matters are managed by a board of trustees, elected annually in April,³⁸ under authority of the "General Provisions" of the New York State Indian law.³⁹

"The Shinnecock Reservation, containing some 150 acres, is located on a neck of land running into Shinnecock Bay Long Island. Southampton was an early colonial town, established in the seventeenth century, and the town trustees negotiated with "Shinnecock," chief of the tribe, for a sale of the lands. Tribal tradition has it that the chief sold out to the whites and shipped with the money. While this does not comport with accepted ideas of the honesty and integrity of aboriginal chiefs, yet it is a matter of record that the town trustees of Southampton in the early days gave a lease for a thousand years to the Shinnecock Indians covering some 4,000 acres, known as the Shinnecock Hills and Shinnecock Neck. Matters stood thus until about the middle of the nineteenth century, when the town had developed to such an extent that a more satisfactory arrangement was desired. Accordingly, in 1850 the state authorized the town trustees to negotiate with the Indians for a cession of their township estate. An agreement was reached, under which the Indians surrendered the hills in exchange for which they received in fee Shinnecock Neck." (II Doc No 1690, 63d Cong., 3d sess., 1915, p. 12.)

²⁵ Ibid., sec. 22.

²⁶ Ibid., sec. 129.

²⁷ Ibid., sec. 121, 122.

²⁸ Ibid., sec. 121.

²⁹ Report on the Shinnecock and Poosepatuck Indian Reservations. In Relation to the Reorganization Act, by Allan G. Harper, January, 1936 (Indian Office files).

³⁰ Ibid.

³¹ New York Indian Code, *supra*, Art. 2.

²⁵ Ibid., Art. 8, sec. 22, 23, and 24.

²⁶ The Onondaga Reservation contains 4,100 acres and is located in Onondaga County about 5 miles south of the city of Syracuse. Prior to 1703 this reservation embraced something over 65,000 acres. March 11 of that year, however, the Indians sold over three-fourths of their reservation to the State, and by subsequent treaties in 1793, 1807, and 1821 the reservation was reduced to its present area. Under State laws these Indians are authorized to lease land owned or possessed by individuals, and small areas within the reservation are so leased. The lands within this reservation are not covered by the claim of the Ogden Land Co. (II Doc No 1690, 63d Cong., 3d sess., 1915, p. 12.)

²⁷ Ibid., sec. 24.

²⁸ Ibid., sec. 22.

²⁹ By the Treaty of February 27, 1790, the Cayuga Nation sold certain lands to the State of New York, reserving only 100 square miles around Cayuga Lake, a small parcel on Seneca River, and a square mile at Cayuga Ferry. These reservations were later sold to the state, on July 27, 1798. The larger portion of the Cayugas has removed to the west of the Mississippi, but approximately 200 remain in New York. They live for the most part with the Senecas, but a few are with the Tuscaroras.

³⁰ For reference to the reservation of the Cayuga and Seneca who removed to Indian Territory, see Chapter 23.

³¹ The Cayugas are not treated by the New York Indian Code.

³² There are about 100 persons belonging to this tribe.

SPECIAL LAWS RELATING TO OKLAHOMA

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The laws governing the Indians of Oklahoma are so voluminous that analysis of them would require a treatise in itself. In fact, two treatises have already been written on the subject,¹ and at least two more are in the course of preparation. No attempt, therefore, will be made in this volume to deal in *extenso* with this mass of legislation or with the thousands of state and federal cases in which that legislation is applied and construed. It must be recognized, however, that in many respects the statutes and legal principles discussed in other chapters of this work as generally applicable to Indians of the United States, also apply to Oklahoma Indians, while in other respects Oklahoma Indians, or certain groups thereof, are excluded from the scope of such statutes and legal principles. In order to

clarify the scope of the laws, decisions, and rulings discussed in other chapters of this work, it is therefore deemed appropriate to survey the most important fields in which Oklahoma Indians have received distinctive treatment and which present distinctive legal problems.

These fields include enrollment, property laws affecting the Five Civilized Tribes, taxation, and, among the Osages, questions of headrights, competency, wills, and leasing. In each field an effort will be to note how far principles generally applicable to Indians are applicable or inapplicable in Oklahoma, rather than to explore the distinctive problems of the various Oklahoma tribes, many of which are still unsettled by the courts.

Before proceeding to this survey, however, it is useful to pass over, in brief review, the historical background out of which the peculiarities of Oklahoma Indian law emerge.

¹ Mills, *Oklahoma Indian Land Laws* (2d ed 1924); Bledsoe *Indian Land Laws* (2d ed 1914).

SECTION 1. OKLAHOMA TRIBES

Reference is sometimes made to the Five Civilized Tribes (the Choctaws, Chickasaws, Chickasaws, Creeks and Seminoles), and the Osages, as if they were the only tribes resident in the State of Oklahoma.² In fact, the Indian tribes residing in the State include also the Cheyenne, Arapaho, Apache, Comanche, Kiowa, Caddo, Delaware, Wichita, Kaw, Otoe, Tonkawa, Pawnee, Ponca, Shawnee, Ottawa, Quapaw, Seneca, Wyandotte, Iowa, Sac and Fox, Kickapoo and Pottawatomie.³

² Former Commissioners of Indian Affairs Leupp cites a blunder by a Congressman who drafted an amendment which excepted from its operation "the Indians of the Indian Territory" out of which the State of Oklahoma was later carved, and of its passage by the House of Representatives in the belief that the Five Civilized Tribes were the only Indians in the Territory. Leupp, *The Indian and His Problem* (1910), p. 268.

³ See Act of June 18, 1934, sec 13, 48 Stat 984, 986, which excluded from its provisions these tribes in the State of Oklahoma. The tribes in Oklahoma number not less than 100,000 members. (Hearings before the Comm on Ind Aff on H R 6284, 74th Cong, 1st sess, 1935, p 9.) There are 73,000 members of the Five Civilized Tribes, of whom about 38,000 are half to full-blood (*ibid* p 90). The Osage number over 2,300, of which about 650 are full-blood (*ibid* p 118). The remaining

Many general statutes are expressly made inapplicable to the Five Civilized Tribes,⁴ or the Osages,⁵ or to these nations, and the Osages,⁶ or to all tribes in Oklahoma.⁷ Congress has passed many special laws for Oklahoma tribes, especially for the Five Civilized Tribes and the Osages.⁸

Indians of Oklahoma number about 19,000 of which about 70 percent are of half or more Indian blood. (Hearings before the Comm on Ind Aff on S 2017, 74th Cong 1st sess, 1935, p 23.)

⁴ Act of July 31, 1882, 22 Stat 170, R S 2184, 2187, 2188, Act of January 6, 1893, 22 Stat 400, Act of August 9, 1888, 25 Stat 802, 25 U S C 181.

⁵ Act of June 24, 1904, sec 1, 32 Stat 1027, 23 U S C 163a.

⁶ Act of June 25, 1910, sec 38, 36 Stat 805, 803, 26 U S C 454, similarly, amendment by the Act of February 14, 1918, 37 Stat 678, 679. Also see Act of June 30, 1919, sec 1, 41 Stat 8, 8, 25 U S C 768, which is also inapplicable to the Chippewas of Minnesota and the Menomonees of Wisconsin.

⁷ Act of June 18, 1934, sec 13, 48 Stat 984, 986, 23 U S C 478.

⁸ See other sections of this chapter. On Five Civilized Tribes also see Act of March 1, 1907, 34 Stat 1015, 1027, 25 U S C 150, Act of May 24, 1929, 42 Stat 652, 676, 23 U S C 124. For an example of a special law applying to lesser known Oklahoma tribes, see Act of June 30, 1919, sec 17, 41 Stat 3, 20, 23 U S C 121 (Quapaw Agency).

SECTION 2. REMOVAL.

Few of these tribes were indigenous to this part of the country. It was to Oklahoma, originally "Indian Territory," that Indians residing on lands desired by other purposes migrated or were moved by the United States Government.¹ Attorney General Taft² described the conditions under

¹ See Chapter 7, sec. 1. Tribes were moved to Oklahoma from the Atlantic seaboard many portions of the Middle West and from as far north as western New York. (Cherokee, before the Comm on Ind Aff, on H R 6241, 74th cong. 1st sess. 1915 p. 9.) The Attorney General said:

"The Cherokees were among the most powerful of the aboriginal nations, and occupied the principal part of the country now known as the States of North and South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, and Tennessee. It was as the result of several treaties that they relinquished their sacred domain and were finally settled in some partially limited territory now occupied by them and which was accepted by them as an exchange for the territory they had abandoned and ceded to the United States.

"The treaty thus accepted, the United States, in repeated treaties, pledges its faith shall be a 'perpetual home' (treaty of 28 May, 1825, preamble, 7 Stat. 60, 117) to the Cherokees, and 'the great and peaceable possession of their country,' and that 'shall be enjoyed by them in patent subject to the single condition that the lands ceded shall 'forever be in the United States.' In view of the Indian guarantee shall become extinct or shall abandon them (treaty 12th April 1865, 7 Stat. 314, sec. 10, 24 May 1810, sec. 3, 4 Stat. 411). (Cherokee, 19 Op. A. G. 12-42-11 (1867)."

² 94 Op. A. G. 275 (1924). In the history of the Cherokee removal see *Wright v. A. G.* 329 (1851), *Holden v. Joy*, 17 Wall. 211 (1872). Klumbe, *A Centennial Look at Oklahoma* (Norm 1917) pp. 27-50 discusses the migration to the removal of Indians. Schuchter, *The Story of Indian*

which the Five Civilized Tribes migrated to Oklahoma in the 1830's.

Where the southern portion of the United States, east of the Mississippi, was settled, the above-mentioned tribes (Cherokees, Chickasaws, Chickasaws, Creeks, and Seminoles) were occupying and claiming ownership of all that territory.

By treaty and the use of a degree of force in instances, the tribes agreed to take up their abode farther west, out of the way of the white man, on the land that was afterward designated as Indian Territory. It was a part of the consideration for the removal that they should possess the said land unmolested for ever as an independent people with their own forms of government and should not in all future time be embarrassed by having extended around them the lines of, or by having placed over them the jurisdiction of a Territory or State, or by being encroached upon by the extension in any way of the limits of an existing Territory or State.

The westward migration of these and other tribes has been considered elsewhere.³

MAINE, Its History, Antiquities and Organization (1927) pp. 94-142, discusses the history of the Five Civilized Tribes, Indian Territory and Oklahoma. (On removal of Indians in Oklahoma, see also, pp. 28-38. And see Freeman, *Indian Removal, The Relocation of the Five Civilized Tribes of Indians* (1921), (Lanahan, *Removal of the Cherokee Indians from Georgia* (1907).

³ Chapter 9, sec. 4B, and Chapter 15, sec. II.

SECTION 3. SELF-GOVERNMENT⁴

Various guarantees of tribal self-government and of territorial integrity were made to induce the Indians to sign "removal" treaties. The Supreme Court in the case of *Atlantic and Pacific Railroad Company v. Minors*⁵ described some of the guarantees.

"... a reference to some of the treaties, under which it [the Indian Territory] is held by the Indians, indicates that it stands in an entirely different relation to the United States from other Territories, and that for most purposes it is to be considered as an independent country. Thus in the treaty of December 20, 1855, 7 Stat. 478, with the Cherokees, whereby the United States granted and conveyed by patent to the Cherokees a portion of this territory, the United States, in article II, covenanted and agreed that the land ceded to the Cherokees should 'in no future time, without their consent, be included within the territorial limits or jurisdiction of any State or Territory,' and by further treaty of August 16, 1846 9 Stat. 871, provided (Art. 7) 'that the lands now occupied by the Cherokee Nation shall be secured to the whole Cherokee people for their common use and benefit, and a patent shall be issued for the same.' So, too, by treaty with the Choctaws of September 27, 1830, 7 Stat. 333, granting a portion of the Indian Territory to them, the United States (Art. 4) 'ceded to the Choctaw Nation of Red People the jurisdiction and government of all the persons and property that may be within their limits, west, so that no Territory or State shall ever have the right to pass laws for the government of the Choctaw Nation of Red People and their descendants, and that no part of the land granted shall ever be ceded to any Territory or State, but the United States shall forever secure said Choctaw Nation from, and against, all laws except such as from time to time may be enacted in their own national councils, not inconsistent,' etc. And in a treaty of March 24, 1832, 7 Stat. 586, with the Creeks (Art. 14), the Creek country west of the Mississippi

was solemnly guaranteed to these Indians, 'that shall any State or Territory ever have a right to pass laws for the government of such Indians, but they shall be allowed to govern themselves, so far as may be compatible with the general jurisdiction which Congress may think proper to exercise over them.'

Under the guarantees of these and other similar treaties the Indians have proceeded to establish and carry on independent governments of their own, enacting and executing their own laws, punishing their own criminals, appointing their own officers, raising and expending their own revenues. Their position, as early as 1855, is indicated by the following extract from the opinion of this court in *Markey v. Oar*, 38 How. 100, 103:

"A question has been suggested whether the Cherokee people should be considered or treated as a foreign state or territory. The fact that they are under the Constitution of the Union, and subject to acts of Congress regulating trade, is a sufficient answer to the suggestion. They are not only within our jurisdiction, but the faith of the nation is pledged for their protection. In some respects they bear the same relation to the Federal Government as a Territory did in its second grade of Government under the ordinance of 1787. Such Territory passed its own laws, subject to the approval of Congress, and its inhabitants were subject to the Constitution and acts of Congress. The principal difference consists in the fact that the Cherokees enact their own laws, under the restriction stated, appoint their own officers, and pay their own expenses. This, however, is no reason why the laws and proceedings of the Cherokee territory, so far as relates to rights claimed under them, should not be placed upon the same footing as other Territories in the Union. It is not a foreign, but a domestic territory—a Territory which originated under our Constitution and laws."

Similar language is used with reference to these Indians in *Holden v. Joy*, 17 Wall. 211, 242. * * * (17p. 435-437)

⁴ See Chapter 7, and Chapter 9, sec. 5A and B.

⁵ 126 U. S. 413 (1887).

Practically all of the Oklahoma tribes were well organized when they moved to the Indian Territory, and in the new land

They maintained complete government, particularly in the East, five tribe areas, they had their own schools, their own legislative assemblies, their own courts. And they did the job well. Under all the conditions they made a record which would have been creditable to any municipality or State in this country."

Certain of the Five Civilized Tribes adopted the political forms of the white world; and administrative Indians and opium have frequently upheld their power of self-government."

¹⁴ Hearings before the Comm. on Ind. Aff., on S. 2067, 74th Cong., 1st sess., 1935, p. 30. With the exception of the Seminoles, all the Five Civilized Tribes had written and printed constitutions and laws. Schmuckel, *The Office of Indian Affairs, Its History, Activities and Organization* (1927), p. 127. But see Leupp, *The Indian and His Problem* (1916), p. 342.

¹⁵ J. Culler, 4 Indians at Work No. 21 (June 15, 1917), p. 1.

¹⁶ A few opinions exemplify this view.

The Attorney General in advancing the Secretary of the Treasury that a national bank cannot lawfully be established at Muskogee, a town in the territory of the Creek Nation, said:

The right of the Creek Nation to govern itself was carefully guarded and protected by these treaties in a pact founded on a consideration of great value, moving directly from the Creek Nation to the United States and the United States to the Creek Nation, in the protection of the Creeks in all the rights secured to them by the treaties mentioned. (10 Op. A. G. 842, 614 (1889).)

The Supreme Court in *Worcester v. United States*, 215 U. S. 154 (1919), said:

The Creek of Muskogee Nation or Tribe of Indians, had in 1860, a population of 15,000. Subject to the control of Congress, they then constituted within a defined territory the power of a sovereign people having a tribal organization, their own system of laws, and a government with the usual branches, executive, legislative, and judicial. The territory was divided into six districts, and each district was provided with a judge. (2p. 361-363.)

The Supreme Court in the case of *Martin v. Leutenell*, 270 U. S. 78, 60-67 (1926), said:

For many years the Creeks maintained a government of their own, with executive legislative and judicial branches. They were located in the Indian Territory and occupied a large dis-

trict which belonged to the tribe as a community and not to the member. It is to be noted in common. The situation was the same with the Chickasaw, Choctaw, Chickasaw, and Seminole tribes with the Creeks, and the Five Civilized Tribes. All were under the guardianship of the United States and within territory over which it had plenary jurisdiction, thus enabling it to exercise full control over them and their districts whenever it perceived a need therefor. (Sprengle v. Cherokee Nation, 154 U. S. 102, 1st, 2d, 3d, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st, 32nd, 33rd, 34th, 35th, 36th, 37th, 38th, 39th, 40th, 41st, 42nd, 43rd, 44th, 45th, 46th, 47th, 48th, 49th, 50th, 51st, 52nd, 53rd, 54th, 55th, 56th, 57th, 58th, 59th, 60th, 61st, 62nd, 63rd, 64th, 65th, 66th, 67th, 68th, 69th, 70th, 71st, 72nd, 73rd, 74th, 75th, 76th, 77th, 78th, 79th, 80th, 81st, 82nd, 83rd, 84th, 85th, 86th, 87th, 88th, 89th, 90th, 91st, 92nd, 93rd, 94th, 95th, 96th, 97th, 98th, 99th, 100th, 101st, 102nd, 103rd, 104th, 105th, 106th, 107th, 108th, 109th, 110th, 111th, 112th, 113th, 114th, 115th, 116th, 117th, 118th, 119th, 120th, 121st, 122nd, 123rd, 124th, 125th, 126th, 127th, 128th, 129th, 130th, 131st, 132nd, 133rd, 134th, 135th, 136th, 137th, 138th, 139th, 140th, 141st, 142nd, 143rd, 144th, 145th, 146th, 147th, 148th, 149th, 150th, 151st, 152nd, 153rd, 154th, 155th, 156th, 157th, 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587th, 588th, 589th, 590th, 591st, 592nd, 593rd, 594th, 595th, 596th, 597th, 598th, 599th, 600th, 601st, 602nd, 603rd, 604th, 605th, 606th, 607th, 608th, 609th, 610th, 611st, 612nd, 613th, 614th, 615th, 616th, 617th, 618th, 619th, 620th, 621st, 622nd, 623rd, 624th, 625th, 626th, 627th, 628th, 629th, 630th, 631st, 632nd, 633rd, 634th, 635th, 636th, 637th, 638th, 639th, 640th, 641st, 642nd, 643rd, 644th, 645th, 646th, 647th, 648th, 649th, 650th, 651st, 652nd, 653rd, 654th, 655th, 656th, 657th, 658th, 659th, 660th, 661st, 662nd, 663rd, 664th, 665th, 666th, 667th, 668th, 669th, 670th, 671st, 672nd, 673rd, 674th, 675th, 676th, 677th, 678th, 679th, 680th, 681st, 682nd, 683rd, 684th, 685th, 686th, 687th, 688th, 689th, 690th, 691st, 692nd, 693rd, 694th, 695th, 696th, 697th, 698th, 699th, 700th, 701st, 702nd, 703rd, 704th, 705th, 706th, 707th, 708th, 709th, 710th, 711st, 712nd, 713th, 714th, 715th, 716th, 717th, 718th, 719th, 720th, 721st, 722nd, 723rd, 724th, 725th, 726th, 727th, 728th, 729th, 730th, 731st, 732nd, 733rd, 734th, 735th, 736th, 737th, 738th, 739th, 740th, 741st, 742nd, 743rd, 744th, 745th, 746th, 747th, 748th, 749th, 750th, 751st, 752nd, 753rd, 754th, 755th, 756th, 757th, 758th, 759th, 760th, 761st, 762nd, 763rd, 764th, 765th, 766th, 767th, 768th, 769th, 770th, 771st, 772nd, 773rd, 774th, 775th, 776th, 777th, 778th, 779th, 780th, 781st, 782nd, 783rd, 784th, 785th, 786th, 787th, 788th, 789th, 790th, 791st, 792nd, 793rd, 794th, 795th, 796th, 797th, 798th, 799th, 800th, 801st, 802nd, 803rd, 804th, 805th, 806th, 807th, 808th, 809th, 810th, 811st, 812nd, 813th, 814th, 815th, 816th, 817th, 818th, 819th, 820th, 821st, 822nd, 823rd, 824th, 825th, 826th, 827th, 828th, 829th, 830th, 831st, 832nd, 833rd, 834th, 835th, 836th, 837th, 838th, 839th, 840th, 841st, 842nd, 843rd, 844th, 845th, 846th, 847th, 848th, 849th, 850th, 851st, 852nd, 853rd, 854th, 855th, 856th, 857th, 858th, 859th, 860th, 861st, 862nd, 863rd, 864th, 865th, 866th, 867th, 868th, 869th, 870th, 871st, 872nd, 873rd, 874th, 875th, 876th, 877th, 878th, 879th, 880th, 881st, 882nd, 883rd, 884th, 885th, 886th, 887th, 888th, 889th, 890th, 891st, 892nd, 893rd, 894th, 895th, 896th, 897th, 898th, 899th, 900th, 901st, 902nd, 903rd, 904th, 905th, 906th, 907th, 908th, 909th, 910th, 911st, 912nd, 913th, 914th, 915th, 916th, 917th, 918th, 919th, 920th, 921st, 922nd, 923rd, 924th, 925th, 926th, 927th, 928th, 929th, 930th, 931st, 932nd, 933rd, 934th, 935th, 936th, 937th, 938th, 939th, 940th, 941st, 942nd, 943rd, 944th, 945th, 946th, 947th, 948th, 949th, 950th, 951st, 952nd, 953rd, 954th, 955th, 956th, 957th, 958th, 959th, 960th, 961st, 962nd, 963rd, 964th, 965th, 966th, 967th, 968th, 969th, 970th, 971st, 972nd, 973rd, 974th, 975th, 976th, 977th, 978th, 979th, 980th, 981st, 982nd, 983rd, 984th, 985th, 986th, 987th, 988th, 989th, 990th, 991st, 992nd, 993rd, 994th, 995th, 996th, 997th, 998th, 999th, 1000th.

The Supreme Court in the case of *Martin v. Leutenell*, 270 U. S. 78, 60-67 (1926), said:

While it is unquestioned that by the Constitution of the United States Congress is vested with jurisdiction to regulate commerce with the Indian tribes, yet it is also understood that in treaties entered into with the Cherokee Nation the right of that tribe to control the persons within the territory is secured in all of persons who might otherwise be regarded as intruders has been secured, and the duty of the United States to protect the Indians from intrusion by other Indians, and white persons, and subject to their jurisdiction and laws, has also been recognized. Arts. 7 and 14, Treaty June 22, 1836, 11 Stat. 937, 938, 939, 940, 941, 942, 943, 944, 945, 946, 947, 948, 949, 950, 951, 952, 953, 954, 955, 956, 957, 958, 959, 960, 961, 962, 963, 964, 965, 966, 967, 968, 969, 970, 971, 972, 973, 974, 975, 976, 977, 978, 979, 980, 981, 982, 983, 984, 985, 986, 987, 988, 989, 990, 991, 992, 993, 994, 995, 996, 997, 998, 999, 1000.

Also see brief submitted by Commissioner of Indian Affairs relating to report of *Worcester v. United States*, 215 U. S. 154 (1919), in *Ind. Aff.*, United States Senate, 74th Congress, 2d sess., on S. 2758 and S. 4043, 2d (1934), pp. 268, 269-270, 18 Op. A. G. 91 (1884), Treaty of June 11, 1860, Art. X, 11 Stat. 783, 788, Reports of the Commissioner of Ind. Aff. (1888), pp. 111, 111 (1889), p. 202, (1890), pp. 89, 90, (1891), vol. 1, p. 240, 241.

Excerpts from the constitution of the Cherokee, as contained in *Cherokee Nation v. Johnston*, 153 U. S. 106 (1894). For a decision holding that certain lands were "occupied" by the Cherokee Nation in the purpose of criminal and lawless jurisdiction see *United States v. Ricketts*, 23 Fed. 675 (D. C. W. D. Ark., 1887). In executing treaties, the view of the United States, and not of the Cherokee council governs federal action. 16 Op. A. G. 404 (1870).

SECTION 4. GOVERNMENT OF INDIAN TERRITORY

As a result of the subjugation of the Five Civilized Tribes to the Confederacy during the Civil War, the President of the United States was empowered to allocate existing treaties with these Indians.¹⁷ Accordingly during 1866 new treaties were negotiated with each of the tribes.¹⁸ For the purpose of forming a federated Indian government of the tribes, certain identical provisions were inserted in each treaty.¹⁹ Though the plan failed to materialize,²⁰ the territory intended to be thus organized became known as the Indian Territory.²¹

Soon it was apparent that the seclusion and isolation which the Indians sought was to be disturbed. Land-hungry whites

overflowed into the Indian Territory and reached about a quarter of a million at the beginning of the last decade of the nineteenth century.²² Despite treaty obligations, many whites, strongly desirous to substitute their own methods of government for those of the tribes. In part this was due to the fact that Indian laws and customs had no jurisdiction over the white settlers,²³ and the Indian Territory became the refuge for criminals from neighboring states. By the Act of May 2, 1890,²⁴ a portion of the Indian Territory was created into the Territory of Oklahoma. This act provided that until after the adjournment of the first territorial assembly the provisions of the compiled laws of Nebraska with respect to probate courts and decedents, so far as locally applicable and consistent with the laws of the United States and that act, should be in force in the Territory of Oklahoma. The act also provided that as to the portion of the former Indian Territory comprising the lands of the Five Civilized Tribes, and lands occupied by other tribes and certain other lands described in the act, the laws of Arkansas, as published in Marshall's Digest in 1884, including descent and distribution, should be operative therein until Congress should otherwise provide, insofar as those laws were not locally in-

¹⁷ Act of July 5, 1862, 12 Stat. 512, 528.

¹⁸ For further details, see Chapter 8, sec. 4, Chapter 8, sec. 11, provisions in some of the treaties for the removal by the United States Government of freedmen from the Indian Territory were not fulfilled (The Chickasaw Freedmen, 108 U. S. 115, 128 (1904)), and provisions for the granting of tribal membership and other rights to freedmen were often not complied with by the tribe or completed after a long delay. See Wardwell, *A Political History of the Cherokee Nation* (1938), p. 781. The history of the litigation and legislation regarding the freedmen of the Cherokee Nation is discussed in *Cherokee and Chickasaw Nations v. United States*, 81 Cl. 65 (1885), which cites many leading cases. Also see *Keeftoosho's Society v. Lane*, 41 App. D. C. 519 (1914).

¹⁹ See Mills, *op. cit.*, pp. 2-5.

²⁰ *Ibid.*, p. 8.

²¹ *Ibid.* The reduced Indian Territory after the separation of Oklahoma Territory was described by notes and bounds in the Act of May 2, 1890, sec. 29, 26 Stat. 81, 98. Also see Chapter 1, sec. 8.

²² 84 Op. A. G. 275 (1894).

²³ See *Leah Gule Menap's Co. v. Nardles*, 99 Fed. 68 (C. C. A. 8, 1895).

²⁴ 26 Stat. 81. For a discussion of the provisions of this law relating to courts, see Chapter 15, sec. 4 and Chapter 19, sec. 28 and 6.

applicable not in conflict with any law of Congress at the provisions of the act.

Under the provisions of this act the legitimacy of the Territory of Oklahoma during its first session, which expired on December 21, 1890 passed laws of descent in succession which became effective on that date. Concerning the laws of that portion of the Indian Territory which continued to be so designated, Assistant Attorney General for the Interior Department, later, Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States, Van Devanter, in an opinion dated October 15, 1898 after pointing out that the laws of descent and distribution of Arkansas were in conflict with the provisions of the General Allotment Act referred to above, held that such laws, under the 1890 Act were inapplicable to the estates of Indian allottees in the Indian Territory and therefore that the laws of Kansas, as provided in the General Allotment Act did not apply to the Quipwite tribe. The Arkansas law, under the Act of 1890 applied to the Indians of that tribe. After this preliminary decision in 1894 Congress inaugurated a policy of liquidating the tribal existence and government of the Five Civilized Tribes and affording them lands in severalty. Agreements were negotiated by the Dawes Commission with each of the tribes in order to carry out these objectives.¹ The Supreme Court has described this condition and the resulting legislation in the case of *Martin v. Littleton* -

In time the tribes came, through advance settlement, to be surrounded by a large and increasing white

¹ Act of March 1, 1894, c. 10, 27 Stat. 612, 647.

² See *De Porto v. De Porto*, 225 U. S. 68, 131 (1911).

³ 278 U. S. 98 (1928). The court established in 1890 had jurisdiction of all offenses committed in the Indian Territory against any of the laws of the United States, not punishable with death or imprisonment at hard labor. On the offenses covered, see *Ex parte Morris*, 129 U. S. 269 (1889). In *Ex parte Hendrix*, 241 U. S. 137, 114 (1915). The court also possessed jurisdiction over all civil controversies where the amount involved was \$100 or more except when both parties were members of Indian tribes.

As to what constitutes a marriage under the laws of tribal existence of any Indian nation within the meaning of the Act of May 2, 1890, c. 182, see 34 Stat. 81, 99; see *Carson v. Chapman*, 317 U. S. 102 (1941). In *Ex parte Hendrix*, 241 U. S. 137, 114 (1915). The court also possessed jurisdiction over all civil controversies where the amount involved was \$100 or more except when both parties were members of Indian tribes.

* * * Section 8061 of Mann-Elford's Digest is the law of the Indian Territory, just as much as if it had been enacted by Congress, in that it is a law that is not subject to the jurisdiction of the courts of the United States, as to the extent of the law, it is to be held that the Indian Territory is an Arkansas state, as would be the case if a question should arise under it in the court, and of the United States for the district of Arkansas. The act of Congress adopting an entire code of laws for the Indian Territory is put to resolve the limited and restricted constitution placed upon the powers of the court (section 914, law 98) which means that the court counts to conform the practice and procedure in those courts to the practice and procedure in the state courts (see note as may be found in (29, 98, 70)).

Also see *Adams v. Adams*, 285 U. S. 417 (1914); *James v. Patterson*, 274 U. S. 641 (1927); *Stacy v. Shaw*, 48 Fed. 252 (C. C. A. 9, 1913); *Bligh v. Incorporated Town of Muskogee*, 137 Fed. 225 (C. C. A. 8, 1902).

For a detailed account of the history of the courts see *Lewis v. Armstrong*, 180 U. S. 253 (1901).

For other cases interpreting this law see *United States v. Pridmore*, 151 U. S. 48 (1894); *Liberty v. United States*, 162 U. S. 499 (1896).

population many of the whites entering the district and having, their - some as tenant farmers, stock growers and mechanics and others as more adventures. The United States then perceived a need for making a larger use of its power. [Hickman v. United States, 221 U. S. 413, 414, 415, 89 (1909); *Wheeler v. Wheeler*, 245 U. S. 441, 442.] What it did in that regard has a bearing on the questions before stated. (P. 61)

By an act March 1, 1890, c. 33, 23 Stat. 783, a special court was established for the Indian Territory and given jurisdiction of many offenses against the United States and of certain civil cases where not wholly between persons of Indian blood. By an act of May 2, 1890, c. 182, ss. 2-11, 26 Stat. 81, that jurisdiction was enlarged and several general statutes of the State of Arkansas, but held in Mann-Elford's Digest, were put in force in the Territory so far as not locally inapplicable or in conflict with laws of Congress, but those provisions were requested by others in the effect that the courts of each tribe should retain exclusive jurisdiction of all cases wholly between members of the tribe and that the adopted Arkansas statutes should not apply to such cases. By an act of March 4, 1894, c. 279, § 4, 27 Stat. 614, a commission to the five civilized tribes was created and specially authorized to conduct negotiations with each of the tribes looking to the allotment of a part of its lands among its members to some appropriate disposal of the remaining lands and to further adjustments preparatory to the dissolution of the tribe. By an act of June 7, 1897, c. 8, 30 Stat. 58-64, the special court was given exclusive jurisdiction of all crime cases, civil and criminal, and the laws of the United States and the State of Arkansas in force in the Territory were made applicable to "all persons therein, irrespective of race," but with the qualification that any agreement negotiated by the commission with any of the five civilized tribes, when ratified, should supersede as to such tribe any conflicting provisions in the act. By an act of June 28, 1898, c. 517, §§ 20 and 25, 30 Stat. 493, the enforcement of tribal laws in the special court was forbidden and the tribal courts were abolished.

Thus the congressional enactment gradually came to the point where they displaced the tribal laws and put in force in the Territory a body of laws adopted from the statutes of Arkansas and intended to reach Indians, as well as white persons, except as they might be inapplicable in particular situations or might be superseded as to any of the five civilized tribes by future agreements. (P. 61-62.)

By the Act of April 28, 1904,⁴ it was provided that

All the laws of Arkansas heretofore put in force in the Indian Territory are hereby continued and extended in their operation, so as to embrace all persons and estates in said Territory, whether Indian, freedmen, or otherwise, and full and complete notice of the tribal laws and of the district courts in said Territory in the settlements of all estates of decedents, the guardianships of minors and incompetents, whether Indians, freedmen, or otherwise. * * *

Remond v. Remond, 97 Fed. 7-1 (C. C. A. 8, 1897); *McClough v. Smith*, 243 Fed. 821 (C. C. A. 8, 1917). The statute did not empower the court to entertain an action across the Choctaw Nation. *Thibo v. Choctaw Tribe of Indians*, 60 Fed. 472 (C. C. A. 8, 1895), nor upon the Act of February 18, 1898 (25 Stat. 85). *Grove v. Taylor*, 169 Fed. 978 (C. C. A. 4, 1909). For an analysis of what cases might be considered in exclusive jurisdiction of the tribal court, see *Ordway v. Madden*, 54 Fed. 420 (C. C. A. 8, 1895).

⁴ 33 Stat. 578, sec. 2.

SECTION 5. STATEHOOD

The virtual dissolution of the tribal governments in the Indian Territory cleared the way for the creation of another state. Accordingly on June 16, 1906,⁵ an act was passed making possible the admission into the Union of both Indian Territory and Oklahoma Territory as the State of Oklahoma. This so-called

⁵ Act of June 16, 1906, 34 Stat. 287.

enabling act has been well summarized by the Supreme Court in *Jefferson v. Pack* -

By the enabling act of June 16, 1906, c. 3335, § 4 Stat. 207, provision was made for admitting into the Union

⁶ 247 U. S. 288, 292 (1918).

at the time of the enabling act there was a large population of Indians in the Indian Territory, but a much larger population of whites

both the Territory of Oklahoma and the Indian Territory is the State of Oklahoma. Each Territory had a distinct body of local laws. Those in the Indian Territory, as we have seen, had been put in force there by Congress. Those in the Territory of Oklahoma had been enacted by the territorial legislature. Deeming it better that the new State should come into the Union with a body of laws applying with practical uniformity throughout the State, Congress provided by the enabling act (18 191) that "the laws in force in the Territory of Oklahoma, as far as applicable, shall extend over and apply to said State until changed by the legislative thereof," and also (18 21) that "all laws in force in the Territory of Oklahoma at the time of the admission of said State into the Union shall be in force throughout said State, except as modified or changed by this act or by the constitution of the State." The people of the State, taking the same view, provided in their constitution (Art. 27, § 2) that "all laws in force in the Territory of Oklahoma at the time of the admission of the State into the Union which are not repugnant to this Constitution and which are not locally inapplicable, shall be extended to and remain in force in the State of Oklahoma until they expire by their own limitation or are altered or repealed by law" (17p. 292-293).

It should be noted that the act expressly provides that Federal authority over the Indians should in no way be impaired, nor should the property rights of the Indians be limited.¹

On November 16, 1907, the Territory of Oklahoma and the Indian Territory were admitted into the Union as the State of Oklahoma under the enabling act passed by Congress on June 20, 1906,² as amended by the Act of March 4, 1907.³ The enabling act and the constitution of the new state united in declaring that with certain exceptions, no material here, "the

Joplin Mercantile Co. v. United States, 236 U. S. 513, 514-545 (1915). Under section 14 of the Curtis Act of June 25, 1898, 30 Stat. 400, 401, towns had been organized and were growing rapidly, and much of the land had been allotted.

The requirement by Congress and the acceptance by the State that "every member of any Indian nation or tribe located within the State should be permitted to participate in the organization and conduct of the government of the State" conferred upon all such Indians citizenship in the State and in the United States.

Allotments to the members of the various Indian tribes in Oklahoma had been substantially completed at the time of the admission of Oklahoma to statehood. * * * (Bleeker Indian Land Laws, (2d ed. 1914), p. 97.)

¹ Under secs. 16 and 20 of the Oklahoma Enabling Act the State took the place of the United States in regard to a prosecution for adultery, commenced in Indian Territory in one of the temporary courts of the United States, and all essential parts of the prosecution placed to the State. *Southern Surety Co. v. Ohio*, 241 U. S. 582 (1916).

² 34 Stat. 267.

SECTION 6. TERMINATION OF TRIBAL GOVERNMENT—FIVE CIVILIZED TRIBES

The Commission to the Five Civilized Tribes, first known as the Dawes Commission, pieced the groundwork for the termination of the tribes by procuring agreements with the several nations relative to the allotment of their lands.⁴ Commissioner Collier has said:⁵

* * * the time came when the pressure of white population made inevitable a break-up of the Indian territory, a break-up of the Indian ownership of that vast domain. That break-up was sought through allotting the land in severalty. In addition the tribal governments were practically abolished by statute. And the tribal treasuries were dismantled with the United States Treasury, but the fundamental technique was allotting the lands in

laws in force in the Territory of Oklahoma" at the time of the State's admission should be in force throughout the state and that the "limits of original jurisdiction of such State" should be the successors of "all courts of original jurisdiction of said Territories." The laws of the Territory of Oklahoma which were thus put in force "throughout" the new state included comprehensive provisions for the administration of estates of decedents, the appointment of guardians of minors and incompetents, and the management and sale of their property. In the Territory of Oklahoma this jurisdiction was vested in probate courts and by the constitution of the new state that jurisdiction was committed to the county courts.⁶

The general condition existing in the State of Oklahoma at the time of its admission to the Union has been described as follows:⁷

Oklahoma, with 1,700,000 population, became a State on November 16, 1907, upon a pledge contained in her constitution that she would never question the jurisdiction of the Federal Government over the Indians and their lands or its power to legislate by law or regulation concerning their rights or property. Immediately she had a delegation in Congress, and at once began a determined campaign for further repeal of the laws enacted for the protection of the Indians. The main argument employed was that the Indians were competent to care for their property and needed no legislative protection against improvidence, that the State could be trusted to afford them all the protection they required and that Federal guardianship and supervision should cease, as an interference with the personal privileges and rights of citizens of Oklahoma.

This fight * * * resulted in the enactment of a law on May 27, 1908, effective July 27, 1908, repealing the restriction on the sale of a large class of land, including all homesteads of freedmen and of mixed bloods of less than half blood, freeing them restrictions all told over 9,720,000 acres. It provided also that all homesteads, as well as all lands from which restrictions against sale were removed, should become liable the same as lands of white people whether sold by the allottee or not. This late act violated the terms of the agreement made with the Indians under which the homesteads of the Choctaw and the allotments, or parts thereof, of the Cherokee and other tribes were exempted from taxation for a given period. (The American Indian, by Warren K. Moonshend, the Andrew Press, Andover, Mass., p. 142.)

⁴ 34 Stat. 1289.

⁵ See *Report of J. K. Moore*, 295 U. S. 403 (1935), pet. for rehearing den., 296 U. S. 661 (1935).

⁶ Quoted from *Minutes before the Census on Ind. Aff.*, House of Representatives, 74th Cong., 1st sess., on Oct. 1, 1915, p. 71-72.

severalty and that was done and at various times restrictions were lifted and methods were applied in various parts of the State different from those applied to the tribes in the West. And there grew up roughly two bodies of Indian law, one affecting the five tribes and largely the Osages, the other affecting the tribes of the West, and who had mostly come from the plains area.

The termination of the tribal governments is described by Dr. Commissioner of Indian Affairs Leupp:⁸

* * * by successive acts of Congress the Five Civilized Tribes were shown of their governmental functions, their courts were abolished and United States courts established, their chief executive officers were made subject to removal by the President, who was authorized to fill

⁷ See sec. 8. The work of this commission is described in 34 Op. A. G. 275 (1924), and in *Wheeler v. Holtzworth*, 258 U. S. 384 (1922).

⁸ Hearings before the Sen. Comm. on Ind. Aff., United States Senate, 74th Cong., 1st sess., on S. 2047, 1935, pp. 10-11. Also see secs. 4-6.

⁹ The Indian and His Problem (1910). It should be noted that the termination of tribal government was finally effectuated by agreement with the interested tribes. See secs. 81-82.

by appointment the vacancies thus created, provision was made for the suppression of their tribal schools by a public school system maintained by general taxation; their tribal laws were abolished; the sale of their public buildings and lands was ordered, their legislatures were forbidden to remain in session more than thirty days in any one year, and every legislative act, ordinance and resolution was declared null and void unless it received the approval of the President. The only present shadow of fiction of the survival of the tribes as tribes is their gradual recognition left all their property, or the proceeds thereof, can be distributed among the individual members. As one of the federal judges has summed up this is "a continuance of the tribes in mere legal effect, and as in many States corporations are continued as legal entities after they have ceased to do business and are practically dissolved, for the purpose of winding up their affairs" (17 *Id.* 227-227).

The Act of June 28, 1898, commonly known as the Curtis Act abolished tribal courts¹ and declared Indian law unenforceable in federal courts.² The Supreme Court in the case of *Morris v. Hitchcock*³ explained the purpose of the Curtis Act in regard to one of the Five Civilized Tribes.

Viewing the Curtis Act in the light of the previous decisions of this court and the dealings between the Chickasaws and the United States, we are of opinion that one of the objects attending the adoption of that act by Congress, having in view the peace and welfare of the Chickasaws, was to prevent the continued exercise by the legislative body of the tribe of such a power as is here complained of, subject to a veto power in the President over such legislation as a preventive of arbitrary and impulsive action. (P. 303.)

In agreement,⁴ in statute,⁵ provisions were made for the termination of the tribal governments by March 4, 1903, at the latest. It was thought that by that time the tribal land would be allotted. However, the necessity for the continuance of the tribes became apparent before the date set for their demise and the Joint Resolution of March 2, 1900,⁶ provided for the continuance of tribal existence and government of these tribes until the distribution of the tribal property "unless hereafter otherwise provided by law." The next month a comprehensive law was passed covering all the tribes.

The Act of April 26, 1900,⁷ provided for the final disposition of the affairs of the Five Civilized Tribes. It provided for the completion by the Secretary of the Interior of the enrollments of the tribal members, and set comprising the freedmen and the second remaining members. It empowered the President of the United States to remove the principal chief of the Choctaw,

Cherokee, Creek, or Seminole tribe, at the governor of the Chickasaw tribe for failure to perform his duties, and to "fill any vacancy arising from removal, disability or death of the incumbent, by appointment of a citizen by blood of the tribe." The Secretary of the Interior was granted considerable power in regard to tribal affairs including control of tribal schools,⁸ the collection of tribal revenues,⁹ and funds,¹⁰ sale of certain tribal lands, buildings and other property of the tribes,¹¹ and the per capita distribution of tribal funds.¹² Section 27 provided that the lands of the Five Civilized Tribes upon their dissolution "shall be held in trust by the United States for the use and benefit of the Indians" of each of the tribes "and their heirs" as shown by the final rolls.

Section 28 provided for the continuance of tribal existence and the present tribal governments with limited powers. Their actions were made subject to the approval of the President of the United States.¹³

Mr. Justice Van Devanter in the case of *Southern Surety Company v. Oklahoma*¹⁴ described the formation of the State of Oklahoma and contrasted it with the previous government of the Territory by Congress.

By reason of the conditions arising out of the presence of the Five Civilized Tribes no organized territorial government was ever established in the Indian Territory. Up to the time it became a part of the State of Oklahoma it was governed under the immediate direction of Congress, which legislated for it in respect of many matters of local or domestic concern which in a State are regulated by the state legislature, and also applied to it many laws dealing with subjects which under the Constitution are within Federal rather than state control. In what was done Congress did not contemplate that the situation should be of long duration, but on the contrary that the Territory should be prepared for early inclusion in a State. Courts designated as "United States courts" were temporarily established and invested with a considerable measure of civil and criminal jurisdiction, and there was also provision for beginning public prosecutions before subordinate magistrates. There being no organized local government, such prosecutions, regardless of their nature, were commenced and conducted in the name of the United States, and in taking bail bonds it was assumed by the obligee.

The Enabling Act, June 16, 1906, c. 3838, § 4 Stat. 267; March 4, 1907, c. 2511, § 1288, provided that the new State should embrace the Indian Territory as well as the Territory of Oklahoma. It contemplated that the State, by its constitution, would establish a system of courts of its own, and provided for dividing the State into two districts and creating therein United States courts like those in other States. The temporary courts were to go out of existence and this made it necessary to provide for the disposition of the business pending before them in various stages. (Pp. 284-285.)

¹ 30 Stat. 1075. The constitutionality of this act was upheld in *Stephens v. Cherokee Nation*, 171 U. S. 415 (1901), *Cherokee Nation v. Hitchcock*, 187 U. S. 294 (1902).

² See 28.

³ See 28.

⁴ 194 U. S. 884 (1904).

⁵ Choctaw-Chickasaw Agreement in the Act of June 24, 1898, 30 Stat. 403, 312; Creek Agreement of March 1, 1901, par. 40, 31 Stat. 861, 872; Cherokee Agreement in the Act of July 1, 1902, see 64, 62 Stat. 715, 723.

⁶ Act of March 1, 1900, sec. 8 (Seminole), 32 Stat. 982, 1008.

⁷ 81 Stat. 822.

⁸ 84 Stat. 187.

⁹ See 10.

¹⁰ See 11.

¹¹ See 18.

¹² See 12 and 15.

¹³ See 17.

¹⁴ For examples see statement of D. H. Johnson, Governor of the Cherokee Nation, relating to Indian Affairs, 24, Survey of Indians in the United States (1911), pp. 5862-5865, and of Ben Dwight, Chief of the Choctaw, *ibid.*, pp. 6371-6380.

¹⁵ 241 U. S. 923 (1916).

SECTION 7. ENROLLMENT—FIVE CIVILIZED TRIBES

The general policy of the Federal Government for a number of years had been to bring about the allotment in severalty of tribal property with certain restrictions upon alienation, and to confer citizenship, state and national, upon allottees.¹ The

Dawes Commission, appointed by virtue of the Act of March 8, 1883,² had undertaken to negotiate with the Five Civilized Tribes for just such a purpose. However, after three years of attempt-

¹ See Chapter 8, sec. 4G; Chapter 4, sec. 11; Chapter 11, sec. 1.

² Act of March 8, 1883, 27 Stat. 612, 645, supplemented by Act of March 2, 1895, 28 Stat. 610, 960.

ing to reach agreements with the Indians which would provide for allotment in severalty, Congress despaired of receiving voluntary action and directed the Commission, in the following paragraphs of the Act of June 30, 1890,¹ to prepare rolls of the tribes:

That said commission is further authorized and directed to proceed at once to hear and determine the application of all persons who may apply to them for citizenship in any of said nations, and after such hearing they shall determine the right of such applicant to be so admitted and enrolled. *Provided, however,* That such application shall be made to such Commissioners within three months after the passage of this Act. The said commission shall decide all such applications within ninety days after the same shall be made. That in determining all such applications said commission shall respect all laws of the several nations of tribes, not inconsistent with the laws of the United States, and all treaties with either of said nations of tribes, and shall give due force and effect to the rolls, usages, and customs of each of said nations, or tribes. *And provided further,* That the rolls of citizenship of the several tribes as now existing are hereby confirmed, and any person who shall claim to be entitled to be added to said rolls as a citizen of either of said tribes and whose right thereto has either been denied or not acted upon, or any citizen who may within three months from and after the passage of this Act desire such citizenship, may apply to the legally constituted court or committee designated by the several tribes for such citizenship and such court or committee shall determine such application within thirty days from the date thereof.

In the performance of such duties, said commission shall have power and authority to administer oaths, to issue process for and compel the attendance of witnesses, and to send for persons and papers, and all depositions and affidavits and other evidence in any form whatsoever heretofore taken where the witnesses, jurors and testimony are dead or now residing beyond the limits of said Territory, and to use every fair and reasonable means within their reach for the purpose of determining the rights of persons claiming such citizenship, or to protect any of said nations from fraud or wrong, and the rolls so prepared by them shall be hereafter held and considered to be the true and correct rolls of persons entitled to the rights of citizenship in said several tribes. *Provided,* That if the tribe, or any person, be aggrieved with the decision of the tribal authorities or the commission provided for in this Act, or if he may appeal from such decision to the United States district court. *Provided, however,* That the appeal shall be taken within sixty days and the judgment of the court shall be final.

That the said commission, after the expiration of six months, shall cause a complete roll of citizenship of each of said nations to be made up from their records, and add thereto the names of citizens whose right may be conferred under this Act, and said rolls shall be, and are hereby, made rolls of citizenship of said nations in tribe, subject, however, to the determination of the United States courts, as provided herein.

The commission is hereby required to file the lists of members as they finally approve them with the Commissioner of Indian Affairs to remain there for use as the final judgment of the duly constituted authorities. And said commission shall also make a roll of freedmen entitled to citizenship in said tribes and shall include their names in the lists of members to be filed with the Commissioner of Indian Affairs. And said commission is further authorized and directed to make a full report to Congress of leases, tribal and individual, with the area, amount and value of the property leased and the amount received therefor and by whom and from whom said property is leased, and is further directed to make a full and detailed report as to the excessive holdings of members of said tribes and others.

It is hereby declared to be the duty of the United States to establish a government in the Indian Territory which

will rectify the many inequalities and discriminations now existing in said Territory and afford needed protection to the lives and property of all citizens and residents thereof.

The following further provisions regarding enrollment were made the next year in the Act of June 7, 1897:²

That said commission shall continue to exercise all authority heretofore conferred on it by law to negotiate with the Five Tribes, and any agreement made by it with any one of said tribes, when ratified, shall operate to suspend any provisions of this Act in conflict therewith as to said nation. *Provided* That the words "rolls of citizenship" as used in the Act of June tenth, eighteen hundred and ninety-six, making appropriations for critical and contingent expenses of the Indian Department and fulfilling treaty stipulations with various Indian tribes for the fiscal year ending June thirtieth, eighteen hundred and ninety-seven, shall be construed to mean the last authenticated rolls of each tribe which have been approved by the council of the nation and the descendants of those appearing on such rolls, and such additional names and their descendants as have been subsequently added, either by the council of said nation, the duly authorized courts thereof, or the commission under the Act of June tenth, eighteen hundred and ninety-six. And all other names appearing upon such rolls shall be open to investigation by said commission for a period of six months after the passage of this Act. And any name appearing on such rolls and not confirmed by the Act of June tenth, eighteen hundred and ninety-six, as herein construed, may be stricken therefrom by such commission where the party affected shall have ten days previous notice that said commission will investigate and determine the right of such party to remain upon such roll as a citizen of such nation. *Provided also* That any one whose name shall be stricken from the roll by such commission shall have the right of appeal, as provided in the Act of June tenth, eighteen hundred and ninety-six.

The determination of Congress to proceed with allotment without the consent of the tribes found expression in the Act of June 28, 1898,³ commonly called the Curtis Act.⁴ This act contained elaborate stipulations regarding enrollment, providing for two rolls for each of the Civilized Tribes, one tracing rights through former slaves, called the Freedmen roll, the other tracing such rights through Indian blood, called the Indian roll,⁵ for making the rolls descriptive of the persons thereon⁶ and for making them "alone constitute the several tribes which they represent."⁷

¹ Act of June 7, 1897 '90 Stat. 62 61.

² 30 Stat. 405.

³ The tribes bitterly opposed this act which was strongly advocated by the Commission to the Five Civilized Tribes. *Mills, op. cit.* p. 8.

⁴ Act of April 22, 1898 sec. 1 14 Stat. 189 204. On status of freedmen see Schwarzenbach, *The Office of Indian Affairs* (1927), p. 141. *Tyner v. Fuelitt*, 22 F. 2d 786 (C. C. A. 8, 1927). Act of May 31, 1908, sec. 2, 35 Stat. 112 provided that the rolls of Freedmen of the Five Civilized Tribes approved by the Secretary of the Interior shall be conclusive evidence of the quantum of Indian blood in any enrolled freedmen of said tribe and the enrollment records of the Commission, conclusive evidence of their age. After being entered on rolls made and approved by the Secretary of the Interior, in accordance with a statute, a freedman acquired rights, which could not be divested without notice of hearing essential to due process of law. *Geisfeld v. Goldsby*, 211 U. S. 246 (1908). No one to an attorney of such freedman is sufficient if given a few hours before a hearing of a motion to strike out his name on the ground that his enrollment was procured by perjury. *United States v. Fisher*, 252 U. S. 204 (1919).

⁵ See 21 *United States v. Mid-Continent Petroleum Corp.*, 67 F. 2d 37, 40-44 (C. C. A. 10, 1908). Also see Chapter 5, sec. 18.

⁶ See 21 *United States v. Shaffer Oil Refining Co.*, 138 F. 2d 607 (D. C. N. D. Okla., 1908).

⁷ 28 Stat. 321, 328-340. Also see Act of July 1, 1888, 30 Stat. 671, 601, Act of March 8, 1901, 31 Stat. 1068, 1077.

The effect of the enrollment statutes has been considered from time to time. In the case of *United States v. Alkots*,¹ the Supreme Court said:

In *United States v. Wadswold*, 241 U. S. 111, 118, 119, it was insisted that the Indian died prior to April 1, 1891, and that his enrollment as of that date was beyond the jurisdiction of the Dawes Commission and void within the doctrine of *Scott v. Alkots*, 154 U. S. 84. Much consideration was given to the statutes relating and defining the powers of the Commission and the effect of an enrollment. This Court said:

"There was thus constituted a quasi-judicial tribunal whose judgments within the limits of its jurisdiction were only subject to attack for fraud or such mistake of law or fact as would justify the holding that its judgments were voidable. Congress by this legislation evidenced an intention to put an end to controversies by providing a tribunal before which those interested could be heard and the rolls authoritatively made up of those who were entitled to participate in the partition of the tribal lands. It was to the interest of all concerned that the beneficiaries of this division should be ascertained. To this end the Commission was established and endowed with authority to hear and determine the matter. * * *

"When the Commission proceeded in good faith to determine the matter and to act upon information before it, not arbitrarily, but according to its best judgment, we think it was the intention of the act that the matter, upon the approval of the Secretary, should be finally concluded and the rights of the parties forever settled subject to such attacks as could successfully be made upon judgments of this character for fraud or mistake."

"We cannot agree that the case is within the principles decided in *Scott v. Alkots*, 154 U. S. 84, and limited cases, in which it has been held that in the absence of a subject-matter of jurisdiction an application that there was such is not conclusive, and that a judgment based upon action without its proper subject being in existence is void. * * * We think the decision of such tribunal, when not impeached for fraud or mistake, conclusive of the question of membership in the tribe, when followed, as was the case here, by the action of the Interior Department confirming the allotment and ordering the patents conveying the lands, which were in fact issued."

It must be accepted now as finally settled that the enrollment of a member of an Indian tribe by the Dawes Commission, when duly approved, amounts to a judgment in an adversary proceeding determining the existence of the individual and his right to membership subject, of course, to impeachment under the well established rules where such judgments are involved. (174-226)

Shortly after the passage of the Curtis Act, Congress, by Act of July 1, 1888,² adopted the agreement concluded with the Seminoles on December 10, 1867. Conveyed now of the integrity of resistance, other tribes followed suit, until by the end of 1902 all of the Five Civilized Tribes had become parties to agreements with the United States providing for allotment to land in severalty.³ Most of these agreements⁴ contained pro-

visions concerning enrollment. Sections 25 to 31 of the Cherokee Agreement⁵ are perhaps typical.

Sec. 25 The roll of citizens of the Cherokee Nation shall be made as of September first, nineteen hundred and two, and the names of all persons then living and entitled to enrollment on that date shall be placed on said roll by the Commission to the Five Civilized Tribes.

Sec. 26 The names of all persons living on the first day of September, nineteen hundred and two, entitled to be enrolled as provided in section twenty-five hereof, shall be placed upon the roll made by said Commission, and no child born thereafter to a citizen, and no white person who has intermarried with a Cherokee citizen since the sixteenth day of December, eighteen hundred and ninety-five, shall be entitled to enrollment or to participate in the distribution of the tribal property of the Cherokee Nation.

Sec. 27 Such rolls shall in all other respects be made in strict compliance with the provisions of section twenty-one of the Act of Congress approved June twenty-eighth, eighteen hundred and ninety-eight (Thirtieth Statutes, page four hundred and ninety-eight), and the Act of Congress approved May thirty-first, nineteen hundred (Thirty-first Statutes, page two hundred and twenty-one).

Sec. 28 No person whose name appears upon the roll made by the Dawes Commission as a citizen or freedman of any other tribe shall be enrolled as a citizen of the Cherokee Nation.

Sec. 29 For the purpose of expediting the enrollment of the Cherokee citizens and the allotment of lands as herein provided, the said Commission shall, from time to time, and as soon as practicable, forward to the Secretary of the Interior lists upon which shall be placed the names of those persons found by the Commission to be entitled to enrollment. The lists thus prepared, when approved by the Secretary of the Interior, shall constitute a part and parcel of the final roll of citizens of the Cherokee tribe, upon which allotment of land and distribution of other tribal property shall be made. When there shall have been submitted to and approved by the Secretary of the Interior lists embracing the names of all those lawfully entitled to enrollment, the roll shall be deemed complete. The roll so prepared shall be made in quadruplicate, one to be deposited with the Secretary of the Interior, one with the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, one with the principal chief of the Cherokee Nation, and one to remain with the Commission to the Five Civilized Tribes.

Sec. 30 During the months of September and October, in the year nineteen hundred and two, the Commission to the Five Civilized Tribes may cause to be made an enrollment of such infant children as may have been born to recognized and enrolled citizens of the Cherokee Nation on or before the first day of September, nineteen hundred and two, but the application of no person whose date of enrollment shall be removed after the thirty-first day of October, nineteen hundred and two.

Sec. 31 No person whose name does not appear upon the roll prepared as herein provided shall be entitled to in any manner participate in the distribution of the common property of the Cherokee tribe, and those whose names appear thereon shall participate in the manner set forth in this Act. That an allotment of land or other tribal property shall be made to any person, or to the heirs of any person, whose name is on said roll and who died prior to the first day of September, nineteen hundred and two. The right of such person in any interest in the lands or other tribal property shall be deemed to have become extinguished and to have passed to the tribe in general upon his death before said date, and any person or persons who may conceal the death of anyone on said roll as aforesaid for the purpose of profiting by said concealment, and who shall knowingly reserve any portion of any land or other tribal property or of the proceeds so arising from any allotment prohibited by this section, shall

¹ 260 U. S. 229 (1922).

² 30 Stat. 567, supple. by Act of June 2, 1900, 81 Stat. 250.

³ Act of June 28, 1898, 80 Stat. 495 (Cherokee-Chickasaw); Act of March 1, 1901, 81 Stat. 801, supple. by Act of June 30, 1902, 82 Stat. 600 (Cherokee); Act of July 1, 1902, 82 Stat. 716 (Cherokee).

⁴ Act of June 2, 1900, 81 Stat. 260 (Seminole); Act of March 1, 1901, 81 Stat. 801 (Cherokee); Act of June 30, 1902, 82 Stat. 600 (Cherokee); Act of July 1, 1902, 82 Stat. 641 (Cherokee-Chickasaw); Act of July 1, 1902, 82 Stat. 716 (Cherokee).

⁵ Sec. 30 of the Act of July 1, 1902, 32 Stat. 641, was considered by the court in *Gartfield v. Godfrey*, 211 U. S. 249 (1908).

⁶ Act of July 1, 1902, 82 Stat. 716.

be deemed guilty of a felony and shall be proceeded against as may be provided in other cases of felony, and the penalty for this offense shall be confinement at hard labor for a period of not less than one year nor more than five years, and in addition thereof a forfeiture to the Cherokee Nation of the lands, other real property, and possessions so obtained.

"The Choctaw- Chickasaw Agreement" contained an unusual enrollment device. A quasi-judicial body was established in sections 91-93, which has been described as follows:—

"It appears that the agreement in these paragraphs provides for the establishment of the Choctaw and Chickasaw Citizenship Court, and gives it jurisdiction of a test suit to annul and vacate the decisions of the United States courts in the Indian Territory admitting persons to citizenship and enrollment as citizens of the Choctaw and Chickasaw nations, respectively, on the ground of want of notice to both of said nations and because the United States courts acted with abuse of power. With a trial, in the event such judgments should be annulled because of either or both of the irregularities mentioned on the part of any party thus deprived of a favorable judgment to remove his case to the Citizenship court, where such further proceedings were to be had therein as ought to have been had in the court to which the same was taken on appeal from the Commission to the Five Civilized Tribes, and if no judgment or decision had been rendered fifteen days after the appeal was taken, or judgment of the courts in Indian Territory, rendered under said act of Congress of June tenth, eighteen hundred and ninety-six, admitting persons to citizenship or to enrollment in either of said nations." In the exercise of such appellate jurisdiction the citizenship court was "authorized to consider, review, and reverse all such judgments, both as to findings of fact and conclusions of law, and may, whenever in its judgment substantial justice will thereby be subserved, permit either party to any such appeal to take and present such further course as may be necessary to enable said court to determine the very right of the controversy."

"It will be noted that the agreement further provides (paragraph 89) that 'the judgment of the citizenship court in any or all of the suits or proceedings so committed to its jurisdiction shall be final.' (P. 143.)

Congress was now anxious to bring to a close the work of enrollment, and in 1904, 1905, and 1906 legislative steps were taken to bring this about. These have been summarized by the Attorney General:—

"By the act of April 21, 1904 (33 Stat. 189, 201), it was provided that the Commission to the Five Civilized Tribes should conclude its work and terminate on or before July 1, 1905, and cease to exist on that date, the powers heretofore conferred upon it being continued.

"By the act of March 3, 1905 (33 Stat. 1048, 1060), it was provided 'that the work of completing the unfinished business, if any, of the Commission to the Five Civilized Tribes shall devolve upon the Secretary of the Interior, and that all the powers heretofore granted to the said Commission to the Five Civilized Tribes are hereby conferred upon the said Secretary on and after the first of July, nineteen hundred and five.'"

"By the act of April 20, 1906 (34 Stat. 187), it was provided:

"That after the approval of this act no person shall be enrolled as a citizen or freedman of the Choctaw, Chickasaw, Cherokee, Creek, or Seminole tribes of Indians in the Indian Territory, except as herein otherwise provided, unless application for enrollment was made prior to December first, nineteen hundred and five, and the records in charge of the Commissioner to the Five Civilized Tribes shall be conclusive evidence as to the fact of such application, and no motion to reopen or reconsider any citizenship case, in any of said tribes, shall be entertained unless

filed with the Commissioner to the Five Civilized Tribes within sixty days after the date of the order or decision sought to be reconsidered except as to decisions made prior to the passage of this act, in which cases such motion shall be made within sixty days after the passage of this act."

By that time the rolls of citizenship of the several tribes were required to be completed by March 4, 1907 (19 P. 112-113).

The act of May 27, 1908," made conclusive the enrollment records of the Commissioner to the Five Civilized Tribes as to the age of the citizens and freedmen. At the request of Mr. Bledsoe, the Commissioner prepared the following statement of what constituted the enrollment records in his office:

"The enrollment records in the matter of the enrollment of any person as a citizen or freedman of the Five Civilized Tribes, consist of the application made for their enrollment, together with all of the records, evidence and other papers filed in connection therewith prior to the rendition of the decision granting the application.

"In the early days of enrollment in the Five Civilized Tribes appointments were made by the Commission at various places in the different nations at which the Indians and freedmen appeared to make application for enrollment. At that time the applicants were duly sworn before a notary public, but their testimony was only taken orally and placed upon a card, with the exception of the Choctaw. Written testimony was taken in all Choctaw cases. In a great majority of the early enrollments, except Choctaw cases, the only records shown are the statements that were thus taken from the applicants personally and placed on the cards, which constitute the enrollment record, together with other oral evidence that may have been obtained. In a great many instances, at that time, where there was doubt as to the rights of the applicants to enrollment, and they could not then be identified from the tribal rolls, the written testimony of the applicants was taken and made a part of the record. Additional testimony was also taken at later dates.

"As the work proceeded, and the enrollment of all persons in blood or intermarriage, and freedmen, who were clearly identified upon the tribal rolls, was completed, written testimony was taken in all doubtful cases. Written testimony was also taken in all applications made for the identification of Mississippi Choctaws, and in practically all other cases as the work neared completion.

"The tribal rolls of the various nations came into the possession of the Commissioner to the Five Civilized Tribes, and were used for identification and as a basis for enrollment.

"As enrollments were completed, the names of all persons whom the Commission had decided were entitled to enrollment were placed on the rolls. These rolls show the name, age, sex, degree of blood, and the number of the census card, which is generally known as the "enrollment card," on which each citizen was enrolled, and a number was placed opposite each name appearing on this roll, beginning at 1 and running down until the last number was completed. This roll was made out in quadruplicate and forwarded to the Secretary of the Interior for his approval, who approved same if he found no objections thereto and returned the same copies for the files of this office. The roll thus approved is known as the "approval roll," and is the basis on which allotments were made, except in the cases of a large number of Choctaws, to whom allotments were made before the approval of their enrollment, which allotments were subsequently confirmed by Congress.

"The Secretary of the Interior holds, for the purposes of the government, that the date of the application to enrollment shall be continued as the date of the annu-

¹ 35 Stat. 312, sec. 2.

² Of the applicants, 101,228 were enrolled. Of these, 2,506 were intermarried persons, 23,882, freedmen, 69,071, mixed bloods, and 24,909, full blood. Rept. Comm. Ind. Aff., 1907, p. 112.

³ Bledsoe, *op. cit.*, p. 190.

⁴ Act of July 1, 1902, 32 Stat. 851 (Choctaw-Chickasaw).

⁵ 28 Op. A. G. 138 (1907).

⁶ 26 Op. A. G. 127 (1907).

versary of the birth of the applicant, unless the records show otherwise.

The Act of Congress makes the enrollment records of the Commissioner to the Five Civilized Tribes conclusive evidence in determining the ages of allottees of the Five Civilized Tribes. "The enrollment records consist of

First, what is known as the "census card," that is, the card on which the applicant was listed for enrollment. Sometimes in the early enrollment some persons were listed on what is known as a "doubtful card," and later on the names appearing on the doubtful cards were transferred to a regular census card, when the Commissioner rendered his decision holding that they were entitled to enrollment. It has been observed, in looking over the enrollment records in many cases, that sometimes the date shown on the lower right-hand corner is the date on which they were transferred from the doubtful card, and not the date on which application was made for their enrollment. In such cases, in the absence of any other testimony or evidence, the date shown on the doubtful card is the date on which application was made for enrollment.

SECTION 3. ALIENATION AND TAXATION OF ALLOTTED LANDS OF FIVE TRIBES

Basic statutes controlling the alienability and invalidity of the lands of individual members of the Five Civilized Tribes may be divided into two groups. Those dealing with specific tribes and those applicable in all of the Five Civilized Tribes."

"A few statutes applied in part to the Five Civilized Tribes and in part to one of the tribes. The following are the statutes which relate to the Five Civilized Tribes: The Act of June 28, 1908, 20 Stat. 465. The latter part (§§ 353-315) comprised the Alaska Agreement with the Chockchee and Chickasaw which is discussed in sec 811 of this chapter. The only portion of the Chickasaw Act supplemental to the Act of March 1, 1890, 26 Stat. 755, see 15, Act of March 2, 1900, 30 Stat. 51, Act of March 3, 1901, 27 Stat. 912, 941; Act of June 10, 1900, 20 Stat. 321, 329. It was supplemented by the Act of March 3, 1890, 30 Stat. 1074, Act of March 3, 1900, 30 Stat. 1211, Act of June 2, 1900, 31 Stat. 350, Act of March 1, 1901, 31 Stat. 848, Act of March 1, 1901, 31 Stat. 861, Act of July 1, 1902, 32 Stat. 710, Act of January 21, 1903, 32 Stat. 774, and was cited in *Cabell v. V. Deceuil* and *Principle of Indian Lands* (1982) 3 Okla. S. H. 204, 1903, *Hennrich*, *Principle of the Indian Law* and the Act of June 18, 1911 (1911), 31 Stat. 1011, 1012, 1013, 1014, 1015, 1016, 1017, 1018, 1019, 1020, 1021, 1022, 1023, 1024, 1025, 1026, 1027, 1028, 1029, 1030, 1031, 1032, 1033, 1034, 1035, 1036, 1037, 1038, 1039, 1040, 1041, 1042, 1043, 1044, 1045, 1046, 1047, 1048, 1049, 1050, 1051, 1052, 1053, 1054, 1055, 1056, 1057, 1058, 1059, 1060, 1061, 1062, 1063, 1064, 1065, 1066, 1067, 1068, 1069, 1070, 1071, 1072, 1073, 1074, 1075, 1076, 1077, 1078, 1079, 1080, 1081, 1082, 1083, 1084, 1085, 1086, 1087, 1088, 1089, 1090, 1091, 1092, 1093, 1094, 1095, 1096, 1097, 1098, 1099, 1100, 1101, 1102, 1103, 1104, 1105, 1106, 1107, 1108, 1109, 1110, 1111, 1112, 1113, 1114, 1115, 1116, 1117, 1118, 1119, 1120, 1121, 1122, 1123, 1124, 1125, 1126, 1127, 1128, 1129, 1130, 1131, 1132, 1133, 1134, 1135, 1136, 1137, 1138, 1139, 1140, 1141, 1142, 1143, 1144, 1145, 1146, 1147, 1148, 1149, 1150, 1151, 1152, 1153, 1154, 1155, 1156, 1157, 1158, 1159, 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for the allotment of the tribal land in severally.⁷⁵ In contrast to the General Allotment Act,⁷⁶ the legal title to the lands so allotted vested in each instance in the allottee. Exemption from taxation was provided either expressly or by restricting the allotment against alienation. The extent of the exemption in the duration of the restriction varied with each agreement.⁷⁷

A CHEROKEES

The Cherokee Allotment Act¹ provided for the selection of a homestead of value equal to 40 acres, unalienable during the lifetime of the allottee, not exceeding 21 years from the date of

²⁰ On the relations of the United States and the Choctaw and Chickasaw Indians in regard to the allotment of lands and the restrictions on alienation, see *Mullen v. United States*, 224 U.S. 414 (1912), on history of allotments of Choctaw and other nations see *Tyng v. Western Investment Co.*, 241 U.S. 286 (1911).

¹⁹ Act of February 4 1897, 21 Stat. 388 25 11 4 11 711 349,
119 141, 149, 151, and 342

²⁰ *Driller v. Miller*, 24 F.2d 81 (1st C. A. 8, 1927). Also see *Shaw v. Lewis*, 105 F.2d 998 (C. A. 10, 1939) (aff. den. (all Sup. Ct. 110
For a discussion of some allottment problems of the Five Civilized Tribes
see 27 Op. A. G. 530 (1909)). On restrictions on alienation see *Bleeker v. Oklahoma Indian Land Laws*, 2d ed. 1913 pp. 12-137. The Attorney
General in 94 Op. A. G. 275 (1924) gave the following description of
the background of the allottment agreements:

Finally, by the Act of March 3, 1891 (27 Stat. 62), §§ 1, 6, 7, 15 and 19), the Commission of Five Civilized Tribes, commonly referred to as the Dawes Commission, was created to enter into negotiations with the Five Indian Nations for the purpose of extinguishing the national or tribal title to any lands in that Territory held in common by the Five Indian Nations and to divide the individual Indian or such other just and equitable method as might be agreed upon between the Indians and the United States. After three years of negotiation, the commission was

indefinite period of time. (20 Nat. 319-320), the commission was directed to prepare lists of the titles as preliminary to the final report. The report was made in 1891, and, although asserting the authority of the United States over the Indian Territory, Congress announced that it is hereby declared to be the policy of the United States to establish no title in the Territory which will strip the many inequalities and disadvantages now existing in said Territory, and afford needed protection to the Indians and the white settlers. The title, therefore, and by mandatory direction to the committee be made clear is intended to be understood as not being intended to be assigned or not. All of the titles, essentially made by the Cherokee.

Under these conditions Congress passed the Act of June 24, 1896, (29 Stat. 496), which provided for the final report of the preliminary measures for allotment. The foregoing plan was followed, and the final report was made in 1897, and the report under which the titles moved on to their last long look and under which they had continued their final relations, that they were to be made final. The final report was made in 1897, and the allottees to obtain their consent to a relinquishment of the interest in the tribal property to a division in severalty.

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¹ Act of July 1, 1902, 32 Stat 718 Amending Act of June 28 1898, 30 Stat 495, Act of May 31, 1900, 31 Stat 221 Supplemented by Act of March 8, 1903, 32 Stat 932, Act of June 21 1906, 34 Stat 225, Act of June 30, 1906, 34 Stat 634, Act of March 1, 1907, 34 Stat 1015, Act of August 1, 1914, 38 Stat 582

[illegible]

the allotment certificate. During the time the homestead is held by the allottee it is made non-taxable by the act.¹⁰

The grant of land expressly declared non-taxable by the Cherokee Agreement extended only to the homestead. Whatever exemption from taxation the surplus enjoyed was by reason of general restrictions upon alienation.⁸⁹

B CHOCTAWS AND CHICKASAWS

The Alok Agreement, embodied in the Curtis Act,¹¹ provided for the allotment of surface rights to lands of the Cherokees and Chickasaws in Indian Territory and stated that

[illegible]

The Attorney General said in 11 Op. A. G. 275, 270 (1924)

The tribal lands of the Cherokees, were allotted in severally pursuant to an agreement with them as set forth in the Act of July 1, 1902 (32 Stat 776), under which (Sec 11), the members each received an allotment of land equal in value to 110 acres of the average allottable land of the tribe.

An agreement for the allotment of lands of the Cherokee ratified by Congress by Act of March 1 1901, ch Stat 848, failed of ratification by the tribe. A previous agreement concluded between the Cherokee Communitarians and the Commission to the Five Civilized Tribes on January 14, 1890, and ratified by the tribe January 31, 1890, was not ratified by Congress. *Mulh. Oklahoma Indian Land Laws*, 2d ed (1924), p 10

*This provision also has been held to create a vested right to a homestead tax exemption which is protected by the Fifth Amendment. *Board of Commrs of Tulsa County, Okla v United States*, 51 F 2d 450 (C A 10, 1938), *Grolok v Shickley*, 140 Okla 178, 282 Pac 611 (1924), *Wheeler v Anderson*, 30 Okla 288, 128 Pac 264 (1912), *Whitcomb v Trapp*, 33 Okla 429, 126 Pac 578 (1914). *United States v Board of County Commrs (Tulsa County)*, 19 F Supp 985 (D C N D Okla, 1937), aff'd sub nom *Board of Commrs of Tulsa County, Okla v United States*, 84 F 2d 24 450 (C A 10 1938).

²⁰ See *Rider v Helms*, 48 Okla. 610, 160 Pac. 154 (1917). For cases dealing with taxability of surplus, lands see *Kidd v Robert*, 48 Okla. 603, 143 Pac. 862 (1914), *Brown v Denny*, 52 Okla. 980, 152 Pac. 1101 (1918).

7 Act of June 28, 1808, 30 Stat 405, 506-518 Supplementing
 Treaty of September 27, 1850, with Chactaw Nation, 7 Stat 332.
 Treaty of June 29, 1832, with the Chickasaw, 10 Stat 476, Treaty
 of July 1, 1832, with the Chickasaw, 10 Stat 477, 478.
 Supplemental by Act of December 21, 1808 80 Stat 770, Act of
 February 9, 1900, 31 Stat 7, Act of May 8, 1900, 31 Stat 221,
 Act of March 9, 1901, 31 Stat 1058, Act of April 29, 1902, 62 Stat
 1042, 63 Stat 1042, 64 Stat 1042, 65 Stat 1042, 66 Stat 1042.
 Stat 641 Act of April 21, 1904, 33 Stat 189, Act of April 28, 1904,
 33 Stat 671, Act of March 8, 1905, 37 Stat 1048, Act of March 29,
 1906, 34 Stat 61. Act of June 21, 1906, 34 Stat 325, Act of March 1,
 1907, 35 Stat 1042, 36 Stat 1042, 37 Stat 1042, 38 Stat 1042.
 Cited 28 Op. A. G. 211 (1900), 24 Op. A. G. 808 (1908), 25 Op.
 A. G. 430 (1909), 26 Op. A. G. 127 (1907), 27 Op. A. G. 570 (1908),
 39 Op. A. G. 131 (1911), 39 Op. A. G. 231 (1913), 84 Op. A. G. 275
 (1918), 85 Op. A. G. 275 (1919), 86 Op. A. G. 275 (1920).
 Adams, 1029, 61 I D 302 (1831), *Alaska Coal & Mining Co v*
Adams, 4 Tod T 180, 63 S W 589 (1890), *Alaska Coal & Mining Co v*
Adams, 1904, 1904 Fed 471 (C. C. S. 1900), *Battlinger v United States*
Trust Co, 1904, 1904 Fed 471 (C. C. S. 1900), *United States v*
Adams, 1905, 1905 Fed 471 (C. C. S. 1900), *United States v*
Adams, 1906, 1906 Fed 471 (C. C. S. 1900), *United States v*
Adams, 1907, 1907 Fed 471 (C. C. S. 1900), *United States v*
Adams, 1908, 1908 Fed 471 (C. C. S. 1900), *United States v*
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Adams, 1920, 1920 Fed 471 (C. C. S. 1900), *United States v*
Adams, 1921, 1921 Fed 471 (C. C. S. 1900), *United States v*
Adams, 1922, 1922 Fed 471 (C. C. S. 1900), *United States v*
Adams, 1923, 1923 Fed 471 (C. C. S. 1900), *United States v*
Adams, 1924, 1924 Fed 471 (C. C. S. 1900), *United States v*
Adams, 1925, 1925 Fed 471 (C. C. S. 1900), *United States v*
Adams, 1926, 1926 Fed 471 (C. C. S. 1900), *United States v*
Adams, 1927, 1927 Fed 471 (C. C. S. 1900), *United States v*
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Adams, 1931, 1931 Fed 471 (C. C. S. 1900), *United States v*
Adams, 1932, 1932 Fed 471 (C. C. S. 1900), *United States v*
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Adams, 1934, 1934 Fed 471 (C. C. S. 1900), *United States v*
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Adams, 1936, 1936 Fed 471 (C. C. S. 1900), *United States v*
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Adams, 1938, 1938 Fed 471 (C. C. S. 1900), *United States v*
Adams, 1939, 1939 Fed 471 (C. C. S. 1900), *United States v*
Adams, 1940, 1940 Fed 471 (C. C. S. 1900), *United States v*
Adams, 1941, 1941 Fed 471 (C. C. S. 1900), *United States v*
Adams, 1942, 1942 Fed 471 (C. C. S. 1900), *United States v*
Adams, 1943, 1943 Fed 471 (C. C. S. 1900), *United States v*
Adams, 1944, 1944 Fed 471 (C. C. S. 1900), *United States v*
Adams, 1945, 1945 Fed 471 (C. C. S. 1900), *United States v*
Adams, 1946, 1946 Fed 471 (C. C. S. 1900), *United States v*
Adams, 1947, 1947 Fed 471 (C. C. S. 1900), *United States v*
Adams, 1948, 1948 Fed 471 (C. C. S. 1900), *United States v*
Adams, 1949, 1949 Fed 471 (C. C. S. 1900), *United States v*
Adams, 1950, 1950 Fed 471 (C. C. S. 1900), *United States v*
Adams, 1951, 1951 Fed 471 (C. C. S. 1900), *United States v*
Adams, 1952, 1952 Fed 471 (C. C. S. 1900), *United States v*
Adams, 1953, 1953 Fed 471 (C. C. S. 1900), *United States v*
Adams, 1954, 1954 Fed 471 (C. C. S. 1900), *United States v*
Adams, 1955, 1955 Fed 471 (C. C. S. 1900), *United States v*
Adams, 1956, 1956 Fed 471 (C. C. S. 1900), *United States v*
Adams, 1957, 1957 Fed 471 (C. C. S. 1900), *United States v*
Adams, 1958, 1958 Fed 471 (C. C. S. 1900), *United States v*
Adams, 1959, 1959 Fed 471 (C. C. S. 1900), *United States v*
Adams, 1960, 1960 Fed 471 (C. C. S. 1900), *United States v*
Adams, 1961, 1961 Fed 471 (C. C. S. 1900), *United States v*
Adams, 1962, 1962 Fed 471 (C. C. S. 1900), *United States v*
Adams, 1963, 1963 Fed 471 (C. C. S. 1900), *United States v*
Adams, 1964, 1964 Fed 471 (C. C. S. 1900), *United States v*
Adams, 1965, 1965 Fed 471 (C. C. S. 1900), *United States v*
Adams, 1966, 1966 Fed 471 (C. C. S. 1900), *United States v*
Adams, 1967, 1967 Fed 471 (C. C. S. 1900), *United States v*
Adams, 1968, 1968 Fed 471 (C. C. S. 1900), *United States v*
Adams, 1969, 1969 Fed 471 (C. C. S. 1900), *United States v*
Adams, 1970, 1970 Fed 471 (C. C. S. 1900), *United States v*
Adams, 1971, 1971 Fed 471 (C. C. S. 1900), *United States v*

The act further directed the issuance of patents and stated that

All the lands allotted shall be non-taxable while the title remains in the original allottee, but not to exceed twenty-one years from date of patent, and each allottee shall select from his allotment a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres, for which he shall have a separate patent, and which shall be maintainable for twenty-one years from date of patent.

The leading case of *Choate v. Trapp*¹ held that under this statute allottees acquired a vested property right to exemption from state taxation which was binding on Oklahoma and could not be impugned by subsequent congressional action without violation of the Fifth Amendment of the Federal Constitution. The exemption extends to prevent the state from imposing a tax on oil and gas royalties accruing to the Indian owner under a lease of the allotment.² The exemption does not, however, run with the land, and therefore does not attach in favor of the heirs or grantees.³

The Choctaw and Chickasaw freedmen, unlike the freedmen of the other tribes, were not members of the tribes, and their right of participation in the lands of the nations extended only to 40 acres each. The claim of the Choctaw freedmen was based upon the action of the Choctaw Nation in bestowing such right in pursuance of the treaty with the United States of 1866.⁴ The Chickasaws took no action to secure the rights of their freedmen under said treaty and allotments of 40 acres each were made to them by virtue of section 23 of the Atoka Agreement, which exempted the lands of the members of the tribes from taxation, and specified that

* * * This provision shall also apply to the Choctaw and Chickasaw freedmen to the extent of his allotment.

It has been held that the allotments of Chickasaw freedmen under the Atoka Agreement and 1902 supplemental agreement became inoperative when the Act of May 27, 1908 removed the tax exemption.⁵ In distinguishing the case of *Choate v. Trapp*, the court declared that the exemption enjoyed by members of the tribes could not be allocated by Congress because it had been granted in consideration of this relinquishment of some or their rights and therefore vested in the Indians a property right of which they could not be deprived under the Fifth Amendment of the Constitution, but that the freedmen had relinquished nothing and were therefore in a different position, and that by the terms of the Atoka Agreement, the rights of the freedmen remained subject to subsequent acts of Congress, and therefore the tax exemption could be removed.

The same reasoning would seem equally applicable to the Choctaw freedmen.

C CREEKS⁶

Under the Creek Agreements⁷ allotments were made inalienable for 5 years from June 30, 1902, and each citizen was allowed to

* * * select from his allotment forty acres of land, in a quarter of a quarter section, as a homestead, which

was held to be the Creek's most common practice as a tribe that has also extended to in various relations of citizens, judicial opinions and administrative rulings as a continuing consisting of tribes, bands or towns. Thus in *Mitchell v. United States*, 9 Fed. 731 (1915) the Supreme Court upheld land titles based upon "checks from various tribes of Indians belonging to the great Creek Confederacy" (11 p. 725) and see *Memo* Reel I D July 16 1937, cited in Chapter 14, sec. 1. Creek "towns" which have adopted tribal constitutions are "Indianities Tribal Town" (constitution ratified December 27 1938, charter ratified April 14 1949) and Alabama (constitution Tribal Town (constitution ratified January 10 1939, charter ratified May 24 1939).

¹ Original agreement Act of March 1, 1901, 31 Stat. 861 Supplementing Act of March 24, 1864, 7 Mar. 860, 867, Act of June 13 1906, 34 Stat. 775, 787, Act of June 29 1908 20 Stat. 495, 498, 500 520 Amended by Act of June 30, 1902, 32 Stat. 600 Repealed in part, Act of June 30, 1902, 32 Stat. 600 Supplemental in part, Act of June 30 1902, 32 Stat. 600 Act of March 3, 1904, 32 Stat. 182, Act of March 3 1905 34 Stat. 1048, Act of August 1, 1911, 36 Stat. 682, Act of August 21, 1922 42 Stat. 841 (Cited 24 Op. A. G. 628 (1907), 3 Op. A. G. 164 (1901) 81 Op. A. G. 276 (1924), Op. Reel I D D 10462 October 11, 1917, Op. Reel I D D 106520, December 13, 1928, Memo Reel I D, September 17, 1910, 73 I D 502 (1921), *Amstrong v. Wood*, 193 Fed. 187 (C. C. E. D. Okla., 1911), *Boggy v. United States*, 90 F. 2d 30 (C. C. A. 10, 1912), *Balliet v. Okla. Oil Co.*, 215 Fed. 160 (10 C. C. 38 U. Okla., 1914), *Brown v. Bell*, 192 Fed. 427 (C. C. B. D. Okla., 1911), *Brown v. United States*, 27 F. 2d 271 (C. C. A. 8, 1928), *Brown v. United States*, 6 F. 2d 801 (C. C. A. 8, 1928), (see also 240 U. S. 505 (1925), *Bryce v. Wright*, 135 Fed. 947 (C. C. A. 8, 1907), app. dismissed 203 U. S. 507, *Campbell v. Wadsworth*, 243 U. S. 169 (1918), *Capital Transit Co. v. Fox*, 8 Ind. T. 225 (1900), *Center Oil Co. v. Scott*, 12 F. 2d 780 (D. C. N. D. Okla., 1929), *Corbett v. Knight v. Center Oil Co.*, 21 F. 2d 491 (C. C. A. 8, 1927), *Choctaw Oil & Gas Co. v. Jackson*, 390 U. S. 321 (1923), *City of Tulsa v. Southwestern Bell Tel. Co.*, 75 F. 2d 843 (1925), cert. den. 206 U. S. 744, *Creek Nation v. United States*, 78 C. Cl. 474 (1903), *Brown v. Victor*, 204 Fed. 801 (C. C. A. 8, 1912), *De la Paro*, 276, 225 U. S. 608 (1912), *Fink v. County Commissioners*, 248 U. S. 509 (1919), *Fink v. Wren*, 32 F. 2d 844 (C. C. A. 10, 1921), cert. den. 282 U. S. 804 (1931), 284 U. S. 688 (1932), *Fork v. United States*, 248 Fed. 377 (C. C. A. 8, 1916), *Fulton v. Quaker Oil & Gas Co.*, 86 F. 2d 34 (C. C. A. 8, 1929), *Galeman v. McCollough*, 248 U. S. 178 (1919), *Garrison v. Harris*, 287 U. S. 853 (1932), *Harris v. Bell*, 254 U. S. 108 (1920), *Harris v. Hardidge*, 7 Ind. T. 572 (1907), *Harris v. Hardidge*, 196 Fed. 109 (C. C. A. 8, 1908), *Hawkins v. Okla. Oil Co.* 195 Fed. 715 (C. C. E. D. Okla. 1911), *Hopkins v. United States*, 236 Fed. 93 (C. C. A. 8, 1910), *In re Lands of Free, Civilized Tribes*, 109 Fed. 811 (D. C. E. D. Okla. 1912), *Judson L. v. T. Co. v. Shocfield*, 5 Ind. T. 41 (1904), *Levy* by 185 Fed. 484 (1905), *Love Land v. Trust Co. v. United States*, 217 Fed. 11 (C. C. A. 8, 1914), *Officer v. Fink*, 247 U. S. 288 (1918), *Janney v. United States ex rel. Humphrey*, 88 F. 2d 471 (C. C. A. 8, 1930), *Joplin Mercantile Co. v. United States*, 286 U. S. 541 (1915), *Kempah v. Shaffer Oil & Refining Co.*, 48 F. 2d 605 (D. C. N. D. Okla., 1930), *Knox v. Jones*, 64 F. 2d 979 (App. D. C. 1944), *Langley v. Center Oil Co.*, 28 F. 2d 481 (C. C. A. 8, 1927), *Locke v. Manning*, 287 Fed. 276 (C. C. A. 8, 1928), *Mims v. Kansas & Texas Ry. Co. v. United States*, 37 C. Cls. 59 (1911), *McDougal v. McKean*, 287 U. S. 772 (1913), *McKean v. H. 201 Fed. 74 (C. C. A. 8, 1912), Malone v. Alford*, 212 Fed. 568 (C. C. A. 8, 1914), *Mandley v. United States*, 49 F. 2d 201 (C. C. A. 10, 1931), *Mandley v. United States*, 62 F. 2d 713 (C. C. A. 10, 1941), *Martin v. Leavelle*, 276 U. S. 58 (1928), *Marrison v. United States*, 6 F. 2d 811 (C. C. A. 8,

¹ Act of June 28, 1898, 30 Stat. 495, 507, sec. 29. See fo 81 *supra*.

² 224 U. S. 905 (1912), followed in *Garrison v. Wood*, 224 U. S. 879 (1912). See Chapter 18, sec. 13, 7A.

³ *Carpenter v. Shaw*, 280 U. S. 883 (1930). The court reasoned that since the royalty interest was a right attached to the landowner's interest in the land, the royalty was not taxable.

⁴ *Bryce v. Wright*, 135 Fed. 947 (C. C. A. 8, 1907).

⁵ Treaty of April 28, 1905, Art. 14, 34 Stat. 760.

⁶ *Allen v. Tyummen*, 45 Okla. 83, 114 Pac. 705 (1914), writ of error 248 U. S. 690 (1918).

E FIVE CIVILIZED TRIBES AS A GROUP

Shortly after the passage of these special allotment acts Congress began to legislate for the Five Civilized Tribes as a group.¹⁰⁰

The link between restrictions and tax exemptions is clearly demonstrated by the Act of April 26, 1906,¹⁰ providing for the

¹⁰⁶ For many years there was a congressional committee on the Five Civilized Tribes in addition to the Committee on Indian Affairs. See, for example, Act of April 17, 1900, 31 Stat. 81, 85, Act of March 3, 1901, 31 Stat. 960, 961.

Also see 49 F. 11 345 (1922), and 58 F. 11 48 (1920), which states, among other things,

B) Inter legislation as found in the acts of April 26, 1906, (1 Stat. 1375) and May 27, 1908 (35 Stat. 1123). Congress set up a new and uniform set of restrictions applicable alike to all of the Five Civilized Tribes. Without discussing the provisions of this later legislation in detail it is sufficient for present purposes to point out that the restriction against abduction of lands, all rights of hunting and fishing, and the right to take game and fowl and their carcasses and bloods, and therefore removed is in no way as prior law was continued to April 26, 1904 and the restrictions as to certain other lands were removed with the provisions which have already been mentioned. The provisions of the Statute of 1906 would therefore become subject to taxation in the State (1906, p. 90).

Other statutes dealing with allotments of the Five Civilized Tribes include

Act of August 24, 1912, c 802 77 Stat 407 Amending Act of April 26, 1906, 14 Stat 137 Cited in Memo No I D May 19 1940, *Bunting v United States*, 299 Fed 438 (C C A 8, 1924) This act authorized the Secretary of the Interior to sell land and timber reserved from allotment under sec 7 of the Act of April 26, 1906, 14 Stat 137 *infra*, in 101

The Act of June 28 1908, 30 Stat. 495, see for 78, supra.
The disposition of timber belonging to these tribes was also dealt with
in the Act of January 21 1904 43 Stat. 774 Supplementing the Act of
February 8 1887, 24 Stat. 388, Act of May 27 1902 42 Stat. 215
Repeated in part by the Act of March 3 1905, 33 Stat. 1048 Sup-
plementing the Act of March 3 1901, 42 Stat. 982, Act of June 21 1904,
44 Stat. 425 (repealed by Pub. L. 2, 37 Stat. 211, April 12, 1907, by
Anderson, 131 Fed. 79 (C. S. R., 1904) United States v. Gibson
201 Fed. 201 (C. S. R., 1912), appeal dismissed 210 U. S. 639, The Indians v.
United States, 46 C. C. 440 (1910).

Art. at March 27, 1914, 75 St. 310, as amended by the Act of March 2 1921 1 St. 1201, which provided for the drainage of Indian alluvial deposits of the Piro Civilized Tribes. For other statutes dealing with the drainage of the Piro Civilized Tribes, see 1917, 1918, 1919, 1920, 1921, supplementing Act of March 1, 1901, 21 St. 881, 893, At. at June 10 1902, 23 Min. 600, 603, At. at March 3, 1903, 42 St. 982, 986, April 3, 1904, 45 St. 189, 204, At. at April 20, 1906, 54 St. 131, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, 231, 232, 233, 234, 235, 236, 237, 238, 239, 240, 241, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 250, 251, 252, 253, 254, 255, 256, 257, 258, 259, 260, 261, 262, 263, 264, 265, 266, 267, 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 273, 274, 275, 276, 277, 278, 279, 280, 281, 282, 283, 284, 285, 286, 287, 288, 289, 290, 291, 292, 293, 294, 295, 296, 297, 298, 299, 300, 301, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 307, 308, 309, 310, 311, 312, 313, 314, 315, 316, 317, 318, 319, 320, 321, 322, 323, 324, 325, 326, 327, 328, 329, 330, 331, 332, 333, 334, 335, 336, 337, 338, 339, 340, 341, 342, 343, 344, 345, 346, 347, 348, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360, 361, 362, 363, 364, 365, 366, 367, 368, 369, 370, 371, 372, 373, 374, 375, 376, 377, 378, 379, 380, 381, 382, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 389, 390, 391, 392, 393, 394, 395, 396, 397, 398, 399, 400, 401, 402, 403, 404, 405, 406, 407, 408, 409, 410, 411, 412, 413, 414, 415, 416, 417, 418, 419, 420, 421, 422, 423, 424, 425, 426, 427, 428, 429, 430, 431, 432, 433, 434, 435, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 443, 444, 445, 446, 447, 448, 449, 450, 451, 452, 453, 454, 455, 456, 457, 458, 459, 460, 461, 462, 463, 464, 465, 466, 467, 468, 469, 470, 471, 472, 473, 474, 475, 476, 477, 478, 479, 480, 481, 482, 483, 484, 485, 486, 487, 488, 489, 490, 491, 492, 493, 494, 495, 496, 497, 498, 499, 500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510, 511, 512, 513, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 533, 534, 535, 536, 537, 538, 539, 540, 541, 542, 543, 544, 545, 546, 547, 548, 549, 550, 551, 552, 553, 554, 555, 556, 557, 558, 559, 560, 561, 562, 563, 564, 565, 566, 567, 568, 569, 570, 571, 572, 573, 574, 575, 576, 577, 578, 579, 580, 581, 582, 583, 584, 585, 586, 587, 588, 589, 590, 591, 592, 593, 594, 595, 596, 597, 598, 599, 600, 601, 602, 603, 604, 605, 606, 607, 608, 609, 610, 611, 612, 613, 614, 615, 616, 617, 618, 619, 620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627, 628, 629, 630, 631, 632, 633, 634, 635, 636, 637, 638, 639, 640, 641, 642, 643, 644, 645, 646, 647, 648, 649, 650, 651, 652, 653, 654, 655, 656, 657, 658, 659, 660, 661, 662, 663, 664, 665, 666, 667, 668, 669, 670, 671, 672, 673, 674, 675, 676, 677, 678, 679, 680, 681, 682, 683, 684, 685, 686, 687, 688, 689, 690, 691, 692, 693, 694, 695, 696, 697, 698, 699, 700, 701, 702, 703, 704, 705, 706, 707, 708, 709, 710, 711, 712, 713, 714, 715, 716, 717, 718, 719, 720, 721, 722, 723, 724, 725, 726, 727, 728, 729, 730, 731, 732, 733, 734, 735, 736, 737, 738, 739, 740, 741, 742, 743, 744, 745, 746, 747, 748, 749, 750, 751, 752, 753, 754, 755, 756, 757, 758, 759, 760, 761, 762, 763, 764, 765, 766, 767, 768, 769, 770, 771, 772, 773, 774, 775, 776, 777, 778, 779, 780, 781, 782, 783, 784, 785, 786, 787, 788, 789, 790, 791, 792, 793, 794, 795, 796, 797, 798, 799, 800, 801, 802, 803, 804, 805, 806, 807, 808, 809, 810, 811, 812, 813, 814, 815, 816, 817, 818, 819, 820, 821, 822, 823, 824, 825, 826, 827, 828, 829, 830, 831, 832, 833, 834, 835, 836, 837, 838, 839, 840, 841, 842, 843, 844, 845, 846, 847, 848, 849, 850, 851, 852, 853, 854, 855, 856, 857, 858, 859, 860, 861, 862, 863, 864, 865, 866, 867, 868, 869, 870, 871, 872, 873, 874, 875, 876, 877, 878, 879, 880, 881, 882, 883, 884, 885, 886, 887, 888, 889, 890, 891, 892, 893, 894, 895, 896, 897, 898, 899, 900, 901, 902, 903, 904, 905,

The Act of May 26, 1020, 41 Stat. 625, as amended by Act of January 7, 1925, 48 Stat. 723, empowered the Secretary of the Interior to pay out of any funds of the Creek, Cherokee, Choctaw, Chickasaw, and Seminole Nations, part of the cost of town improvements. The 1920 Act amended the Act of June 30 1013, 38 Stat. 77. 96

For an example of a provision found in many appropriation statutes, see Act of February 14, 1920, §§ 18, 11 Stat 408, 428.

Some provisions applied to all the Five Civilized Tribes, but the Seminoles. See, for example, the Appropriation Act of May 31, 1900, § 1, Stat. 221, 236-238. For regulations relating to removal of restrictions and sale of lands of members of the Five Civilized Tribes and reinvestment of funds in nontaxable lands, see 25 C. F. R. 241.34-241.48.

ment of lands in sustainable yields, 2002-03, 2003-04, 2004-05

§ 20 Sec. 18, 84 Stat. 137, 144 This act also contained many other important provisions dealing with the leasing of allotments (secs 19 and 20, also see sec 6 of this chapter), authorizing adult heirs to alienate inherited allotments (sec. 22), and providing for descent (sec 6), reversion to tribe in default of heirs (sec 21), and devise of allotments (sec 23)

The Act of April 26, 1906, supplemented the Act of May 31, 1900, 31 Stat. 221, Act of February 23, 1902, 32 Stat. 43, Act of February 19, 1903, 32 Stat. 841, Act of March 8, 1905, 33 Stat. 1048, Amendment of Act of June 21, 1906, 34 Stat. 325, Act of May 27, 1908, 35 Stat.

full disposition of the affairs of the Five Civilized Tribes. This statute imposes restrictions against alienation on allotments of full bloods for 25 years unless removed sooner by Congress, and provides that

all lands upon which restrictions are removed shall be subject to taxation, and the other lands shall be exempt from taxation as long as title remains in the original allottee.

112, VI Act of August 24, 1912, 47 Stat. 1017, 48 Stat. Act of April 10, 1920, 41 Stat. 229, Act of May 10, 1928, 45 Stat. 405 Supplemental to Act of March 1, 1907, 44 Stat. 1017, Consent Resolution of April 19, 1906, 34 Stat. 2212, Act of April 49, 1905, 35 Stat. 70, Act of May 29, 1905, 35 Stat. 111, Act of March 3, 1909, 35 Stat. 781, Act of August 1, 1910, 36 Stat. 101, Act of August 24, 1912, 47 Stat. 1017, 48 Stat. 405, Act of August 24, 1912, 47 Stat. 1017, 48 Stat. 405, Act of June 28, 1914, 38 Stat. 347, Cited in (Cowell, *U. S. Descend and Impediment of Indian Lands* (1912), 4 Okla. B. J. 208, 26 Okla. J. 127 (1911), 20 Okla. J. 440 (1907), 19 Okla. J. 440 (1906), 18 Okla. J. 440 (1905), 17 Okla. J. 440 (1904), 16 Okla. J. 440 (1903), 15 Okla. J. 440 (1902), 14 Okla. J. 440 (1901), 13 Okla. J. 440 (1900), 12 Okla. J. 440 (1899), 11 Okla. J. 440 (1898), 10 Okla. J. 440 (1897), 9 Okla. J. 440 (1896), 8 Okla. J. 440 (1895), 7 Okla. J. 440 (1894), 6 Okla. J. 440 (1893), 5 Okla. J. 440 (1892), 4 Okla. J. 440 (1891), 3 Okla. J. 440 (1890), 2 Okla. J. 440 (1889), 1 Okla. J. 440 (1888), 1907, 1908, 1909, 1910, 1911, 1912, 1913, 1914, 1915, 1916, 1917, 1918, 1919, 1920, 1921, 1922, 1923, 1924, 1925, 1926, 1927, 1928, 1929, 1930, 1931, 1932, 1933, 1934, 1935, 1936, 1937, 1938, 1939, 1940, 1941, 1942, 1943, 1944, 1945, 1946, 1947, 1948, 1949, 1950, 1951, 1952, 1953, 1954, 1955, 1956, 1957, 1958, 1959, 1960, 1961, 1962, 1963, 1964, 1965, 1966, 1967, 1968, 1969, 1970, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1974, 1975, 1976, 1977, 1978, 1979, 1980, 1981, 1982, 1983, 1984, 1985, 1986, 1987, 1988, 1989, 1990, 1991, 1992, 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026, 2027, 2028, 2029, 2030, 2031, 2032, 2033, 2034, 2035, 2036, 2037, 2038, 2039, 2040, 2041, 2042, 2043, 2044, 2045, 2046, 2047, 2048, 2049, 2050, 2051, 2052, 2053, 2054, 2055, 2056, 2057, 2058, 2059, 2060, 2061, 2062, 2063, 2064, 2065, 2066, 2067, 2068, 2069, 2070, 2071, 2072, 2073, 2074, 2075, 2076, 2077, 2078, 2079, 2080, 2081, 2082, 2083, 2084, 2085, 2086, 2087, 2088, 2089, 2090, 2091, 2092, 2093, 2094, 2095, 2096, 2097, 2098, 2099, 2100, 2101, 2102, 2103, 2104, 2105, 2106, 2107, 2108, 2109, 2110, 2111, 2112, 2113, 2114, 2115, 2116, 2117, 2118, 2119, 2120, 2121, 2122, 2123, 2124, 2125, 2126, 2127, 2128, 2129, 2130, 2131, 2132, 2133, 2134, 2135, 2136, 2137, 2138, 2139, 2140, 2141, 2142, 2143, 2144, 2145, 2146, 2147, 2148, 2149, 2150, 2151, 2152, 2153, 2154, 2155, 2156, 2157, 2158, 2159, 2160, 2161, 2162, 2163, 2164, 2165, 2166, 2167, 2168, 2169, 2170, 2171, 2172, 2173, 2174, 2175, 2176, 2177, 2178, 2179, 2180, 2181, 2182, 2183, 2184, 2185, 2186, 2187, 2188, 2189, 2190, 2191, 2192, 2193, 2194, 2195, 2196, 2197, 2198, 2199, 2200, 2201, 2202, 2203, 2204, 2205, 2206, 2207, 2208, 2209, 2210, 2211, 2212, 2213, 2214, 2215, 2216, 2217, 2218, 2219, 2220, 2221, 2222, 2223, 2224, 2225, 2226, 2227, 2228, 2229, 2230, 2231, 2232, 2233, 2234, 2235, 2236, 2237, 2238, 2239, 2240, 2241, 2242, 2243, 2244, 2245, 2246, 2247, 2248, 2249, 2250, 2251, 2252, 2253, 2254, 2255, 2256, 2257, 2258, 2259, 2260, 2261, 2262, 2263, 2264, 2265, 2266, 2267, 2268, 2269, 2270, 2271, 2272, 2273, 2274, 2275, 2276, 2277, 2278, 2279, 2280, 2281, 2282, 2283, 2284, 2285, 2286, 2287, 2288, 2289, 2290, 2291, 2292, 2293, 2294, 2295, 2296, 2297, 2298, 2299, 2300, 2301, 2302, 2303, 2304, 2305, 2306, 2307, 2308, 2309, 2310, 2311, 2312, 2313, 2314, 2315, 2316, 2317, 2318, 2319, 2320, 2321, 2322, 2323, 2324, 2325, 2326, 2327, 2328, 2329, 2330, 2331, 2332, 2333, 2334, 2335, 2336, 2337, 2338, 2339, 2340, 2341, 2342, 2343, 2344, 2345, 2346, 2347, 2348, 2349, 2350, 2351, 2352, 2353, 2354, 2355, 2356, 2357, 2358, 2359, 2360, 2361, 2362, 2363, 2364, 2365, 2366, 2367, 2368, 2369, 2370, 2371, 2372, 2373, 2374, 2375, 2376, 2377, 2378, 2379, 2380, 2381, 2382, 2383, 2384, 2385, 2386, 2387, 2388, 2389, 2390, 2391, 2392, 2393, 2394, 2395, 2396, 2397, 2398, 2399, 2400, 2401, 2402, 2403, 2404, 2405, 2406, 2407, 2408, 2409, 2410, 2411, 2412, 2413, 2414, 2415, 2416, 2417, 2418, 2419, 2420, 2421, 2422, 2423, 2424, 2425, 2426, 2427, 2428, 2429, 2430, 2431, 2432, 2433, 2434, 2435, 2436, 2437, 2438, 2439, 2440, 2441, 2442, 2443, 2444, 2445, 2446, 2447, 2448, 2449, 2450, 2451, 2452, 2453, 2454, 2455, 2456, 2457, 2458, 2459, 2460, 2461, 2462, 2463, 2464, 2465, 2466, 2467, 24

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590 (1919), *Mullen v United States*, 224 U S 448 (1912), *Muskrat v United States*, 219 U S 846 (1911), *Ne-Kah-Wah-She-Tun-Kah v Fall*, 290 Fed 103 (App D C, 1923), app dism 206 U S 596 (1926), *Nunn v Hagerberg*, 216 Fed 880 (C D M, 1914), *Parke v Rains*.

This section contained a proviso that as to allotments of Indians of one-half or more Indian blood who died leaving issue born since March 4, 1900, the homestead should remain unalienable for the life of the issue or until April 20, 1931, under removal of restrictions should be sooner authorized by the Secretary of the Interior.¹²⁰ By the Act of May 10, 1928,¹²¹ restrictions on alienation of allotments of allottees of half blood or more were extended until April 20, 1936. The Act of May 21, 1928,¹²² amending section 4 of the Act of May 10, 1928, limited the tax exemption to 100 acres of land to be selected by the Indian, who shall receive a certificate designating it.¹²³ The exemption was to continue so long as the title remained in the Indian designated or in any full-blood heir or devisee of the land. The May 10, 1928 Act also contained a provision that nothing in the act

upon his death and the descent of the title to his minor heirs of less than half Indian blood. The fact of minority of the heir does not seem to contravene the restriction and therefore the tax exemption is removed by this section. *McNee v. Whitehead*, 253 Fed. 649 (C. C. A. 8, 1918). *Cf. Wynn v. Fugate, Olla*, 200 Tex. 800 (1911).

¹²⁰ This section was amended in minor particulars by the Act of April 10, 1920, 44 Stat. 280, in 1925. The court in *United States v. Lee*, 21 F. Supp. 814 (D. C. E. D. Okla., 1938), aff'd 108 F. 2d 930 (C. C. A. 10, 1939), held that if allottee's surviving issue born since March 4, 1900, died before April 20, 1931, the homestead allotment descends free from restrictions, because of the language of the proviso in the 1908 Act, even in the case of full-blood heirs.

¹²¹ See 1, 43 Stat. 403, *supra*, fn. 106. It was provided that the Secretary of the Interior may remove the restrictions upon applications of the Indian owners, in whole or in part, under such rules and regulations as he shall prescribe. Prior to April 20, 1931, allotted lands held by the original allottees, and allotted lands acquired by full-blood Indians through devise or inheritance from an allottee and held by the heir or devisee were nonalienable. See sec. 4, Act of May 27, 1908, 35 Stat. 313, *supra*, fn. 102. *United States v. Lee*, 21 F. Supp. 814 (D. C. E. D. Okla., 1938), aff'd 108 F. 2d 930 (C. C. A. 10, 1939). *Contra, Wynn v. Fugate, supra*. On the death of the allottee, allotted lands, except those passing by devise or inheritance to full-blood Indian heirs, became subject to taxation. *United States v. Sherck*, 187 Fed. 870, 872, 873 (C. C. B. D. Okla., 1911).

¹²² 45 Stat. 758, *supra*, fn. 107.
¹²³ 45 Stat. 408, *supra*, fn. 100. See 3 of the May 10, 1928 Act, as amended by the Act of February 14, 1931, 46 Stat. 1108, and the Act of March 12, 1916, 49 Stat. 1190, *provides*:

"* * * That all minerals, including oil and gas, produced on or after April 20, 1931, from restricted allotted lands of members of the Five Civilized Tribes in Oklahoma, or from unallotted restricted lands of full-blood Indian heirs or devisees of such lands, shall be subject to all State and Federal taxes of every kind and character the same as those produced from lands owned by other citizens of the State of Oklahoma, and the Secretary of the Interior is hereby authorized and directed to cause to be paid, from the individual Indian funds held under his supervision and control and belonging to the Indian owners of the lands, the taxes to be assessed against the property and interest of the respective Indian owners in such oil, gas, and

should be construed to exempt from taxation any lands subject to taxation under existing law."¹²⁴

The first intention of the swing in policy toward expansion of exemptions is found in the Act of March 4, 1904,¹²⁵ providing that where notable land of a restricted Indian of the Five Civilized Tribes is sold under existing law, the Secretary of the Interior may reinvest the proceeds in other land, which will be nonalienable and restricted from alienation. Under the Act of June 30, 1932,¹²⁶ it was provided that the restrictions should appear in the deed.

The Act of January 27, 1933,¹²⁷ provided that

"* * * where the entire interest in any tract of restricted and tax-exempt land belonging to members of the Five Civilized Tribes is, acquired by inheritance, devise, gift, or purchase, with restricted funds, by or for restricted Indians, such lands shall remain restricted and tax-exempt during the life of and as long as held by such restricted Indians, but not longer than April 20, 1936, unless restrictions are removed in the meantime in the manner provided by law.

The act also provided

"That such restricted and tax-exempt land held by anyone, acquired as herein provided, shall not exceed one hundred and sixty acres. And provided further, That all minerals including oil and gas, produced from said land so acquired shall be subject to all State and Federal taxes as provided in section 3 of the Act approved May 10, 1928 (45 Stat. L. 405).

other mineral production. *Provided*, That nothing in this Act shall be construed to impose or provide for double taxation and, in those cases where the owner is a restricted Indian, that all minerals including oil and gas, produced from restricted Indian lands are subject to the ad valorem tax of the State of Oklahoma for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1931, the gross production tax which is in lieu thereof shall not be imposed prior to July 1, 1931. *Provided further*, That in the discretion of the Secretary of the Interior, the tax or taxes due the State of Oklahoma may be paid in the manner provided by the Statute of the State of Oklahoma.

¹²⁴ See 5, 45 Stat. 405, *supra*, fn. 100.

¹²⁵ 46 Stat. 1471, *supra*, fn. 100.

¹²⁶ 47 Stat. 474, 25 U. S. C. 404a, amending Act of March 2, 1901, 46 Stat. 1471. Cited in Memo Sol. I. D., December 21, 1930; Memo Sol. I. D., November 20, 1937, *Minnesota v. United States*, 305 U. S. 382 (1930).

¹²⁷ 47 Stat. 777, *supra*, fn. 108. In *Glen v. Lewis*, 105 F. 2d 398 (C. C. A. 10, 1930), *cert. den.* 60 Sup. Ct. 130, the court held that this act was intended to restrict lands of half bloods or more acquired by inheritance, and hence the one-third interest in an Indian homestead allotment which a seven-eighths blood Choctaw Indian had inherited, and mortgage and deeds executed by a Choctaw Indian without approval of the Secretary of the Interior or the Oklahoma County court were invalid.

SECTION 9. LEASING OF ALLOTTED LANDS OF FIVE CIVILIZED TRIBES

Some of the allotment agreements permitted allottees to lease their allotments for specified purposes and periods.¹²⁸ Section 19 of the Act of April 28, 1900,¹²⁹ in extending for 25 years the restrictions upon alienation by full-blooded allottees, provided that such allottees might lease any lands other than homesteads for more than one year under rules and regulations prescribed by the Secretary of the Interior, "and in case of the inability of any full-blood owner of a homestead, on account of infirmity or age, to work or farm his homestead, the Secretary of the Interior, upon proof of such inability, may authorize the leasing of such homestead under such rules and regulations." Section 20 required all leases and rental contracts of full-blood allottees to be in writing and approved by the Secretary of the Interior,

except (1) if for not exceeding a year for agricultural purposes, for lands other than homesteads; (2) the proper court might rent or lease allotments of minors or incompetents. All leases for a period exceeding a year were required to be recorded in conformity to the law of the Indian Territory.

Section 2 of the Act of May 27, 1908,¹³⁰ provided:

"* * * That all lands other than homesteads allotted to members of the Five Civilized Tribes from which restrictions have not been removed may be leased by the allottee if an adult, or by guardian or curator under order of the proper probate court if a minor or incompetent, for a period not to exceed five years, without the privilege of

¹²⁸ For example, the Original Creek Agreement of March 1, 1901, sec. 27, 31 Stat. 851, 877; Chickasaw Allotment Agreement, of July 1, 1903, sec. 72, 33 Stat. 719, 729-727.

¹²⁹ 34 Stat. 187, 144, *supra*, fn. 101.

¹³⁰ 35 Stat. 313, fn. 102, *supra*. For a criticism of this provision see Menham, *The Problem of Indian Administration* (1928) pp. 801-802. For a discussion of its interpretation see Bledsoe, *op. cit.*, pp. 241-245. By sec. 6, leases of restricted lands in violation of the law before or after approval of this act were null and void. For regulations relating to leasing of restricted lands for mining, see 35 C. T. R. 180.1-183.40.

renewal. *Provided*, That leases of restricted lands for oil, gas, or other mining purposes, leases of restricted homesteads for more than one year, and leases of restricted lands for periods of more than five years, may be made, with the approval of the Secretary of the Interior, under rules and regulations provided by the Secretary of the Interior, and not otherwise. *And provided further*, That the jurisdiction of the probate courts of the State of Oklahoma over lands of minors and incompetents shall be subject to the foregoing provisions, and the term minor or minors, as used in this Act, shall include all males under the age of twenty-one years and all females under the age of eighteen years.

Section 15 of the Act of February 14, 1930,¹²¹ authorized the Superintendent for the Five Civilized Tribes to approve, reject, or disapprove all uncontested leases (except oil and gas leases) but permitted an aggrieved party the right to appeal from the decision of the Superintendent to the Secretary of the Interior within 90 days from the date of the decision.

Changes in laws relating to alienation have created many problems in the field of leasing. For example section 1 of the Act of January 27, 1938,¹²² quoted at the end of the preceding section, affects leases as well as sales.

The effect of this provision on leases was thus analyzed by the Solicitor of the Department of the Interior:¹²³

In my opinion of March 14, 1934 (51 I. D. 892), it was held that the foregoing provision was not retroactive and applied only to acquisitions after the date of the enactment. Accordingly, the status of lands acquired by inheritance, devise, etc., prior to that enactment is determined by the laws then in force. Under those laws, which it is unnecessary to detail, the death of an allottee terminated all restrictions if the heirs or devisees were less than the full-blood, but if the lands passed to full-bloods the restrictions were relaxed to permit conveyances by the heirs with the approval of the county court having jurisdiction of the settlement of the deceased allottee's estate. Accordingly, lands acquired prior to January 27, 1938, by Indians of less than full-blood, whether such lands were restricted and tax exempt or restricted and taxable, passed to them free from all restrictions. Such lands, therefore, are subject to sale or lease without the approval of the Secretary of the Interior or the county court, unless, of course, some disability rested upon the owner under the State law. If, however, the heirs or devisees are of the full-blood, any conveyance of their interests on an oil and gas lease thereof must not only receive the approval of the county court having jurisdiction of the settlement of the deceased allottee's estate (section 8 of the act of May 27, 1908, 35 Stat. 312, as amended by the act of April 12, 1926, 44 Stat. 280, *United States v. Gypsy Oil case*, 10 Fed. (2d) 487), but such approval must be given in open court after notice in accordance with the rules of procedure in probate matters adopted by the Supreme Court of Oklahoma in June 1934 (section 8, act of January 27, 1938). The rules just stated apply also to lands acquired after January 27, 1938, unless such lands are both restricted and tax exempt and the entire interest therein is acquired by a restricted Indian or restricted Indians.

The first proviso of section 1 of the act of January 27, 1938, is without application unless the lands involved are both restricted and tax exempt and unless the entire interest therein is acquired by restricted Indians. The language immediately preceding the first proviso shows that the term "restricted Indians" was intended to embrace Indians of the Five Civilized Tribes of one-half or more Indian blood. In my opinion of March 14, 1934, it was pointed out that the lands to which the first proviso of the act of 1938 applied fall into two classes, first, restricted allotments of living allottees which have been designated by them as tax exempt under the act of May 10, 1928 (48 Stat. 406), which lands were under the juris-

isdiction of the Secretary of the Interior and could be leased for oil and gas mining purposes only with his approval and not otherwise under section 2 of the act of May 27, 1908, *supra*. Second, lands inherited by or devised to full-blood Indians prior to January 27, 1938, and designated by them as tax exempt under the act of 1928, which lands were subject to the restriction that no conveyance in the full-blood should be valid unless approved by the county court having jurisdiction of the settlement of the deceased allottee's estate, and which lands could be leased by the full-blood for oil and gas mining purposes with the approval of the said court and without the approval of the Secretary of the Interior.

It was further pointed out in my opinion of March 11 that the first proviso of the act of 1933 was designed to preserve the existing restrictions and not to impose restrictions once removed or to change the form of existing restrictions. Accordingly, where the entire interest in lands of the first class is acquired by Indians of the Five Civilized Tribes of one-half or more Indian blood, they take the same subject to the same restrictions which rested upon the lands of the allottee. Such lands, therefore, continue to be subject to lease for oil and gas mining purposes only with the approval of the Secretary of the Interior, and not otherwise. The county court having jurisdiction of the settlement of the deceased allottee's estate has no authority to approve a conveyance or lease of such lands. The only jurisdiction which the probate courts may exercise in this class of cases is confined to conveyances and leases made by guardians of minors and incompetents, and in such cases the conveyance or lease must be made under order of the proper probate court. See sections 3 and 6 of the act of May 27, 1908, *supra*.

Where the entire interest in lands of the second class—that is, tax-exempt lands acquired by full-blood heirs or devisees prior to January 27, 1938—passes into the hands of Indians of one-half or more Indian blood after that date, such Indians take the lands subject to the restriction resting upon the previous owner, namely, they cannot convey without the approval of the county court having jurisdiction of the settlement of the deceased allottee's estate. With such approval they may convey or lease, but such approval as to the interest of any full-blood must be given in open court after notice, as provided by section 8 of the act of January 27, 1938.

The Act of February 11, 1930,¹²⁴ provided that leases of restricted lands on behalf of minors and Indians *non compos mentis* of the Five Civilized Tribes may be made, for periods not exceeding 5 years for farming and grazing purposes, by the superintendent or other official in charge of the Five Civilized Tribes Agency, and empowered other Indians to make such leases, subject to the approval of such official.¹²⁵

Several questions arising under this act have been recently discussed by the Solicitor of the Department of the Interior:¹²⁶

A Do farming and grazing leases require approval by this office—

- (1) Where the allottee died prior to January 27, 1938?
- (2) Where any heir is less than half blood and the other heirs are one-half blood or more?
- (3) Where the land is not tax exempt?

B Do farming and grazing leases by full-blood adult heirs require approval by the County Court or by this office?

* * * the foregoing act applies to restricted lands belonging to Indians of the Five Civilized Tribes of one-half or more Indian blood. Ownership by an Indian one-half or more Indian blood is not sufficient to bring the case within the statute. The lands must also be restricted.

¹²¹ 41 Stat. 408, 25 U. S. C. 866.

¹²² 47 Stat. 777. See fn 108, *supra*.

¹²³ Memo Sol. I. D., June 4, 1935, also see 54 I. D. 832 (1934).

¹²⁴ 46 Stat. 1185, 25 U. S. C. 893a. Cited in Memo Sol. I. D. August 7, 1936, Memo Sol. I. D. January 15, 1937, Memo Sol. I. D. May 14, 1938, *Gleason v. Jackson*, 108 F. 2d 388 (C. A. 10, 1939), cert. den. 60 Sup. Ct. 130. For regulations see 25 C. F. R. 1741-1742A.

¹²⁵ Memo Sol. I. D. August 7, 1936.

¹²⁶ Memo Sol. I. D., January 18, 1937.

have for the requirement that the Superintendent must approve all leases of restricted lands belonging to Indians of the degree of blood mentioned, the act makes no change in the prior laws dealing with the restrictions on lands of Indians of the Five Civilized Tribes and we must look to those laws for the purpose of ascertaining whether the lands in any particular case are or are not restricted.

The act of January 27, 1933 (47 Stat. 777), will be first considered. That act is confined to the restrictions on restricted and tax-exempt lands inherited by restricted Indians; that is, Indians of one-half or more Indian blood. That act has no application to lands or interests therein inherited prior to the date of the enactment. Solicitor's Opinion of March 14, 1934 (54 I. D. 282). It is further without application unless (a) the lands are both restricted and tax-exempt, and (b) the entire interest is inherited by Indians of one-half or more Indian blood. Questions A (1), (2), and (8) all deal with cases to which the act of January 27, 1933, has no application and the question of whether the inherited interest is determined by the laws in force prior to January 27, 1933. Under section 6 of the act of May 27, 1908 (35 Stat. 312), as amended April 12, 1920 (43 Stat. 405), the death of an allottee of the Five Civilized Tribes removed all restrictions against alienation except where the heirs are of the full-blood and as to such full-blood heirs the restrictions

are not removed but relaxed to the extent of sanctioning conveyances made with the approval of the proper county court. As the county court in approving such conveyances acts as a Federal agency, the inherited interest of the full-blood heir remained restricted. *Palmer v. Richard* (250 U. S. 235). Accordingly, questions A (1), (2), and (8) may be answered by stating that where the heir is a full-blood, a lease of his inherited interest under the act of February 11, 1936, requires the approval of the Superintendent. Interests inherited by heirs of less than the full-blood are unrestricted and may be leased without approval.

Answering question B it may be said that lands inherited by a full-blood heir prior to January 27, 1933, or in any case to which the act of January 27, 1933, has no application, are restricted in the sense that a Federal agent, the county court, must approve the conveyance. If the entire interest in a tract of restricted and tax-exempt land is inherited by an Indian or Indians of one-half or more Indian blood after January 27, 1933, the existing restrictions are preserved by the act of that date. Solicitor's Opinion of March 14, 1934, *supra*. It is immaterial whether the approving agency is the county court or the Secretary of the Interior, as in either case the inherited interest is restricted and a farming and grazing lease thereon to be valid must, under the act of February 11, 1936, *supra*, receive the approval of the Superintendent.

SECTION 10. TRUSTS OF RESTRICTED FUNDS OF MEMBERS OF FIVE TRIBES

The Act of January 27, 1933,¹²⁸ provided that all funds and other securities held under the supervision of the Secretary of the Interior belonging to Indians of the Five Civilized Tribes in Oklahoma of one-half or more Indian blood, unimproved or unimproved, shall be restricted and shall remain under the jurisdiction of the Secretary until April 20, 1950, "subject to expenditure in the meantime for the use and benefit of the individual Indians" who own them, under rules and regulations prescribed by the Secretary.

The Secretary was empowered¹²⁹ to permit any adult Indian of the Five Civilized Tribes to create and establish out of restricted funds or other property under the Secretary's supervision, trusts for a maximum period of 21 years after the death of the last survivor of the named beneficiaries in the respective trust period, for the benefit of such Indian, his heirs or other designated beneficiaries, by contracts or agreements between the Indian and incorporated trust companies or banks.

No trust company or bank may act as a trustee in any trust created under this act "which has paid or promised to pay to any person other than an officer or employee on the regular pay roll thereof any charge, fee, commission, or remuneration

for any service or influence in securing or attempting to secure for it the trusteeship in any trust." Trust agreements or contracts made prior to January 27, 1933, the date of this law's approval, and not approved prior to such enactment by the Secretary of the Interior, are declared void.¹³⁰

The Secretary is authorized to transfer the funds or property required by the terms of an approved trust agreement to the trustee,¹³¹ which must keep these assets segregated from all other assets.

None of the restrictions upon the corpus under the terms of the trust agreement may be released during the restrictive period, except as provided by such agreement, and neither the corpus and trust nor the income derived therefrom, during the restrictive period, provided by law, is alienable.¹³²

The trustee is to render an annual accounting to the Secretary and the beneficiary.¹³³

Such trust agreements are irrevocable except with the Secretary's consent.¹³⁴ If a trust agreement is annulled, the corpus of the trust estate with all accrued and unpaid interest must be returned to the Secretary as restricted individual Indian property.

Illegally procured trusts are to be cancelled by proceedings instituted by the Attorney General in the federal courts.¹³⁵

¹²⁸ 47 Stat. 777, *supra*, fn. 108. For a discussion of this act, see 54 I. D. 282 (1934), *Darby v. Price*, 89 F. 2d 281 (App. D. C. 1934); *United States ex rel. Warren v. Price*, 73 F. 2d 854 (App. D. C. 1934); *Bucses v. Nall*, 108 F. 2d 37 (C. C. A. 10, 1939), rehearing den. 108 F. 2d 37.

For regulations regarding creation of trusts for restricted property, see 25 C. F. R. 227.1-227.15.

¹²⁹ Act of January 27, 1933, sec. 2 and 7, 47 Stat. 777, *supra*, fn. 108.

¹³¹ *Ibid.*, sec. 2.

¹³² *Ibid.*, sec. 3.

¹³³ *Ibid.*, sec. 4.

¹³⁴ *Ibid.*

¹³⁵ *Ibid.*, sec. 5.

¹³⁶ *Ibid.*, sec. 6.

SECTION 11. INHERITANCE AMONG FIVE CIVILIZED TRIBES¹³⁷

A. INTESTATE SUCCESSION

Among the Five Civilized Tribes, as among all other tribes, tribal law governs descent in the absence of congressional

legislation.¹³⁸ The General Allotment Act¹³⁹ did not apply to the Five Civilized Tribes, and so its provisions on inheritance have no application to these tribes.

¹³⁷ The Act of June 23, 1910, 86 Stat. 805, 808, which provides, among other things, for the determination of heirs of deceased Indians, excludes the Five Civilized Tribes (see 58) except for the following provision:

Sec. 52 Where deeds to tribal lands in the Five Civilized Tribes have been or may be used, in pursuance of any tribal

agreement or Act of Congress, to a person who had died, or who hereafter dies before the approval of such deed, the title to the land designated therein shall inure to and become vested in the heirs, devisees, or assigns of such deceased grantee as if the deed had inured to the deceased grantee during his life.

¹³⁸ See Chapter 7, sec. 6.

¹³⁹ Act of February 8, 1887, 24 Stat. 388.

The Supreme Court in the case of *Telford v. Pink*,¹³⁰ summarized the early congressional legislation regarding descent and distribution as follows:

By its passed in 1800, 1804, 1807 and 1808, Congress manifested its purpose to allot or divide in severalty the lands of the Five Civilized Tribes with a view to the ultimate creation of a State embracing the Indian Territory, put in force in the Territory several statutes of Arkansas, including Chapter 49 of Mansfield's Digest relating to descent and distribution, provided that these statutes should apply to all persons in the Territory, irrespective of race, and substantially amended the law of the several tribes, including those relating to descent and distribution. Acts May 2, 1800, c. 182; 26 Stat. 81 § 31, March 3, 1803, c. 200, 27 Stat. 671, § 16; June 7, 1807, c. 4, 30 Stat. 83, June 28, 1808, c. 577, 40 Stat. 435 § 411 and 20. This was the situation when the Act of 1801, known as the Original Creek Agreement, was adopted. That act in the course of providing for the allotment in severalty of the lands of the Creeks, revised their tribal law of descent and distribution by making it applicable to their allotments, §§ 7 and 23. But the revision was only temporary, for the Act of 1802, known as the Supplemental Creek Agreement, not only repealed so much of the Act of 1801 as gave effect to the tribal law but reinstated the Arkansas law with the qualification that Creek heirs, if there were such, should take to the exclusion of others.¹³¹ *Washington v. Miller*, 235 U.S. 422, 425-426. The allotment in question was made in 1803, and the tribal deeds issued shortly after the Act of 1801 became effective. And this was followed by the Act of April 28, 1804, c. 1824, 38 Stat. 573, § 2, declaring that all statutes of Arkansas then in force put in force in the Indian Territory should apply "to embrace all persons and estates in said Territory, whether Indian, freedmen or otherwise" (Pp. 201-202).

The repealing and reinstating portion of the act was as follows:

"§ The provisions of the act of Congress approved March 1, 1801 (21 Stat. L. 561), in so far as they provide for descent and distribution according to the laws of the Creek Nation, are hereby repealed and the descent and distribution of land and money payable by or said act shall be in accordance with chapter 49 of Mansfield's Digest of the Statutes of Arkansas now in force in Indian Territory. *Provided*, That only citizens of the Creek Nation male and female, and their Creek descendants shall inherit lands of the Creek Nation. *And provided further*, That if there be no person of Creek citizenship to take the descent and distribution of said estate, then the inheritance shall go to noncitizens heirs in the order named in said chapter 49."

There was a like provision but without the proviso, in the Act of May 27, 1804, c. 200.

Referring to the purpose with which the Arkansas statutes were put in force in that Territory and to their statutes there, this court said in *Shultis v. McDowell*, 225 U.S. 551, 571: "Congress was then contemplating the early inclusion of that Territory in a new State, and the purpose of those acts was to provide, for the time being, a body of laws adapted to the needs of the locality and its people in respect of matters of local or domestic concern. There being no local legislature, Congress alone could act. Plainly, its action was intended to be merely provisional."

By the enabling act of June 16, 1906, c. 8385, § 4 Stat. 207, provision was made for admitting into the Union both the Territory of Oklahoma and the Indian Territory as the State of Oklahoma. Each Territory had a distinct body of local laws. Those in the Indian Territory, as we have seen, had been put in force there by Congress. Those in the Territory of Oklahoma had been enacted by the territorial legislature. Deeming it better that the new State should come into the Union with a body of laws applying with practical uniformity throughout the State, Congress provided in the enabling act (§ 13) that "the laws in force in the Territory of Oklahoma, as far as applicable, shall extend over and apply to said State until changed by the legislature thereof" and also (§ 21) that "all laws in force in the Territory of Oklahoma at the time of the admission of said State into the Union shall be in force throughout said State, except as modified or changed

by this act or by the constitution of the State." The people of the State, I think the same way, provided in their constitution (Art. 25, § 2) that "all laws in force in the Territory of Oklahoma at the time of the admission of the State into the Union, which are not repugnant to this Constitution, and which are not locally inapplicable, shall be extended to and remain in force in the State or Oklahoma until they expire by their own limitation or are altered or repealed by law."

The State was admitted into the Union November 16, 1907, and thereupon the laws of the Territory of Oklahoma relating to descent and distribution (Rev. Stat. Okla. 1903, c. 38, Art. 1) became laws of the State. Thereafter Congress, by the Act of May 27, 1908, c. 100, §§ Stat. 312, § 9, recognized and located "the laws of descent and distribution of the State of Oklahoma" as applicable to the lands allotted to members of the Five Civilized Tribes (Pp. 202-203.)

B WILLS

Section 23 of the Act of April 20, 1906¹³² provided for the making of wills, but invalidated a will of a full-blood Indian which disinherited the parent, wife, spouse, or children, unless acknowledged before and approved by a judge of the United States Court for the Indian Territory or a United States Commissioner.¹³³ In *Blundell v. Wallace*,¹³⁴ the Supreme Court said in interpreting this section:

"... 4. The general policy of Congress prior to the adoption of § 23, plainly had been to consider the local law of descents and wills applicable to the persons and estates of Indians except in so far as it was otherwise provided. Thus, by § 2 of the Act of April 28, 1804, c. 1824, 38 Stat. 573, the laws of Arkansas, theretofore put in force in the Indian Territory, were expressly "continued and extended in their operation, so as to embrace all persons and estates in said Territory, whether Indian, freedmen, or otherwise," and jurisdiction was conferred upon the courts of the Territory in the settlement of the estates of decedents, etc., whether Indian, freedmen, or otherwise. Section 23 must be read in the light of this policy, and, so reading it, we agree with the ruling of the same supreme court that Congress intended thereby to enable "the Indian to dispose of his estate on the same footing as any other citizen, with the limitation contained in the proviso thereto." The effect of § 23 was to remove a restriction theretofore existing upon the testamentary power of the Indians, leaving the regulatory local law free to operate as in the case of other persons and property" (P. 876).

C PROBATE JURISDICTION

The Act of May 27, 1908,¹³⁵ was enacted at the request of the Oklahoma delegation, as part of the plan for removal of restrictions from Indian lands of the Five Civilized Tribes.¹³⁶ Section 6 conferred jurisdiction upon the probate (county) courts of the State of Oklahoma over the estates of Indian minors and incompetents of the Five Civilized Tribes.¹³⁷ The probate court was

¹³⁰ 34 Stat. 187, *supra* fn. 101.

¹³¹ Amended by Act May 27, 1908, sec. 8, 35 Stat. 812, 315, to include "in a judge of a county court of the State of Oklahoma."

¹³² 297 U.S. 578 (1925).

¹³³ 35 Stat. 812, *supra*, fn. 102. The Act of April 28, 1804, sec. 2, 38 Stat. 573, conferred jurisdiction upon the district court to settle estates of decedents and the guardianship of minors and incompetents, whether Indians, freedmen, or otherwise. See *Stacy v. Parker*, 225 U.S. 42 (1914).

¹³⁴ By sec. 22 of the Act of April 20, 1906, 34 Stat. 187, 145, adult heirs of a deceased allottee of the Five Civilized Tribes were permitted to sell and convey lands inherited from the decedent, and minor heirs were permitted to join in the sale of such inherited lands by a guardian appointed by the appropriate court for the Indian Territory.

¹³⁵ See Meliam, *The Problem of Indian Administration* (1928) pp. 798-801, which contains this law.

¹³⁶ Interpreted in *Harris v. Bell*, 254 U.S. 108 (1920). On the jurisdiction of the county courts see Oklahoma constitution, Art. 7, secs. 13-14, and *United States v. Bond*, 108 F.2d 804 (C. C. A. 10, 1939).

¹³⁷ 247 U.S. 288 (1918).

also given, by section 9, authority to approve conveyances by full-blood heirs.¹²⁷

Provisions were also made for the appointment of probate attorneys by the Secretary of the Interior, with prescribed duties relating to restricted lands.

Section 8 of the Act of January 27, 1938,¹²⁸ makes it the duty of these probate attorneys to appear and represent any restricted member of the Five Civilized Tribes before the county courts or in the appellate courts.¹²⁹

Section 1 of the act of June 11, 1918,¹³⁰ vested in the state courts jurisdiction to probate wills and determine heirs in accordance with state laws of any deceased citizen allottee of the Five Civilized Tribes who died leaving restricted heirs. However, to the extent that creditors, attorneys, and personal representatives must depend on restricted property and funds for

payment of fees and claims, the Secretary of the Interior retained sole jurisdiction to pass upon the reasonableness of their claims.

D. PARTITION

Section 2 of this law¹³¹ also made the "lands of full-blood members of any of the Five Civilized Tribes" subject to the laws of the State of Oklahoma providing for the partition of real estate.

If the owner lands that an equitable partition is impossible, it may order the sale of the land and the division of the proceeds among the heirs.¹³²

This provision has been interpreted as follows:¹³³

" * * * The wide sweep of the language contained in the statute [see 2, Act of June 14, 1918, *supra*] expressly subjecting the lands of full-blood Indians to the laws of the state for partition fails to indicate a legislative purpose to limit the grant or extent of jurisdiction to district courts in proceedings affecting lands of living Indians, to the exclusion of proceedings in the county court in the administration and settlement of estates of deceased full-bloods. (P 507.)

" * * * It [see 1, Act of January 27, 1938, 47 Stat. 777] does not narrow that part of the Act of 1918, *supra*, which consents to the making of the lands of full-blood members of the Five Civilized Tribes, subject to the laws of the State of Oklahoma relating to the partition of real estate. Instead, it provides that the restrictions there imposed upon restricted and tax-exempt land belonging to a member of such tribes which is acquired by or for restricted Indians by inheritance, gift, or purchase with restricted funds, shall remain restricted during the period fixed therein, unless the restrictions are removed in the meantime in the manner provided by law. At least two separate and distinct methods existed at that time for the removal of restrictions against alienation. One was by the Secretary of the Interior, and the other was by partition and sale in the county court in the course of the administration and settlement of the estate of a deceased full-blood Indian. The concluding language in the proviso is plainly broad enough to include both. (P 508.)

"28 U S C 885. It also provided that any land allotted in partition proceedings to a full-blood Indian, or conveyed to him upon his election to take the same at the appraisement, shall remain subject to all restrictions upon alienation and taxation obtaining prior to such partition, but "in case of a sale under any decree, or partition, the conveyance thereunder shall operate to relieve the lands described of all restrictions of every character."

"For discussion of restricted state of proceeds from a partition sale, see Chapter 10, sec 8.

"See *United States v. Bond*, 108 F 2d 804 (C C A. 10, 1939), *affg*. *Bond v. Bond*, 57 F 2d 804 (C C N D Okla., 1938). Accord. *Memo Sol. I. D., September 21, 1938*.

SECTION 12. SPECIAL LAWS GOVERNING OSAGE TRIBE¹³⁴

The special laws governing the Osage Tribe and the decisions applying and construing them are of a complexity and volume that preclude any detailed treatment in this work.

"For a history of the Osages see *United States v. Aaron*, 133 Fed. 847 (C C W. D. Okla., 1910); *Lobnitz v. United States*, 6 Okla. 400, 31 Pac 606 (1897). The Osage lands were purchased by the United States pursuant to Art. 16 of the Treaty of July 19, 1806, 14 Stat. 709, 804, in which the Cherokee Indians in the Indian Territory agreed that the United States might purchase part of their lands for the purpose of settling friendly Indians thereon.

Many special statutes were enacted concerning the lands of the Osage Nation in Kansas. The following statutes concern the sale of Osage Indian lands in that state: Act of May 9, 1872, 17 Stat. 60, R. S. §§ 2388, 2389, 2390, 2391, 2392, 2393, 2394, 2395, 2396, 2397, 2398, 2399, 2400, 2401, 2402, 2403, 2404, 2405, 2406, 2407, 2408, 2409, 2410, 2411, 2412, 2413, 2414, 2415, 2416, 2417, 2418, 2419, 2420, 2421, 2422, 2423, 2424, 2425, 2426, 2427, 2428, 2429, 2430, 2431, 2432, 2433, 2434, 2435, 2436, 2437, 2438, 2439, 2440, 2441, 2442, 2443, 2444, 2445, 2446, 2447, 2448, 2449, 2450, 2451, 2452, 2453, 2454, 2455, 2456, 2457, 2458, 2459, 2460, 2461, 2462, 2463, 2464, 2465, 2466, 2467, 2468, 2469, 2470, 2471, 2472, 2473, 2474, 2475, 2476, 2477, 2478, 2479, 2480, 2481, 2482, 2483, 2484, 2485, 2486, 2487, 2488, 2489, 2490, 2491, 2492, 2493, 2494, 2495, 2496, 2497, 2498, 2499, 2500, 2501, 2502, 2503, 2504, 2505, 2506, 2507, 2508, 2509, 2510, 2511, 2512, 2513, 2514, 2515, 2516, 2517, 2518, 2519, 2520, 2521, 2522, 2523, 2524, 2525, 2526, 2527, 2528, 2529, 2530, 2531, 2532, 2533, 2534, 2535, 2536, 2537, 2538, 2539, 2540, 2541, 2542, 2543, 2544, 2545, 2546, 2547, 2548, 2549, 2550, 2551, 2552, 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That the allottees of the Osage Nation may change the present designation of homesteads to an equal area of their unencumbered surplus lands, upon application to, and under such rules and regulations as the Secretary of the Interior may prescribe; provided, that in each transaction the change of designation shall take the status of the other as it existed prior to the change in designation as to alienation, taxation, or otherwise, and that any order of change of designation shall be recorded in the proper office of

The lands other than homestead were made unalienable¹²⁷ for 25 years, except that in his discretion the Secretary of the Interior, at the request of an adult member, might issue a certificate of competency authorizing him to sell any of the land, except the homestead, which was to remain unalienable and non-taxable for a period of 25 years, or during the life of the homestead allottee. Upon the issuance of the certificate of competency the surplus lands became alienable and subject to taxation.¹²⁸ Subdivision 7 of section 2 of this statute also provided

That the surplus lands shall be non-taxable for the period of three years from the approval of this Act, except where certificates of competency are issued or in case of the death of the allottee.¹²⁹

The Act of March 8, 1900,¹³⁰ authorized and empowered the Secretary of the Interior, upon application, to sell, under rules and regulations to be prescribed by him, part or all of the surplus lands of any member of the Osage Tribe. This Act provided that such sales should be subject to the reserved rights of the tribe in oil, gas, and other minerals.

The Act of April 18, 1912,¹³¹ section 3, conferred jurisdiction on the county courts of the State of Oklahoma in probate matters affecting the property of deceased and of orphan minor, insane, or other incompetent allottees of the Osage Tribe, with

Osage County. Provided further, That the Secretary of the Interior be, and he is hereby authorized when the same would be for the best interest of Osage allottees, to permit the sale of surplus and homestead allotments, wholly or in part, of Osage allottees under such rules and regulations as he may prescribe and upon such terms, as he shall approve.

¹²⁷ A distinction is drawn here between alienability and taxability. It is to be noted that although the surplus lands were made inalienable for 25 years, they were exempted from taxation for only 3 years. The homestead, however, was made both inalienable and non-taxable for 25 years. *United States v. Board of Comm'rs of Osage County*, 216 Fed. 858 (C. C. A. 10, 1914).

¹²⁸ *United States v. Board of Comm'rs. of Osage County*, 216 Fed. 858 (C. C. A. 10, 1914).

¹²⁹ The death of the allottee does not subject the homestead to taxation under this section. *United States v. Board of Comm'rs of Osage County, Okla.*, 108 Fed. 485 (C. C. W. D. Okla., 1911).

¹³⁰ 35 Stat. 775. This act is cited in *Adams v. Osage Tribe of Indians*, 50 F. 2d 658 (C. C. A. 10, 1932), cert. den. 257 U. S. 632, *Browning v. United States*, 6 F. 2d 801 (C. C. A. 10, 1925), cert. den. 209 U. S. 508 (1925); *Drummond v. United States*, 34 F. 2d 765 (C. C. A. 10, 1929), *Kennedy or Knox Indians v. United States*, 50 C. Cls. 254 (1904), cert. den. 209 U. S. 577, *Lewandowski Land & Mine Mining Co. v. Oklahoma*, 245 U. S. 482 (1916); *Morrison v. United States*, 6 F. 2d 811 (C. C. A. 10, 1925); *Work v. United States v. Aaron*, 183 Fed. 847 (C. C. W. D. Okla., 1910); *Work v. United States* *en re* *Lujan*, 266 U. S. 181 (1924).

¹³¹ 37 Stat. 86. The Act of April 18, 1912, supplemented Act of June 7, 1907, 30 Stat. 62, 60, Act of June 28, 1906, 34 Stat. 630, 643; amended Act of June 28, 1906, 34 Stat. 539, 544, and amended by Act of May 25, 1918, 40 Stat. 501; and was cited in *Reeves, Probate Indian Estates* (1917), 28 *Osage and Com. 757*; *Op. Sol. I. D.*, M 4017, January 4, 1922; *Op. Sol. I. D.*, M 8870, August 15, 1922; *Op. Sol. I. D.*, M 13520, December 21, 1926; *Op. Sol. I. D.*, M 24203 June 19, 1928; *Op. Sol. I. D.*, M 26731, October 14, 1931; *Op. Camp Gen. A.* 40178, February 4, 1932; *Op. Sol. I. D.*, M 27583, November 28, 1934; *Op. Sol. I. D.*, M 29103, January 26, 1937; 54 I. D. 1055 (1934); 53 I. D. 455 (1936); *Browning v. United States*, 6 F. 2d 801 (C. C. A. 10, 1925), cert. den. 209 U. S. 508 (1925); *Drummond v. United States*, 34 F. 2d 765 (C. C. A. 10, 1929); *Globe Industries Co. v. Bruce*, 51 F. 2d 145 (C. C. A. 10, 1925), cert. den. 297 U. S. 716; *Harrison v. Morrison*, 294 Fed. 770 (C. C. A. 10, 1920), app. dismissed 295 U. S. 622 (1921); *In re Drummond*, 34 F. 2d 682 (C. C. W. D. Okla., 1920), app. dismissed 45 F. 2d 695; *In re Irwin*, 60 F. 2d 406 (C. C. A. 10, 1924); *Kraus v. Miles*, 250 U. S. 98 (1919); *La Motte v. United States*, 254 U. S. 670 (1921); *Lewandowski Land & Mine Mining Co. v. Oklahoma*, 245 U. S. 482 (1916); *Morrison v. United States*, 6 F. 2d 811 (C. C. A. 10, 1925); *Hild v. Perry*, 14 F. 2d 480 (C. C. N. D. Okla., 1928), cert. den. 275 U. S. 601; *In re Kesh-Vah-She-Pun-Kah v. Patti*, 220 F. 308 (App. D. C. 1923), app. dismissed 264 Fed. 770 (C. C. A. 10, 1920), app. dismissed 265 U. S. 575 (1922); *Taylor v. Stewart*, 2 F. 306 677 (D. C. N. D. Okla., 1904); *Taylor v. Jones*, 51 F. 2d 892 (C. C. A. 10, 1931).

the provision that no land should be sold or alienated under that section without the approval of the Secretary of the Interior. Section 6 conferred jurisdiction on the courts of Oklahoma to partition Osage allotted lands but provided that no partition or sale of the restricted lands of a deceased Osage allottee should be valid until approved by the Secretary of the Interior. It also removed the restrictions from lands held by heirs having certificates of competency or who were nonmembers of the tribe. Section 7 secured the lands allotted to members of the tribe against any lien for any debt or obligation contracted or incurred prior to the issuance of a certificate of competency, or removal of restrictions on alienation. It also provided that no lands or moneys inherited from Osage allottees shall be subject to, or be taken or sold to secure the payment of, any indebtedness incurred by such heirs prior to the time such lands and moneys are turned over to them. Section 8 of the act authorized the disposition by will by any adult member of the Osage Tribe of his estate, real, personal, or mixed, including trust funds, from which restrictions on alienation had been removed, in accordance with the laws of the State of Oklahoma, except that no such will should be admitted to probate or have any validity unless approved before or after the death of the testator by the Secretary of the Interior.

The Appropriation Act of May 25, 1918,¹³² authorized Osage allottees in accordance with regulations of the Secretary of the Interior, to change the present designation of homesteads to an equal area of their unencumbered surplus lands, each tract, after the change of designation, to take the status of the other as it existed prior to such change as to alienation, taxation, or otherwise. This act also authorized the Secretary of the Interior, where it would be for the best interest of the Osage allottees, to permit the sale of homestead and surplus allotments, wholly or in part, under regulations to be prescribed by him.

The Act of March 8, 1921,¹³³ amending the 1906 act,¹³⁴ declared the Osage citizens of the United States and removed

cert. den. 284 U. S. 963 (1931); *Taylor v. Taylor*, 51 F. 2d 331 (C. C. A. 10, 1931), cert. den. 284 U. S. 872 (1931); *United States v. Board of Comm'rs*, 20 F. Supp. 270 (D. C. W. D. Okla., 1938); *United States v. Cawson*, 10 F. Supp. 618 (D. C. N. D. Okla., 1937), app. dismissed 93 F. 2d 1028, *United States v. Gray*, 254 Fed. 103 (C. C. A. 10, 1922), after 271 Fed. 747 (D. C. E. D. Okla., 1921), app. dismissed 203 U. S. 589, *United States v. Hale*, 55 F. 2d 629 (C. C. A. 10, 1931); *United States v. Johnson*, 37 F. 2d 358 (C. C. A. 10, 1930); *United States v. La Motte*, 67 F. 2d 788 (C. C. A. 10, 1933), *United States v. Lane*, 260 Fed. 213 (C. C. A. 10, 1918), *United States v. Mummert*, 15 F. 2d 626 (C. C. A. 10, 1926); *United States v. Benson*, 284 Fed. 108 (C. C. A. 10, 1922); *United States v. Saults*, 94 F. 2d 156 (C. C. A. 10, 1935), *United States v. Tolson*, 274 Fed. 115 (D. E. D. Wash., 1921); *Work v. United States* *en re* *Lujan*, 266 U. S. 181 (1924).

¹³² 40 Stat. 651, 679.

¹³³ Sec. 8, 41 Stat. 1948. This act amended the Act of June 28, 1906, 34 Stat. 539; was amended by Act of February 27, 1925, 43 Stat. 1068; Act of March 2, 1929, 45 Stat. 1477; supplemented by Act of January 31, 1931, 46 Stat. 1947; and cited in 38 *Op. A. G.* 60 (1921); 36 *Op. A. G.* 98 (1929); *Op. Sol. I. D.*, M 4017, January 4, 1922; *Op. Sol. I. D.*, M 8870, August 15, 1922; *Op. Sol. I. D.*, M 44928, September 8, 1922; *Op. Sol. I. D.*, M 19057, December 19, 1926; *Op. Sol. I. D.*, M 26731, October 14, 1931; *Op. Sol. I. D.*, M 19190, June 2, 1926; *Op. Sol. I. D.*, M 21642, March 20, 1927; *Op. Sol. I. D.*, M 24205, June 19, 1928; *Op. Sol. I. D.*, M 25107, May 4, 1929; *Op. Sol. I. D.*, M 26280, August 21, 1930; *Op. Sol. I. D.*, M 26731, October 14, 1931; *Op. Sol. I. D.*, M 27583, January 28, 1934; 49 I. D. 430 (1922); 50 I. D. 472 (1924); 51 I. D. 199 (1930); 54 I. D. 200 (1933); 54 I. D. 841 (1933); 55 I. D. 490 (1936); *Adams v. Osage Tribe of Indians*, 50 F. 2d 658 (C. C. A. 10, 1932); after 67 F. 2d 618 (D. C. N. D. Okla., 1931), cert. den. 297 U. S. 821; *United States v. United States*, 51 F. 2d 301 (C. C. A. 10, 1926), cert. den. 295 U. S. 568 (1925); *Globe Industries Co. v. Bruce*, 51 F. 2d 145 (C. C. A. 10, 1925); cert. den. 297 U. S. 718; *Stokely v. United States*,

m41 Stat 1009, 1011 See *Id*, 180, 189/14
 45 Stat 1478 Supplementing Act of June 28 1900, 84 Stat
 639, 645 Amending Act of March 5, 1921, 41 Stat 1249, Act of Feb-
 ruary 27, 1926, 44 Stat 1008, 1010, 1011 Amended by Act of June
 5, 1908, 35 Stat 1008, 1010, 1011
 100 40 Stat 871 Deceased in 83 Op A G 577 (1947) and 58
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of Indians, the members thereof, or their heirs and assigns, were continued subject to such trust and supervision until January 1, 1900, unless otherwise provided by act of Congress. This act also provided that homestead allotments of Osage Indians not having a certificate of competency shall remain exempt from taxation while the title remains in the original allottee of one-half or more of Osage Indian blood and in his unallotted heirs or devisees of one-half or more of Osage Indian blood until January 1, 1900, with the proviso that the tax-exempt land of any such Indian allottee, heir, or devisee shall not at any time exceed 160 acres.

Section 5 of this Act provides:

The restrictions concerning lands and funds of allotted Osage Indians, as provided in this Act and all prior Acts now in force, shall apply to unallotted Osage Indians born since July 1, 1907, or after the passage of this Act, and to their heirs of Osage Indian blood, except that the provisions of section 6 of the Act of Congress approved February 27, 1903, with reference to the validity of contracts for debt, shall not apply to any allotted or unallotted Osage Indian of less than one-half degree Indian blood. *Provided*, That the Osage lands and funds and other property which has heretofore or which may hereafter be held in trust or under supervision of the United States for such Osage Indians of less than one-half degree Indian blood not having a certificate of competency shall not be subject to forced sale to satisfy any debt or obligation contracted or incurred prior to the issuance of a certificate of competency. *Provided further*, That the Secretary of the Interior is hereby authorized in his discretion to grant a certificate of competency to any unallotted Osage Indian when in the judgment of the said Secretary such member is fully competent and capable of transacting his or her own affairs.

The Act of June 24, 1898,¹²² continued the restrictions on the lands, moneys, and other properties now or hereafter held in trust or under the supervision of the United States for Osage Indians, until January 1, 1904, unless otherwise provided by act of Congress. This act also continued the tax exemption on homestead allotments of Osage Indians not having a certificate of competency, while the title remains in the original allottee of one-half or more of Osage Indian blood or in his unallotted heirs or devisees of one-half or more Osage Indian blood, until January 1, 1891.

No general exemption of Osage Indians as such from the payment of taxes can be implied from these statutes. On the contrary, the plan has been to teach the Indians, by partial taxation, to assume the responsibilities of citizenship.¹²³

B. HEADRIGHTS AND COMPETENCY

Section 4 of the Act of June 28, 1906 provides, in part:

That all funds belonging to the Osage tribe, and all moneys due, and all moneys that may become due, or may hereafter be found to be due the said Osage tribe of Indians, shall be held in trust by the United States for the period of twenty-five years from and after the first day of January, nineteen hundred and seven, except as herein provided:

¹²² *United States v. Board of Comm'rs*, 26 F. Supp. 270 (D. C. N. D. Okla., 1909), *United States v. Johnson*, 87 F. 2d 105 (C. C. A. 10, 1936); *United States v. Le Motte*, 67 F. 2d 788 (C. C. A. 10, 1928); *United States v. Sande*, 94 F. 2d 158 (C. C. A. 10, 1938). *Oilfield Production Corp. v. Carter Oil Co.*, 2 F. Supp. 81 (D. C. N. D. Okla., 1935); *Williams v. Clinton*, 83 F. 2d 143 (C. C. A. 10, 1936).

¹²³ 82 Stat. 1054, 1038.
¹²⁴ *Per Choteau v. Burnett*, 288 U. S. 601 (1931). Section 610 of title 26 of the U. S. Code (Act of August 25, 1907, 35 Stat. 806) provides: "Whenever restricted Indian lands in the State of Oklahoma are subject to gross production tax on minerals, including oil and gas, the Secretary of the Interior, in his discretion, may cause such tax or taxes due the State of Oklahoma to be paid in the manner provided for by the statute of the State of Oklahoma."

First That all the funds of the Osage tribe of Indians, and all the moneys now due or that may hereafter be found to be due to the said Osage tribe of Indians, and all moneys that may be received from the sale of their lands in Kansas under existing laws, and all moneys found to be due to said Osage tribe of Indians on claims against the United States, after all proper expenses are paid, shall be segregated as soon after January first, nineteen hundred and seven, as is practicable and placed to the credit of the individual members of the said Osage tribe on a basis of a pro rata division among the members of said tribe, as shown by the authorized roll of membership as herein provided for, or to their heirs as hereinafter provided, said credit to draw interest as now authorized by law, and the interest that may accrue thereon shall be paid quarterly to the members entitled thereto, except in the case of minors, in which case the interest shall be paid quarterly to the parents until said minor arrives at the age of twenty-one years. *Provided*, That if the Commissioner of Indian Affairs becomes satisfied that the said interest of any minor is being misused or squandered he may withhold the payment of such interest and *provided further*, That said interest of minors whose parents are deceased shall be paid to their legal guardians, as above provided.

Second That the royalty received from oil, gas, coal, and other mineral leases upon the lands for which selection and division are herein provided, and all moneys received from the sale of town lots, together with the buildings thereon, and all moneys received from the sale of the three reservations of one hundred and sixty acres each heretofore reserved for developing purposes, and all moneys received from grazing lands, shall be placed in the Treasury of the United States to the credit of the members of the Osage Tribe of Indians as other moneys of said tribe are to be deposited under the provisions of this Act, and the same shall be distributed to the individual members of said Osage tribe according to the roll provided for herein, in the manner and at the same time that payments are made of interest on other moneys held in trust for the Osages by the United States, except as herein provided.

Under the provisions of the foregoing act, the pro rata share of each Indian allottee aggregating \$3,510.70 was placed to his credit in the Treasury of the United States. The royalty received from oil, gas, coal, and other minerals, together with the interest on the pro rata shares was disbursed to the Indians quarterly as they accrued.¹²⁴

Section 5 of the Act of 1906 provides

That at the expiration of the period of twenty-five years from and after the first day of January, nineteen

¹²⁵ See Hearings, II Comm on Ind. Aff., H. R. 6234, 74th Cong., 1st sess., 1936, p. 113, and Act of June 24, 1938, 52 Stat. 1054, 1055. The District Court, in *In re Denison*, 88 F. 2d 662 (D. C. W. D. Okla., 1930), app. dismissed 45 F. 2d 535, defined a headright

What is an Osage "head-right"? This is thoroughly defined by the Act of 1906 and is nothing more than the interest that a member of the tribe has in the Osage tribal trust assets, and the level consists of the oil, gas, and mineral rights, and the funds which were placed to the credit of the Osage tribe, all fully set out in the above act. (P. 604.)

Another court has defined a headright as follows: "The right to receive the trust funds and the mineral interests at the end of the trust period, and during that period to participate in the distribution of the bonuses and royalties arising from the mineral estates and the interest on the trust funds, is an Osage headright." *Globe Internat'l Co. v. Bruce*, 81 F. 2d 148, 148-149 (C. C. A. 10, 1935). The tribal income derived from oil and gas sources up to June 1939 aggregated \$297,000,990.98, which entire sum, less the amounts authorized by Congress to be expended for the expenses of the Osage Agency, were distributed under various acts of Congress, to which reference will hereinafter be made, to the Indians pro rata, the shares of deceased Indians being paid to their heirs or devisees. Also see *In re Brown*, 90 F. 2d 492 (C. C. A. 10, 1933). The headrights are not transmissible and do not pass to a co-heir in bankruptcy. *Taylor v. Towner*, 51 F. 2d 872 (C. C. A. 10, 1931), cert. den. 284 U. S. 873 (1931); *Taylor v. Jones*, 51 F. 2d 892 (C. C. A. 10, 1931), cert. den. 284 U. S. 688 (1931).

hundred and seven, the lands, mineral interests, and money, herein provided for and held in trust by the United States shall be the absolute property of the individual members of the Osage tribe, according to the roll herein provided for, or their heirs, as herein provided, and deeds to said lands shall be issued to said members, or to their heirs, as herein provided, and said moneys shall be distributed to said members, or to their heirs, as herein provided, and said members shall have full control of said lands, money, and mineral interest, except as hereinbefore provided.

Section 6 provides that the lands, money, and mineral interests, provided for in the act, of any deceased member of the Osage tribe shall descend to his or her legal heirs, according to the laws of the Territory of Oklahoma, or of the State in which said reservation may be hereinafter incorporated, except where the decedent leaves no issue, nor husband, nor wife, in which case the lands, money, and mineral interests must go to the mother and father equally.

When the Secretary of the Interior is satisfied that an individual Indian is able to manage his own property, the Secretary is permitted to issue to that Indian a certificate of competency.¹²¹ So long as the Indian has not received a certificate of competency, the income derived as his share of the tribal royalty is exempt from the application of federal income tax laws.¹²² The exemption, however, does not apply in favor of a white woman who receives income from land inherited from her children, members of the Osage tribe.¹²³

Under section 8 of the Act of April 18, 1912,¹²⁴ jurisdiction of the property of deceased and of orphan minor, insane, or other incompetent allottees of the Osage tribe was conferred on the county courts of the State of Oklahoma. The act provided that a copy of all papers filed in the county court shall be served on the Superintendent of the Osage Agency at the time of filing, and authorized the superintendent, whenever the interests of the allottee require, to appear in court for the protection of the interests of the allottee. The act further authorized the superintendent or the Secretary of the Interior, to investigate the conduct of executors, administrators, and guardians and to prosecute any remedy, civil or criminal, as the exigencies of the case and the preservation and protection of the allottee or his estate may require.

Section 5 of the Act of April 18, 1912, authorizes the Secretary of the Interior, in his discretion, under rules and regulations to be prescribed by him and upon application therefor, to pay to Osage allottees, including the blind, insane, crippled, aged, or helpless, all or part of the funds in the Treasury of the United States to their individual credit, with the proviso that he shall first be satisfied of the competency of the allottee or that the release of said individual trust funds would be to the manifest best interests and welfare of the allottee, and further, that no trust funds of a minor or of an allottee who is incompetent shall be released and paid over except to a guardian of such person duly appointed by the proper court and after the filing by such

guardian and approval by the court of a sufficient bond satisfactorily to administer the funds released.

Section 6 of this act provides that the proceeds of partition sales due minor heirs, including such minor Indian heirs as may not be tribal members and those Indian heirs not having certificates of competency, shall be paid into the Treasury of the United States and placed to the credit of the Indians upon the same condition as attached to segregated shares of the Osage tribal fund, or with the approval of the Secretary of the Interior paid to the duly appointed guardian. The same disposition as provided in the act with reference to the proceeds of inherited lands sold is to be made of the money in the Treasury of the United States to the credit of deceased Osage allottees.

Section 7 of the act protected the funds of Osage Indians against any claim arising prior to the grant of a certificate of competency. It provided further that no lands or moneys inherited from Osage allottees shall be subject to or taken or sold to secure the payment of any indebtedness incurred by such heir prior to the time such lands and moneys are turned over to such heirs.

Section 8 authorized the disposition by will of all of the estate of an Osage Indian, including trust funds, with the provision that no such will should be admitted to probate or have any validity unless approved before or after the death of the testator by the Secretary of the Interior.

As stated by the United States Supreme Court in *Work v Lynn*,¹²⁵ it was believed when the 1903 Act was passed

"... that the income to be paid quarterly would not be in excess of the current needs of the members. For about ten years that proved to be true. Thereafter, increased production of oil and gas under the leases that were given resulted in royalties which swelled the income to a point where the quarterly payments were greatly in excess of current needs and were leading to gross extravagance and waste. Administrative measures restricting the payments were adopted, but their validity was questioned (see *Work v Mosier*, 261 U. S. 352) and the matter was called to the attention of Congress by the Secretary of the Interior. (P. 167.)

Because of the conditions outlined above, Congress in section 4 of the Act of March 3, 1921,¹²⁶ amended the Act of June 28, 1906, as follows:

That from and after the passage of this Act the Secretary of the Interior shall cause to be paid at the end of each fiscal quarter to each adult member of the Osage Tribe having a certificate of competency his or her pro rata share, either as a member of the tribe or heir of a deceased member, of the interest on trust funds, the bonus received from the sale of leases, and the royalties received during the previous fiscal quarter, and so long as the income is sufficient to pay to the adult members of said tribe not having a certificate of competency \$1,000 quarterly except where incompetent adult members have legal guardians, in which case the income of such incompetents shall be paid to their legal guardians, and to pay for maintenance and education to the parents or natural guardians or legal guardians actually having minor members under twenty-one years of age personally in charge \$500 quarterly out of the income of said minors all of said quarterly payments to legal guardians and adults, not having certificates of competency to be paid under the supervision of the Superintendent of the Osage Agency, and to invest the remainder after paying all the taxes of such members either in United States bonds or in Oklahoma State, county, or school bonds, or place the same on time deposits at interest in banks in the State of Oklahoma for the benefit of each individual member under such rules and regulations as the Secretary of the

¹²¹ For rules regarding certificates of competency to Osage adults, see 26 C. F. B. 215.

¹²² *Bischoff v Commissioner of Internal Revenue*, 88 F. 2d 976 (C. A. 10, 1930).

¹²³ *Pettit v Commissioner of Internal Revenue*, 88 F. 2d 976 (C. A. 10, 1930), cert. den. 280 U. S. 709 (1930), aff'd sub nom. *Osage v Bennett*, 288 U. S. 891 (1931).

¹²⁴ 37 Stat. 88, amending Act of June 28, 1906, 34 Stat. 589; see fn 163 *supra*. In *Work v United States* see *1 Mosier*, 261 U. S. 352 (1923), the Supreme Court said:

"... Until he has had a full opportunity to exercise this discretion, neither he (Assistant Secretary) nor the Secretary can be compelled by mandamus to make the payment, and if in the exercise he does not act capriciously, arbitrarily or beyond the scope of his authority, the writ will not issue at all. (P. 362.)

¹²⁵ 206 U. S. 161 (1924).

¹²⁶ 41 Stat. 1249. See fn 165, *supra*.

Interior may prescribe. *Provided*, That at the beginning of each fiscal year there shall first be reserved and set aside out of the Osage tribal funds available for that purpose a sufficient amount of money for the expenditures authorized by Congress out of the Osage funds for that fiscal year. *Provided further*, That all past existing individual obligations of adults not having certificates of competency outstanding upon the passage of this Act, when approved by the Superintendent of the Osage Agency, shall be paid out of the money of such individual as the same may be placed in his credit in addition to the quarterly allowance provided for herein.

Prior to the decision of the United States Supreme Court in *Work v. Luna* the foregoing provision was administratively interpreted as requiring payment to the legal guardians of adult restricted Osage Indians of the entire income of such Indians. As a result of the decision in the *Luna* case, Congress in the Act of February 27, 1925,¹⁰⁰ provided for the return by legal guardians to the Secretary of the Interior of all moneys in their possession or control, therefore paid them in excess of \$400 per annum for adults and \$200 for minors under the Act of March 3, 1921. The act also provided for delivery by the guardians to the Secretary of the Interior of all property, bonds, securities, and stock purchased, or investments made by such guardians out of the moneys paid them, to be held by the Secretary of the Interior or disposed of by him, as he shall deem to be for the best interests of the members to whom the same belong. The act further provided that all funds other than as above mentioned, and other property therefore or hereafter received by a guardian of a member of the Osage tribe of Indians, which was therefore under the supervision and control of the Secretary of the Interior or the title to which was held in trust for such Indians by the United States, shall not thereby become divested of the supervision and control of the Secretary of the Interior or the United States be relieved of its trust; and that the guardians should not dispose of or otherwise encumber such fund or property without the approval of the Secretary of the Interior, and in accordance with the orders of the county court of Osage County, Oklahoma. The act also provided that in case of the death, resignation, or removal from office of such a guardian, the funds and property in his possession subject to supervision and control of the Secretary of the Interior or to which the United States held the title in trust should be immediately delivered to the Superintendent of the Osage Agency, to be held by him and supervised and invested as provided by the terms of the act.

Congress also modified the payments to be made in behalf of enrolled or unenrolled minor members above 18 years of age so as to permit the parents or legal guardians of such minors to receive \$1,000 quarterly. The provision with regard to the payment under the 1925 act reads as follows:

That the Secretary of the Interior shall cause to be paid at the end of each fiscal quarter to each adult member of the Osage Tribe of Indians in Oklahoma having a certificate of competency his or her pro rata share, either as a member of the tribe or heir or devisee of a deceased member, of the interest on trust funds, the bonus received from the sale of oil or gas leases, the royalties therefrom, and any other moneys due such Indian received during each fiscal quarter, including all moneys received prior to the passage of this Act and remaining unpaid; and so long as the accumulated income is sufficient the Secretary of the Interior shall cause to be paid to the adult members of said tribe not having a certificate of competency \$1,000 quarterly, except where such adult members have legal guardians, in which case the amounts provided for herein may be paid to the legal guardian or direct to such Indian in the discretion of the Secretary of the Interior

the total amounts of such payments, however, shall not exceed \$1,000 quarterly except as hereinafter provided, and shall cause to be paid for the maintenance and education, to either one of the parents or legal guardians actually having personally in charge, enrolled or unenrolled, minor member under twenty-one years of age, and above eighteen years of age, \$1,000 quarterly out of the income of such said income, and out of the income of minors under eighteen years of age, \$500 quarterly, and so long as the accumulated income of the parent or parents of a minor who has no income or whose income is less than \$500 per quarter is sufficient, shall cause to be paid to either of said parents having the care and custody of such minor \$500 quarterly, or such proportion thereof as the income of such minor may be less than \$500, in addition to the allowances above provided for such parents. Rentals due such adult members from their lands and their minor children's lands and all succession from such adult's investments shall be paid to them in addition to the allowance above provided. All payments to legal guardians of Osage Indians shall be expended subject to the joint approval in writing of the court and the superintendent of the Osage Agency. All payments to adults not having certificates of competency, including amounts paid for each minor, shall, in case the Secretary of the Interior finds that such adults are wasting or squandering said income, be subject to the supervision of the superintendent of the Osage Agency. *Provided*, That if an adult member, not having a certificate of competency so desires, his entire income accumulating in the future from the sources herein specified may be paid to him without supervision, unless the Secretary of the Interior shall find, after notice and hearing, that such member is wasting or squandering his income, in which event the Secretary of the Interior shall pay to such member only the amounts hereinbefore specified to be paid to adult members not having certificates of competency. The Secretary of the Interior shall invest the remainder, after paying the taxes of such members, in United States bonds, Oklahoma State bonds, real estate, first-mortgage real estate loans not to exceed 50 per centum of the appraised value of such real estate, and where the member is a resident of Oklahoma such investment shall be in loans on Oklahoma real estate, stock in Oklahoma building and loan associations, livestock, or deposit the same in banks in Oklahoma, or expend the same for the benefit of such member, such expenditures, investments, and deposits to be made under such restrictions, rules, and regulations as he may prescribe. *Provided*, That the Secretary of the Interior shall not make any investment for an adult member without first securing the approval of such member of such investment.

(P. 1008-1009)

Under the same section Congress provided that no guardian shall be appointed, except on the written application or approval of the Secretary of the Interior, for the estate of a member of the Osage tribe of Indians who does not have a certificate of competency or who is of one-half or more Indian blood.

Section 3 of this act provides in part:

Property of Osage Indians not having certificates of competency purchased or hereinafter set forth shall not be subject to the lien of any debt, claim, or judgment except taxes, or be subject to alienation, without the approval of the Secretary of the Interior.

Section 4 of the Act of February 27, 1925,¹⁰¹ newly vested in the Secretary of the Interior power to revoke certificates of competency issued to an Osage Indian of more than one-half Indian blood, whom he finds, after notice and hearing, to be squandering or misusing his funds.

¹⁰⁰ 43 Stat. 1008. See fn. 100, *supra*. On the general subject of revocation of certificate of competency of Osage Indian, see 63 U. S. D. 160 (1980).

¹⁰¹ Even if an Osage Indian were manifestly incompetent, and his business interests would be safeguarded thereby, his certificate could not be revoked unless he squandered or misused his income. On limitation on the amount of credit which may be granted on Osage Indian, see Act of March 8, 1901, 31 Stat. 1068, 1068-1069.

¹⁰⁰ 43 Stat. 1008. See fn. 100, *supra*.

In section 6 of the act it was provided

No contract for debt hereafter made with a member of the Osage Tribe of Indians not having a certificate of competency, shall have any validity, unless approved by the Secretary of the Interior

In section 1 of the Act of March 2, 1923,¹²⁶ Congress provides

The lands, moneys, and other properties now or hereafter held in trust or under the supervision of the United States for the Osage Tribe of Indians, the members thereof, or their heirs and assigns, shall continue subject to such trust and supervision until January 1, 1930, unless otherwise provided by Act of Congress

Section 3 of this act provides

That section 1 of the Act of Congress of February 27, 1925 (Forty-third Statutes at Large, page 1008), is hereby amended by adding thereto the following

"The Secretary of the Interior be, and is hereby, authorized, in his discretion, under such rules and regulations as he may prescribe, upon application of any member of the Osage Tribe of Indians not having a certificate of competency, to pay all or any part of the funds held in trust for such Indians. *Provided*, That the Secretary of the Interior shall, within one year after this Act is approved, pay to each enrolled Indian of less than half Osage blood, one-fourth part of his or her proportionate share of accumulated funds. And such Secretary shall on or before the expiration of ten years from the date of the approval of this Act, advance and pay over to such Osage Indians of less than one-half Osage Indian blood, the balance appearing to his credit of accumulated funds, and shall issue to each Indian a certificate of competency. *And provided further*, That nothing herein contained shall be construed to interfere in any way with the removal by the Secretary of the Interior of restrictions from and against any Osage Indian at any time"

Section 4 of this act provides.

That section 2 of the Act of Congress approved February 27, 1925 (Forty-third Statutes at Large, page 1011), being an Act to amend the Act of Congress of March 8, 1921 (Forty-first Statutes at Large, page 1249), be, and the same is hereby, amended to read as follows

"Upon the death of an Osage Indian of one-half or more Indian blood who does not have a certificate of competency, his or her moneys and funds and other property accrued and accruing to his or her estate and which have heretofore been subject to supervision as provided by law may be paid to the administrator or executor of the estate of such deceased Indian or direct to his heirs or devisees, or may be retained by the Secretary of the Interior in his discretion at the Secretary of the Interior, under regulations to be promulgated by him. *Provided*, That the Secretary of the Interior shall pay to administrators and executors of the estates of such deceased Osage Indians a sufficient amount of money out of such estates to pay all lawful indebtedness and costs and expenses of administration when approved by him, and, out of the shares belonging to heirs or devisees, above referred to, he shall pay the costs and expenses of such heirs or devisees, including attorney fees, when approved by him, in the determination of heirs or contests of wills. Upon the death of any Osage Indian of less than one-half of Osage Indian blood or upon the death of an Osage Indian who has a certificate of competency, his moneys and funds and other property accrued and accruing to his estate shall be paid and delivered to the administrator or executor of his estate to be administered upon according to the laws of the State of Oklahoma. *Provided*, That upon the settlement of such estate any funds or property subject to the control or supervision of the Secretary of the Interior on the date of the approval of this Act, which have been inherited by or devised to any adult or minor

heir or devisee of one-half or more Osage Indian blood who does not have a certificate of competency, and which have been paid or delivered by the Secretary of the Interior to the administrator or executor, shall be paid or delivered by such administrator or executor to the Secretary of the Interior for the benefit of such Indian and shall be subject to the supervision of the Secretary as provided by law"

Under section 5 of the act, the restrictions concerning lands and funds of allotted Osage Indians as provided in that act and all prior acts then in force, shall apply to unallotted Osage Indians born since July 1, 1907, or thereafter, and to their heirs of Osage Indian blood, except that the provision of section 6 of the Act of February 27, 1923, with reference to the validity of contracts for debt, shall not apply to any allotted or unallotted Osage Indian of less than one-half degree Indian blood, and subject to the further proviso that the Osage lands and funds, and any other property which had theretofore or which may hereafter be held in trust or under supervision of the United States for Osage Indians of less than one-half degree Indian blood not having a certificate of competency shall not be subject to forced sale to satisfy any debt or obligation contracted or incurred prior to the issuance of a certificate of competency, and with the further provision that the Secretary of the Interior was authorized in his discretion to grant a certificate of competency to any unallotted Osage Indian when in the judgment of the said Secretary such member is fully competent and capable of transacting his or her own affairs

The Act of June 24, 1938,¹²⁷ further modified Osage payments as follows

That hereafter the Secretary of the Interior shall cause to be paid to each adult member of the Osage Tribe of Indians not having a certificate of competency his or her proportionate share, either as a member of the tribe or heir or devisee of a deceased member, of the interest on trust funds, the bonus received from the sale of oil or gas leases, and the royalties therefrom received during each fiscal quarter, not to exceed \$1,000 per quarter, and if such adult member has a legal guardian, his current income not to exceed \$1,000 per quarter may be paid to such legal guardian in the discretion of the Secretary of the Interior. *Provided*, That when an adult restricted Indian has surplus funds in excess of \$10,000 there shall be paid such Indian sufficient funds from his accumulated surplus in addition to his current income to aggregate \$15,000 quarterly, but in the event of any adult restricted Indian whose surplus funds are less than \$10,000, such adult shall receive quarterly only his current income not to exceed \$1,000 per quarter. *Provided further*, That the Secretary of the Interior is hereby authorized to and may in his discretion pay out of any moneys heretofore accrued or hereafter accruing to the credit of any person of Osage Indian blood who does not have a certificate of competency or who is one-half or more Osage Indian blood, all of said persons' taxes of every kind and character, for which said person is now or hereafter may be liable, before paying to or for such person any funds as required by law. *And provided further*, That upon application and consent of any restricted Osage Indian the Secretary of the Interior may cause payment to be made of additional funds from the accumulated surplus to the credit of any Osage Indian under such rules and regulations as he may prescribe. *Provided*, That such adult members from their lands and their minor children, or lands and all income from such adult's investments, including interest on deposits to their credit, shall be paid to them in addition to the current allowances above provided

Whenever minor members of the Osage Tribe of Indians have funds or property subject to the control or supervision of the Secretary of the Interior, the said Secretary may in his discretion pay or cause to be paid to the parents, legal guardian, or any person, school, or institution having actual custody of such minor,

¹²⁶ 45 Stat. 1478 See fn 171, *supra*.

¹²⁷ 52 Stat. 1084 See fn 172, *supra*.

such amounts out of the income or funds of the said minors as he deems necessary, and when such a minor is eighteen years of age or over, the Secretary of the Interior may in his discretion cause disbursement of funds for support and maintenance or other specific purposes to be made direct to such minor. (17p 1034-1035)

C. INHERITANCE

Exclusive jurisdiction of the probate of wills and the determination of heirs of the Osages is vested in the state courts.¹²¹

If an Osage dies testate, the Secretary of the Interior is authorized to approve or disapprove the will prior to institution of probate proceedings in the local court.¹²² In the event that the will is disapproved, it may not be offered for probate, but if the will is approved, the state court is not bound by the Secretary's determination as to validity and it may permit the issue to be relitigated before it.

The power of an Osage Indian to make a will has been discussed by the Solicitor for the Department of the Interior.¹²³

There is no provision in the act of 1906, authorizing an Osage Indian to make a will. That authority is contained in Section 3 of the act of April 18, 1912 (37 Stat. 86, 88), entitled "An Act supplementary to and amendatory of the act" of June 23, 1906, which section provides:

"That any adult member of the Osage Tribe of Indians not mentally incompetent may dispose of any or all of his estate, real, personal, or mixed, including trust funds, from which restrictions as to alienation have not been removed, by will, in accordance with the laws of the State of Oklahoma. *Provided*, That no such will shall be admitted to probate or have any validity unless approved before the death of the testator by the Secretary of the Interior."

The act in section 3 thereof, subjects the property of deceased and incompetent Osage allottees in probate matters to the jurisdiction of the County Courts of the State of Oklahoma. The land of such persons, however, cannot be sold or alienated and no will can be admitted to probate without the prior approval of the Secretary of the Interior. The word "minor" or "minors" is used throughout the act of 1912, in connection with provisions similar to those found in the act of 1906. The clear indications are that the word as used in the later act means the same thing that it was declared to mean in the former act, that is, a person under 21 years of age. As stated the word "adult" in the act of 1906, as applied to both males and females refers to a person 21 years of age or over. In view of the fact that the act of 1912 is "supplemental to and amendatory of the act" of 1906, section 8 thereof which authorizes any "adult" member of the Osage tribe of Indians to dispose of his property by will must be read into the act of 1906. The section thus becomes a part of and must be construed in connection with said act of 1906. In this view there is no escape from the conclusion that the word "adult" in said section 8 means a person 21 years of age or over. It was the exclusive right of Congress to determine at what age an Osage Indian becomes capable of making a will. It declared that age to be 21 or majority. A law of Oklahoma declaring a person to be competent to make a will at 18 years of age is directly in conflict with the Federal statute and the latter is controlling. *Trustett v. Closser* (108 Fed. 886; 236 U. S. 223); *Priddy v. Thompson* (204 Fed. 955); *Leita v. Leita* (176 Pac. 234). It follows that testatrix not having reached the age of 21 years was for that reason incapable of making a valid will.

D. LEASING

1. *Tribe oil and gas and mineral leases.*—The greater part of the income from leases of the Osage Indians is derived from oil and gas lands. During the fiscal year 1924 the oil rights

to 70,737 acres in the Osage Reservation were sold by means of bids for \$17,530,800.¹²⁴ In the introduction to the discussion of the Osages, it has been shown that the title to the oil and gas in the Osage Reservation is held for the benefit of the tribe even though the surface has been allotted in severalty to individuals.

Section 3 of the Osage Allotment Act of June 28, 1906,¹²⁵ directed that the oil, gas, coal, or other minerals covered by the allotted lands should be reserved to the Osage tribe for 25 years from and after April 8, 1906, and provided that mineral leases for such lands might be made by the tribal council with the approval of the Secretary of the Interior under such rules and regulations as he might prescribe.¹²⁶ Under the seventh paragraph of section 2 it was provided that oil, gas, and other minerals should become the property of the owner of the land at the expiration of 25 years, unless otherwise provided by Congress.

Section 3 of the 1906 act was amended by the Act of March 8, 1921,¹²⁷ so as to extend the reservation of minerals to the tribe to April 7, 1940. All valid existing oil and gas leases on April 7, 1931, were renewed upon the same terms, and extended, until April 8, 1940, and so long thereafter as oil or gas was found in paying quantities. The 1921 act also directed the Secretary of the Interior and the Osage Council "to offer for lease for oil and gas purposes all of the remaining portions of the unleased Osage land prior to April 8, 1931, offering the same annually at a rate of not less than one-tenth of the unleased area."

This provision was again amended by the Act of March 2, 1929,¹²⁸ which extended the period of reservation to the Osage tribe of the minerals covered by such lands until April 8, 1938, unless otherwise provided by act of Congress. The 1929 act also amended the provision requiring the leasing of lands by the Secretary of the Interior and the Osage Council by providing:—

"* * * That not less than twenty-five thousand acres shall be offered for lease for oil and gas mining purposes during any one year. *Provided further*, That as to all lands heretofore leased, the regulations governing same and the leases issued thereon shall contain appropriate provisions for the conservation of the natural gas for its economic use, to the end that the highest percentage of ultimate recovery of both oil and gas may be secured; *Provided, however*, That nothing herein contained shall be construed as affecting any valid existing lease for oil or gas or other minerals, but all such leases shall continue as long as gas, oil, or other minerals are found in paying quantities."

Section 3 of the Act of June 24, 1938,¹²⁹ amended the 1929 act to provide that the minerals covered by such reserved lands shall be reserved:

"* * * until the 8th day of April, 1968, unless otherwise provided by Act of Congress, and all royalties and bonuses arising therefrom shall belong to the Osage Tribe of Indians, and shall be disbursed to members of the Osage Tribe or their heirs or assigns as now provided by law, after reserving such amounts as are now or may hereafter be authorized by Congress for specific purposes."

The lands, moneys, and other properties now or hereafter held in trust or under the supervision of the United States for the Osage Tribe of Indians, the members

¹²¹ *Schmeckebear*, The Office of Indian Affairs, Its History, Activities and Organization (1927), p. 138.

¹²² 84 Stat. 889, fn. 165, *supra*.

¹²³ See *Work v. United States ex rel. Mosser*, 261 U. S. 852 (1923).

¹²⁴ 45 Stat. 1240, fn. 155 *supra*.

¹²⁵ Sec. 1, 45 Stat. 1478. See fn. 177, *supra*.

¹²⁶ *Ibid.*, 1479.

¹²⁷ 62 Stat. 1034, 1035. For regulations regarding the leasing of Osage Reservation lands for oil and gas mining, see 26 C. F. R. 180.1-180.04. For regulations regarding the leasing of such lands for mining except oil and gas, see std. 204.1-204.80.

¹ Act of April 18, 1912, sec. 9, 37 Stat. 86. See fn. 168, *supra*. Also see subsection A, *supra*.

² *Ibid.*, sec. 8, 37 Stat. 86, 88.

³ Op. Sol. I. D., D-47112, April 18, 1920.

thereof, or their heirs and assigns, shall continue subject to such trusts and supervision until January 1, 1984, unless otherwise provided by Act of Congress.

2 *Agricultural leases of restricted lands*—Section 7 of the Osage Allotment Agreement of June 28, 1906,¹²⁷ authorizes the allottees of the Osage tribe and their heirs to lease their lands for mining, grazing, or other purposes, but requires all lease,

for the benefit of the individual allottees of the tribe or their heirs to be approved by the Secretary of the Interior before becoming effective.¹²⁸

¹²⁷ It was held under this section and sec 12 that the Secretary of the Interior had authority to adopt rules and regulations for the leasing of such lands and all such leases, unless approved by the Secretary of the Interior, were void. See *La Motte v United States*, 264 U S 670 (1924). For regulations regarding such leases, see 25 C F R 177.1-177.18.

¹²⁸ 34 Stat 539

SECTION 13. THE OKLAHOMA INDIAN WELFARE ACT¹²⁷

The Wheeler-Howard bill as originally introduced applied to the State of Oklahoma.¹²⁸ The bill was amended at the suggestion of Senator Thomas of Oklahoma, chairman of the Senate Indian Affairs Committee, so as to make inapplicable to the tribes in Oklahoma¹²⁹ those sections which extended existing trust periods, limited alienation of restricted land, authorized the establishment of new reservations, and authorized tribal organization.

Two years later these provisions of the Wheeler-Howard Act were extended to Oklahoma, with some modifications to fit the peculiarities of the local legal situation. Under the Thomas Rogers Oklahoma Indian Welfare Act, the Indians of Oklahoma became eligible to share in the program of self-government, corporate organization, credit and land purchase. This act also provided for the organization of Indians into voluntary cooperative associations for the purposes of credit administration, production, marketing, consumer protection or land management, and authorized an appropriation of \$2,000,000 for loans to such associations and to individual Indians of the state.¹³⁰

Under this act a considerable number of the Oklahoma tribes have adopted tribal constitutions and obtained corporate charters.¹³¹

These constitutions and charters differ in several respects from those adopted by tribes of other states.¹³² For one thing, the substantive powers of the tribe are set forth in the charters, rather than in constitutions. The constitutions are restricted to such topics as membership and tribal organization. Another important characteristic of the Oklahoma tribal constitutions and charters is that none of them contain the broad police and judicial powers found in many other tribal documents. This lack may be ascribed to legislation already discussed,¹³³ depriving tribal courts in the Indian Territory of all power, and to the practical assumption by the State of Oklahoma of responsibilities which are elsewhere divided between federal and tribal authorities.

¹²⁷ Act of June 20, 1906, 49 Stat 1907, 25 U S C 501, et seq. Supplementing Act of June 18, 1904, 38 Stat 984. Supplemented by Act of August 9, 1907, 50 Stat 564, Act of May 9, 1908, 32 Stat 291. Circ. Circular of Comm. No 3170, July 28, 1908, Memo Sol I D, July 31, 1908, Statement by Comm. on S 1750 to report Wheeler-Howard Act, March 4, 1907, Memo Sol I D, March 4, 1907, Memo Acting Sol I D, July 14, 1907, Memo Sol I D, November 29, 1907, Memo Sol I D, April 22, 1908, Memo Sol I D, May 24, 1908, Letter of Act. Comm. to Five Civilized Tribes Agency, June 29, 1908, Memo Sol I D, September 14, 1909, Ind Off Letter from Sup. Quapaw Agency, October 17, 1908, Memo Sol I D, December 18, 1908, Memo Sol I D, April 8, 1909.

¹²⁸ See Hearings, H Comm on Ind Aff, H R 8294, 74th Cong, 1st sess, 1905, pp 11-12.

¹²⁹ Hearings, Sen Comm on Ind Aff, S 2047, 74th Cong, 1st sess, 1905, p 9.

¹³⁰ For regulations regarding this law, see 25 C F R 22.1-22.27 (organization and loans to Indian cooperative associations), 24.1-24.20 (loans to and by Indian credit associations), 26.1-26.20 (loans by United States to individual Indians).

¹³¹ Seneca-Cayuga Tribe of Oklahoma, constitution ratified May 15, 1937, charter ratified June 28, 1937, Wyandotte Tribe of Oklahoma, July 24, 1937, charter, October 30, 1937, Cheyenne-Arapaho Tribes of Oklahoma, September 18, 1937, Kickapoo Tribe of Oklahoma, September 18, 1937, charter January 15, 1938, Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma, October 28, 1937, charter February 5, 1908, Sac and Fox Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma, December 7, 1937, Pawnee Indians of Oklahoma, January 6, 1938, charter April 28, 1939, Caddo Indian Tribe of Oklahoma, January 17, 1938, charter November 13, 1938, Tonkawa Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma, April 21, 1938, Ottawa Tribe of Oklahoma, November 30, 1938, charter June 2, 1940, Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma, December 5, 1938, Citizen Band of Potawatomi Indians of Oklahoma, December 12, 1948, Tsalapthosnee Tribal town, December 27, 1938, charter April 14, 1940, Alabama Quapaw Tribal Town, January 10, 1939, charter May 24, 1939, Miami Tribe of Oklahoma, October 10, 1939, charter June 1, 1940, Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma, October 10, 1939, charter June 1, 1940, Western Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma, December 22, 1940, charter December 12, 1940.

¹³² See Chapter 7, sec 8.

¹³³ See sec 4, *supra*.

**REFERENCE TABLES
AND INDEX**

EXPLANATION OF REFERENCE TABLES AND INDEX

The various tables that comprise this supplement constitute the first comprehensive attempt to collect and systematize the basic materials of Federal Indian law. These materials include the statutes and treaties of the United States, the decisions of federal courts, including territorial courts, the administrative rulings of the Attorney General and of the Department of the Interior, legal texts and periodicals and congressional and other public documents. An attempt has been made to make these compilations complete with respect to published statutes, treaties (published and unpublished), reported federal cases, published opinions of the Attorney General and published rulings of the Interior Department. Such completeness, however, extends only to the date on which this compilation was begun, April 14, 1939. A few later items of special importance, appearing between this date and the completion of the compilation and handbook on July 1, 1940, have been inserted in the various tables. With respect to unpublished administrative rulings, legal texts and periodicals, and congressional and other public documents, a complete coverage has not been attempted but an effort has been made to include in this compilation the most important materials in the field. The analysis of unpublished memoranda of the Lands Division of the Department of Justice goes back as far as the year 1928, and the search for unpublished decisions and memoranda in the files of the Interior Department was carried back as far as October 31, 1917. The published decisions of the Interior Department go back to July, 1851. Statutes, court decisions, and other official materials have been compiled as far back as the adoption of the Constitution in 1789, except that treaties of the United States preceding the Constitution, and recognized therein, have been included.

A count of the number of items of each category collected and utilized in the preparation of this supplement gives the following approximate figures:

Statutes	4,284
Treaties	889
Reported Cases	1,725
Opinions of the Attorney General, etc.	323
Interior Department Rulings	338
Legal Texts and Articles	629
Tribal Constitutions	141
Tribal Charters	112
Congressional Reports and Miscellaneous	801
Total Number of Items	8,922

This supplement to the Handbook of Federal Indian Law is composed of seven parts: (1) the tribal index of materials on Indian law, (2) the annotated table of statutes and treaties, (3) the table of federal cases, (4) the table of Interior Department rulings, (5) the table of Attorney General's opinions, (6) the bibliography, and (7) the index. A few words concerning each of these parts may be of assistance to those who make use of this supplement.

Tribal Index of Materials on Indian Law—The tribal index attempts to show, for each tribe, the special statutes, treaties, decisions and other legal materials that concern that tribe.

The importance of a tribe-by-tribe index of materials on Indian law arises from the fact that during the greater part of our national existence we have dealt with Indian tribes through treaty or agreement, through special legislation, and, most recently, through tribal constitutions approved by the Federal Government and federal charters approved by the Indian tribes. Thus there has developed, for each tribe and reservation, a special body of law which supplements or modifies general legislation on Indian affairs. Thus any general analysis of problems of federal Indian law, such as is attempted in the Handbook itself, necessarily contains an element of incompleteness. To help in the filling of that gap this guide to special legal materials affecting each tribe and reservation has been prepared.

An attempt has been made to reflect faithfully legislative and administrative usage in the designation of Indian groups covered by federal legislation. In many instances the groups thus designated are not "tribes" in the anthropological sense, but portions or groupings of such "tribes." Political existence rather than racial unity has been the chief criterion of group existence in the history of Indian treaties and Indian legislation. This index is primarily a roster of such political entities. Where ethnological designations vary from political usage, such ethnological designations have been noted parenthetically following the primary listing.

Since a single tribe is frequently referred to in several different groupings, cross-references have been included to show other designations for a given tribe and to show the designations of other groups that include the tribe in question or are included therein.

Annotated Table of Statutes and Treaties—In the statutory index an effort has been made to annotate each act of Congress, treaty, and joint or concurrent resolution with pertinent legal materials, statutory and non-statutory. The effect of this statutory index is to

show for each provision of federal law relating to Indians, the legal background against which the law was enacted and the functioning of the law since its enactment.

The annotations include under each statutory item the following materials: (1) Reference to earlier and later statutes and treaties, which supplement, amend, or repeal, or are supplemented, amended, or repealed by, the annotated item; (2) Reference to federal cases in which the statutory item is cited; (3) Similar references to Attorney General's opinions in which the statutory item is cited; (4) Parallel citations to Revised Statutes; (5) Parallel citations to the United States Code; (6) Historical annotations taken from the United States Code Annotated; (7) Published and unpublished decisions and memoranda of the Interior Department; (8) Unpublished memoranda of the Lands Division of the Department of Justice; (9) Legal texts; (10) Legal periodicals; (11) Congressional and other government documents.

Table of Federal Cases.—The table of federal cases on Indian law covers reported cases in the federal (including the territorial) courts during the period from 1790 to 1939 in which issues of federal Indian law are considered. In this table the various cases are annotated for appeals, overrulings, and related decisions.

Table of Interior Department Rulings.—The table of Interior Department rulings on Indian matters from 1881 to 1939, contains volume and page reference to published rulings and file number reference to unpublished materials, together with the date and indication of subject matter for each ruling. Included in this table are a number of rulings of other agencies which are available in Interior Department files.

Table of Attorney General's Opinions.—The table of published Attorney General's Opinions from 1789 to 1939 on matters of Indian law contains volume, page, date and title for each opinion. Unpublished memoranda of the Lands Division of the Department of Justice collected by that Department from 1929 to 1939 are cited in the tribal and statutory indices, but are not listed as a separate table.

Bibliography.—The bibliography is composed of four parts: the major compilations of federal Indian laws, treaties and regulations; important legal literature—periodicals and texts; background materials, including works on Indian policy and administration; and congressional documents (including American Archives, American State Papers, and Journals of the Continental Congress) pertaining to Indian affairs, either cited in the various indices or the Handbook or of prime importance to an understanding of the development of Indian legislation and policy in the United States.

Index.—The index covers the principal topics treated in the Handbook of Federal Indian Law. It may be

supplemented by reference to the Analysis of Chapters, at pages XIX to XXIV of the Handbook.

In order to conserve space, references to case materials, statutory materials and other materials cited in this supplement are given in the most concise form possible. These citations, however, may be elaborated by reference to the appropriate table. Thus, a case cited by the first word or phrase, e. g., *Adams*, 59 F. 2d 633, may be identified in the table of federal cases more fully described as *ADAMS v. OSAGE TRIBE OF INDIANS*, 59 F. 2d 633 (C. C. A. 10, 1932), aff'g 50 F. 2d 918 (D. C. N. D. Okla. 1931), cert. den. 287 U. S. 652. Where the first party named in the title of the case is the United States, the citation includes in addition the first word or phrase identifying the adverse party. Likewise a citation to a legal text, law review article or congressional document can be amplified by a reference to the bibliography. Thus, for example, the citation: "Black, II," will be found by reference to *Part II, Literature on Indian Law, Section 2, Treats*, to designate a volume of Henry Campbell Black entitled *Intoxicating Liquors*, published in 1892.

The following abbreviations have been generally used:

A.	Amended
Aff'd.	Affirmed
Aff'g.	Affirming
Ag.	Amending
App. dismissed	Appeal dismissed
Approp. St.	Appropriation Statutes
Archives 1.	National Archives, Unpublished Treaty No. 1
C.	Congress
C. 1.	Congress, First Session
Cert. den.	Certiorari denied
Comm.	Committee
Comm'r.	Commissioner
Compt. Gen'l's Rulings	Comptroller General's Rulings
Const.	Constitution
Den.	Denied
Dismiss.	Dismissed
Gov. Pub.	Government Publications
H.	House of Representatives
I. D. Regs.	Interior Department Regulations
I. D. Rulings.	Interior Department Rulings
I. D.	Land Decisions, Interior Department
I. D. Memo. (D. I.).	Memorandum of Lands Division, Department of Justice
Memo. Sol.	Memorandum, Solicitor, Interior Department
Memo. Sol. Off.	Memorandum, Solicitor's Office, Interior Department
Mod.	Modified
Mod'g.	Modifying
Op. A. G.	Opinion of the Attorney General
Op. Sol.	Opinion, Solicitor, Interior Department
Per.	Periodicals
Priv. St.	Private Statutes
R.	Repealed
Rev.	Reversed

Rev'g-----	Reversing
Rg-----	Repealing
Rp-----	Repealed in part
Rpg-----	Repealing in part
S-----	Senate
S-----	Supplemented
S c-----	Same case
Sg-----	Supplementing
Spec St-----	Special Statutes
St-----	Statutes

The publication of this supplement affords a welcome opportunity to acknowledge the contributions of those who have labored in the collection and systematization of the thousands of items comprised in these various tables. The collection and analysis of legal materials was in the hands of attorneys Fred V. Folsom, Jr., Abraham Glasser, Theodore H. Haas, Samuel Miller, Mrs. Muna Pollitt, Miss Bettie Renner, and Miss Doris Williamson, all of the Department of Justice. The collection of subsidiary historical, anthropological, and administrative materials was accomplished by Miss Lucy

Kramer and Dr. David Rodnick, ethnologists in the Office of Indian Affairs, Fred A. Baker, Field Agent of the Office of Indian Affairs, and Miss Mary K. Morris, of the Department of Justice. The compiling of the annotated table of statutes was the work of Miss Renner; the index of tribal materials and the table of Interior Department rulings were compiled by Mrs. Pollitt; the table of federal cases was prepared by Samuel Miller; the bibliography is the work of Miss Morris and Miss Kramer; and the index was prepared by Miss Irene R. Shiber, an attorney in the Office of Indian Affairs.

The arduous task of putting all these materials into form for publication was assumed by Mrs. Griselda G. Lobell and Miss Marie J. Turinsky. To John H. Ady, Chief of the Publications Section of the Department of the Interior, went the task of seeing this supplement through the press.

F. S. C.

JULY 1, 1941.

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OTTAWA TRIBE OF OKLAHOMA. See also OKLAHOMA; CHIPPEWA, OTTAWA AND POTTAWATOMIE; OTTAWA AND CHIPPEWA; OTTAWA, POTTAWATOMIE, CHIPPEWA AND OTHER TRIBES OF INDIANS. *7th* Manypenny, OIV. *Spec. R.* 8,608, 219, 600; 4,802; 9,642; 12,207; 14,870; 17,888, 628; 18,516; 10, 65, 21,511; 20,224 *Approp. St.* 1,490; 2,407, 487; 3,568, 617; 4,200, 894, 606, 854, 628, 616, 982; 6,522, 705, 789; 5,526, 75, 158, 298, 329, 402, 417, 468, 704, 766; 9, 20, 132, 262, 554, 574; 10, 41, 228, 815, 680; 11, 855, 106, 273, 888; 12, 44, 221, 512, 774; 13, 161, 641; 14, 266; 15, 168; 16, 118, 544; 17, 152, 437; 20, 989; 29, 321; 33, 1048; 35, 168; 36, 684; *Spec. R.* 8,687, 919, 920, 924, 741; 11, 556; 12, 853; *Revisions* No. 44; 7,16, 28, 40, 67, 112, 131, 146, 160, 178, 207, 218, 272, 315, 320, 323, 826, 420, 401, 8, 110; 11, 822; 12, 1287; 14, 677; 15, 613. *Cases* Dubuque, 139 U. S. 139; *Rik.* 112 U. S. 94; *Godfrey*, 10 Fed. Cas. No. 6497; *Luby*, 114 U. S. 820; *Quinn*, 42 C Cls. 240; *Ottawa*, 42 C Cls. 515; *Pam-tee-see*, 18 F 871; *Spaulding*, 160 U. S. 894; *Wiggin*, 103 U. S. 557. *Op. A. G.* 2,582; 3,200, 20, 13, 36 *I. D. Rulings* Memo Sol. May 1, 1937. *Cons.* Nov. 30, 1938. *Chawter* June 2, 1939.

OTTAWA AND CHIPPEWA. See also OTTAWA; WISCONSIN; CHIPPEWAYS, OTTAWAS AND POTTAWATOMIE. *Spec. St.* 17,381. *Approp. St.* 5,138, 298, 823, 402, 417, 468, 704, 766; 9, 20, 132, 262, 554, 574; 10, 41, 228, 815, 680; 11, 855, 106, 273, 888; 12, 44, 221, 512, 774; 13, 161, 641, 14, 266; 15, 168; 16, 118; 18, 335, 644; 17, 152, 437; 20, 989; 29, 321; 33, 1048, 35, 168, 36, 684; 37, 203, 296; 21, 114, 456; 22, 48, 483; 28, 70, 862; 30, 142; 36, 70.

OTTAWA, POTTAWATOMIE, CHIPPEWA AND OTHER TRIBES OF INDIANS. See also OTTAWA; WISCONSIN AND CHIPPEWA; WISCONSIN; CHIPPEWAYS, OTTAWAS AND POTTAWATOMIES. *Priv. St.* 9,741.

OTTOE. See also OKLAHOMA; OMAHA; SAC, FOXES, IOWA, SIOUX, OKLAHOMAS, OTTAWA AND MISSOURIA; PONCA. *Priv. St.* Macleod, 28 C. Clm. 1, 131; *Spec. R.* 4,648, 10, 238, 21, 380; 26, 81, 48,501 *Approp. St.* 4,703; 5, 138, 17, 510, 19, 112, 803, 20, 115, 22, 003, 41, 408, 12,25, 42, 532, 43, 390; 44, 004, 43, 1032, 47, 01, 48, 984. *Treaties* 7, 154, 17, 327, 328, 611, 324; 11, 8, 131. *Cases* Fox, 139 U. S. 825; *Manly*, 283 Fed. 912; *Otoe*, 62 C Cls. 424. *Recess*, 16 Okla. 342; *Sharp*, 188 Fed. 878; *Sloan*, 118 Fed. 283; *Stevens*, 31 C Cls. 244; U. S. v. Homerich, U. S. F. 2d 346.

OTTOWA AND MISSOURIA. See also OKLAHOMA; PONCA, OTTOE, MISSOURI *Gov. Pub.* 72 Cong. 1 sess. *Hearings*, H. Comm. Ind. Aff. H. R. 10027 *Spec. R.* 37, 391, 29, 471; 27, 693, 28, 84, 30, 384; 33, 59, 30, 855. *Approp. St.* 4,616, 682, 715, 740, 5, 104, 153, 258, 322, 402, 46, 453, 704, 749, 9, 20, 132, 262, 554, 574, 10, 41, 220, 815, 680; 11, 63, 193, 278, 320, 888, 12, 44, 221, 512, 774; 13, 161, 641; 14, 235, 402; 15, 108, 10, 13, 335, 514; 17, 105, 437, 18, 140, 420; 19, 176, 271, 20, 03, 115, 205, 21, 114, 455, 22, 48, 488, 23, 70, 302, 24, 440; 25, 217, 80, 383, 880; 27, 126, 012, 28, 530, 876, 32, 245, 33, 189, 1048; 34, 826 *Priv. St.* 24,900. *Treaties* 10, 1038, 1300. *Cases* Archduke, 10 Okla. 321, *Dunne*, 100 U. S. 829.

OURAIA. See TABERGUACH, MITACHE, CAPOTE, WEMU, NUCHER, YAMPA, GRAND RIVER AND UNTA'AH BANDS OF UTES, UNTA'AH.

OSZETTE. See also NEAR BAY; WASHINGTON *Spec. R.* 80, 1346. *Cases* Mitchell, 22 F. 2d 77.

PAH-UTTE (PAUTE). See also ARIZONA; CALIFORNIA, NEVADA, OREGON; BIG PINE RESERVATION; FORT BIDWELL; FORT McDERMITT, PAUTE, SIOUXHOM, TRIBE OF THE FORT McDERMITT INDIAN RESERVATION; KATIBA; KANOSH; MOA RIVER, LAKESIDE, LAKE PAUTE TRIBE OF THE PYRAMID LAKE RESERVATION, RENO-SPARKS INDIAN COLONY, SAN JUAN, SHERITT; SHERWITS; SHOSHON-PAUTE TRIBE ON DUCK VALLEY RESERVATION, SNAKES; WABAR RIVER, RIVER PAUTE TRIBE OF THE WABAR RIVER RESERVATION, WARM SPRINGS; WINNER-MUCCA INDIAN COLONY, YERRINGTON PAUTE TRIBE. *Spec. R.* 80, 830, 42, 1346; 43, 246, 595, 1066; 44, 701, 771; 45, 100, 40, 820, 50, 250, 241 *Approp. St.* 4,616, 682, 715, 740, 5, 104, 153, 258, 322, 33, 75, 24, 440, 25, 217, 80, 380, 880; 27, 120, 612, 28, 536, 870; 29, 321; 30, 62, 571, 924, 31, 1032, 82, 248, 932; 33, 180, 1048; 34, 826, 41, 1226, 42, 552; 44, 101, 438, 45, 32, 300, 1692; 46, 270, 1116; 47, 1, 623, 820; 48, 895; 49, 170, 1761, 50, 604. *Priv. St.* 26, 1104; 40, 1832; 48, 1389. *Cases* Barker, 31 U. S. 287, Marks, 28 C Cls. 147, U. S. v. Lewis, 263 Fed. 400, U. S. v. Miller, 160 Fed. 944, U. S. v. Shurgess, 27 Fed. Cas. No. 1144, U. S. v. Walker, 104 Fed. 884. *I. D. Rulings* Memo Sol. July 25, 1934, Aug. 22, 1935, Nov. 10, 1935.

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PAPAGO. See also ARIZONA; AK CHIN; SAN XAVIER. *Priv. Brown*, 89 Yale L. J. 307. *Gov. Pub.* 73 Cong. 2 sess. *Hearings*, H. Comm. Ind. Aff. H. R. 7, Res. 96. *Spec. R.* 22, 200; 23, 839; 44, 762, 775; 45, 49, 49, 1202; 48, 984, 50, 530; 52, 347. *Approp. St.* 16, 554; 17, 518; 18, 277, 208, 512, 532; 20, 128; 40, 561, 821; 41, 35, 85, 827, 408, 1156, 1262; 42, 28, 552, 1174; 43, 800, 1141; 44, 403, 1260; 45, 2, 20, 15, 164, 42, 270, 1115, 1552; 47, 320; 48, 302; 49, 1761; 50, 694; 52, 321. *Cases* Bailey, 47 F. 2d 702. *Op. A. G.* 38, 121. *I. D. Rulings* *Op. Sol.* May, 7, 1934; *Op. Atty. Gen.* Nov. 1, 1934; *Op. Sol.* Oct. 10, 1935, Dec. 28, 1937; *Cons.* Jan. 1, 1938, Nov. 28, 1938; *Memor.* Sol. Feb. 23, 1939.

PAWNEE INDIAN TRIBE OF OKLAHOMA. See also OKLAHOMA; GRAND RIVER; PONCA; YANCTON; SIOUX; TONKAWA TRIBE OF INDIANS OF OKLAHOMA. *Priv. St.* 2, 7, 13, 15, 27, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, 231, 232, 233, 234, 235, 236, 237, 238, 239, 240, 241, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 250, 251, 252, 253, 254, 255, 256, 257, 258, 259, 260, 261, 262, 263, 264, 265, 266, 267, 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 273, 274, 275, 276, 277, 278, 279, 280, 281, 282, 283, 284, 285, 286, 287, 288, 289, 290, 291, 292, 293, 294, 295, 296, 297, 298, 299, 300, 301, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 307, 308, 309, 310, 311, 312, 313, 314, 315, 316, 317, 318, 319, 320, 321, 322, 323, 324, 325, 326, 327, 328, 329, 330, 331, 332, 333, 334, 335, 336, 337, 338, 339, 340, 341, 342, 343, 344, 345, 346, 347, 348, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360, 361, 362, 363, 364, 365, 366, 367, 368, 369, 370, 371, 372, 373, 374, 375, 376, 377, 378, 379, 380, 381, 382, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 389, 390, 391, 392, 393, 394, 395, 396, 397, 398, 399, 400, 401, 402, 403, 404, 405, 406, 407, 408, 409, 410, 411, 412, 413, 414, 415, 416, 417, 418, 419, 420, 421, 422, 423, 424, 425, 426, 427, 428, 429, 430, 431, 432, 433, 434, 435, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 443, 444, 445, 446, 447, 448, 449, 450, 451, 452, 453, 454, 455, 456, 457, 458, 459, 460, 461, 462, 463, 464, 465, 466, 467, 468, 469, 470, 471, 472, 473, 474, 475, 476, 477, 478, 479, 480, 481, 482, 483, 484, 485, 486, 487, 488, 489, 490, 491, 492, 493, 494, 495, 496, 497, 498, 499, 500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510, 511, 512, 513, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 533, 534, 535, 536, 537, 538, 539, 540, 541, 542, 543, 544, 545, 546, 547, 548, 549, 550, 551, 552, 553, 554, 555, 556, 557, 558, 559, 560, 561, 562, 563, 564, 565, 566, 567, 568, 569, 570, 571, 572, 573, 574, 575, 576, 577, 578, 579, 580, 581, 582, 583, 584, 585, 586, 587, 588, 589, 590, 591, 592, 593, 594, 595, 596, 597, 598, 599, 600, 601, 602, 603, 604, 605, 606, 607, 608, 609, 610, 611, 612, 613, 614, 615, 616, 617, 618, 619, 620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627, 628, 629, 630, 631, 632, 633, 634, 635, 636, 637, 638, 639, 640, 641, 642, 643, 644, 645, 646, 647, 648, 649, 650, 651, 652, 653, 654, 655, 656, 657, 658, 659, 660, 661, 662, 663, 664, 665, 666, 667, 668, 669, 670, 671, 672, 673, 674, 675, 676, 677, 678, 679, 680, 681, 682, 683, 684, 685, 686, 687, 688, 689, 690, 691, 692, 693, 694, 695, 696, 697, 698, 699, 700, 701, 702, 703, 704, 705, 706, 707, 708, 709, 710, 711, 712, 713, 714, 715, 716, 717, 718, 719, 720, 721, 722, 723, 724, 725, 726, 727, 728, 729, 730, 731, 732, 733, 734, 735, 736, 737, 738, 739, 740, 741, 742, 743, 744, 745, 746, 747, 748, 749, 750, 751, 752, 753, 754, 755, 756, 757, 758, 759, 760, 761, 762, 763, 764, 765, 766, 767, 768, 769, 770, 771, 772, 773, 774, 775, 776, 777, 778, 779, 780, 781, 782, 783, 784, 785, 786, 787, 788, 789, 790, 791, 792, 793, 794, 795, 796, 797, 798, 799, 800, 801, 802, 803, 804, 805, 806, 807, 808, 809, 810, 811, 812, 813, 814, 815, 816, 817, 818, 819, 820, 821, 822, 823, 824, 825, 826, 827, 828, 829, 830, 831, 832, 833, 834, 835, 836, 837, 838, 839, 840, 841, 842, 843, 844, 845, 846, 847, 848, 849, 850, 851, 852, 853, 854, 855, 856, 857, 858, 859, 860, 861, 862, 863, 864, 865, 866, 867, 868, 869, 870, 871, 872, 873, 874, 875, 876, 877, 878, 879, 880, 881, 882, 883, 884, 885, 886, 887, 888, 889, 890, 891, 892, 893, 894, 895, 896, 897, 898, 899, 900, 901, 902, 903, 904, 905, 906, 907, 908, 909, 910, 911, 912, 913, 914, 915, 916, 917, 918, 919, 920, 921, 922, 923, 924, 925, 926, 927, 928, 929, 930, 931, 932, 933, 934, 935, 936, 937, 938, 939, 940, 941, 942, 943, 944, 945, 946, 947, 948, 949, 950, 951, 952, 953, 954, 955, 956, 957, 958, 959, 960, 961, 962, 963, 964, 965, 966, 967, 968, 969, 970, 971, 972, 973, 974, 975, 976, 977, 978, 979, 980, 981, 982, 983, 984, 985, 986, 987, 988, 989, 990, 991, 992, 993, 994, 995, 996, 997, 998, 999, 1000.

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PENNSYLVANIA See **CORNPLANTER RESERVATION**

PEORIA TRIBE OF INDIANS OKLAHOMA See also **OKLAHOMA, ILLINOIS INDIAN TERRITORY, KASKASKIA AND PEORIA, PEORIA AND MIAMI, MIAMI, PEORIA KASKASKIA, PEORISILAV AND WEAS, PIANKESHAW, PIANKESHAW AND WEAS, WEAS** *Tests* *Manypenny*, OIW *Spec* St 6 31, 24 388 *Approp* St 8 517, 4 680 10 378, 12 122, 21 438, 26 506, 506, 28 424, 29 321 30 302 *Testes* 7 181, 408, 10 1082, 15 613 *Cases* *Bowling*, 238 U S 628, *Bowling*, 239 Fed 438, 23k 122 U S 91 *Furley*, 4 Ind U 389, *Lyons*, 184 U S 169, *Okla*, 208 U S 574, *Itelmdvill*, 28 Fed 52, U S v *Bowling*, 238 U S 628, U S v *Bundill*, 110 U S 688, U S v *Rundell*, 181 Fed 387, Op 4 G 19 115 U D *Rulings* Memo Nat, Dec 13, 1938 *Const* Oct 10 1920

PEORIA AND KASKASKIA See also **KASKASKIA, PEORIA, PEORIA AND KASKASKIA, WEAS AND PIANKESHAW, PEORIA AND MIAMI, ILLINOIS** *Testes* 7 410

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PIANKESHAW AND WEAS See also **ILLINOIS, MISSOURI, PIANKESHAW, WEAS** *Tests* *Manypenny*, OIW *Approp* St 4 680 10 388 *Testes* 7 410

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- TORRENS MARTINEZ.** See also **CALIFORNIA, MISSION** *Case* Andrews v. Clark, 71 F. 2d 908.
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¹ *Opted Memo Sol Feb 29, 1985*

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¹² *Rap* 1 St 197. *Rp* 1 St 469. *S* 1 St 743. *Outd.* 18 Op A G 287; Chinn, 5 Fed Cas No 2634; Jones, 175 U. S. 1, Leighton, 29 C Cls 288, Price, 88 C Cls 106, U S v Richard, 1 Ariz 81.

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¹⁴ Rq 1 St 254
¹⁵ Rq 1 St 110, 222, 241
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¹⁸ *Rg* 28 Jour Cont Cong 875 S 1 St 490; 2 St 179, 277 *Cited*.
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¹⁹ *Rg* 1 St 187, 829 S 2 St. 39 *Cited*. 1 Op A G 65; Reynolds
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² *Id.* 417.
³ *Id.* N W Ord 1787, U S C. (1934 ed) p XXIII; 1 St. 464 A 1
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⁴ *Id.* 1 St 333.

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- 1 St. 523, June 12, 1768, C. 62—An Act making appropriations for the Military Establishment, for the year 1768, and for other purposes.²
- 1 St. 635, Feb. 10, 1769, C. 49—An Act appropriating a certain sum of money to defray the expense of holding a Treaty or Treaties with the Indians.³
- 1 St. 618, Feb. 25, 1769, C. 11—An Act making appropriations for defraying the expenses which may arise, in carrying into effect certain Treaties between the United States and several tribes or nations of Indians.⁴
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- 1 St. 724, Mar. 2, 1769, C. 19—An Act to amend the act intitled "An Act regulating the grants of land appropriated for military services, and for the Society of the United Brethren, for procuring the Goods among the Heathen."⁷
- 1 St. 711, Mar. 2, 1769, C. 11—An Act making appropriations for the support of the Military Establishment, for the year 1769.⁸
- 1 St. 743, Mar. 3, 1769, C. 40—An Act to regulate trade and intercourse with the Indian tribes, and to preserve peace on the frontiers.⁹

2 STAT.

- 2 St. 3, Jan. 17, 1800, C. 5—An Act for the preservation of peace with the Indian tribes.¹⁰
- 2 St. 11, Feb. 22, 1800, C. 12—An Act providing for the Second Census or enumeration of the Inhabitants of the United States.¹¹
- 2 St. 30, Apr. 22, 1800, C. 30—An Act supplementary to the Act to regulate trade and intercourse with the Indian Tribes, and to preserve peace on the Frontiers.¹²
- 2 St. 68, May 7, 1800, C. 41—An Act to divide the territory of the United States northwest of the Ohio, into two separate governments.¹³
- 2 St. 66, May 10, 1800, C. 48—An Act making appropriations for the Military Establishment of the United States, in the year 1800.¹⁴
- 2 St. 82, May 13, 1800, C. 62—An Act to appropriate a certain sum of money to defray the expense of holding a treaty or treaties with the Indians.¹⁵
- 2 St. 82, May 13, 1800, C. 68—An Act directing the payment of a detachment of the militia under the command of Major Thomas Johnson, in the year 1794.¹⁶
- 2 St. 83, May 13, 1800, C. 65—An Act to authorize certain expenditures, and to make certain appropriations for the year 1800.¹⁷
- 2 St. 85, May 13, 1800, C. 68—An Act to make provision relative to rations for Indians, and to their visits to the seat of Government.¹⁸
- 2 St. 87, Apr. 16, 1800, J. Res. V. respecting the Copper Mines on the south side of Lake Superior.¹⁹
- 2 St. 103, Mar. 2, 1801, C. 18—An Act making appropriations for the Military Establishment of the United States, for the year 1801.²⁰
- 2 St. 189, Mar. 30, 1802, C. 12—An Act to regulate trade and intercourse with the Indian tribes, and to preserve peace on the frontiers.²¹

¹ 8 St. W. Ord. 1787, U. S. C. (1894 ed.) p. XXXII.

² 7 St. 61.

³ 7 St. 54, 55, 44, 68, 62, 67, 4 St. 780; 5 St. 36, 704, 760; 9 St. 20, 152, 262, 389, 664, 674, 67, 619, 804, 860; 11 St. 67, 270, 558; 13 St. 44, 100, 221, 613, 774, 13 St. 161, 613; 11 St. 206, 452, 700; 13 St. 24, 81, 26, 149; 25 St. 217, 880, 20 St. 330, 389; 27 St. 612, 26 St. 260, 370; 29 St. 1, 30 St. 674, 31 St. 224, 303.

⁴ 7 St. 61.

⁵ 7 St. 61.

⁶ 7 St. 61.

⁷ 7 St. 61.

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¹⁰ 7 St. 61.

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¹⁶ 7 St. 61.

¹⁷ 7 St. 61.

¹⁸ 7 St. 61.

¹⁹ 7 St. 61.

²⁰ 7 St. 61.

²¹ 7 St. 61.

- 2 St. 173, Apr. 30, 1802, C. 30—An Act to revive and continue in force, an act intitled "An Act for establishing trading houses with the Indian tribes."¹
- 2 St. 173, Apr. 30, 1802, C. 40—An Act to enable the people of the Eastern division of the territory northwest of the river Ohio to form a constitution and state government, and for the admission of such state into the Union, on an equal footing with the original States, and for other purposes.²
- 2 St. 170, May 1, 1802, C. 41—An Act to extend and continue in force the provisions of an act intitled "An Act giving a right of pre-emption to certain persons who have contracted with John Clevies Spanner, and his assigns, for lands lying between the Miami rivers, in the territory northwest of the Ohio, and for other purposes."³
- 2 St. 183, May 1, 1802, C. 46—An Act making appropriations for the Military Establishment of the United States in the year 1802.⁴
- 2 St. 180, May 3, 1802, C. 48—An Act further to alter and establish certain Post Roads; and for the more secure carriage of the Mail of the United States.⁵
- 2 St. 207, Feb. 28, 1804, C. 11—An Act for continuing in force a law, entitled "An act for establishing trading houses with the Indian tribes."⁶
- 2 St. 210, Mar. 2, 1803, C. 19—An Act making appropriations for the support of Government for the year 1803.⁷
- 2 St. 227, Mar. 3, 1803, C. 21—An Act in addition to, and in modification of, the propositions contained in the act entitled "An act to enable the people of the Eastern division of the territory northwest of the river Ohio, to form a Constitution and state government, and for the admission of such state into the Union, on an equal footing with the original States, and for other purposes."⁸
- 2 St. 227, Mar. 3, 1803, C. 24—An Act making appropriations for the Military establishment of the United States, in the year 1803.⁹
- 2 St. 229, Mar. 3, 1803, C. 27—An Act regulating the grants of land, and providing for the disposal of the lands of the United States, south of the state of Tennessee.¹⁰
- 2 St. 235, Mar. 3, 1803, C. 28—An Act concerning the Salt Springs on the waters of the Wabash river.¹¹
- 2 St. 245, Oct. 31, 1803, C. 1—An Act to enable the President of the United States to take possession of the territories ceded by France to the United States, by the treaty concluded at Paris, on the thirteenth of April last; and for the temporary government thereof.¹²
- 2 St. 249, Feb. 10, 1804, C. 11—An Act making appropriations for the support of the Military establishment of the United States, in the year 1804.¹³
- 2 St. 264, Mar. 14, 1804, C. 21—An Act making appropriations for the support of Government, for the year 1804.¹⁴
- 2 St. 274, Mar. 23, 1804, C. 83—An Act to ascertain the boundary of the lands reserved by the state of Virginia, northwest of the river Ohio, for the satisfaction of her officers and soldiers on continental establishment, and to limit the period for locating the said lands.¹⁵
- 2 St. 277, Mar. 28, 1804, C. 95—An Act making provision for the disposal of the public lands in the Indiana territory, and for other purposes.¹⁶

6 St. 480, 581, 7 St. 88, 105, 216, 217, 601. *Offed*. Thayer, 68 Ad. Month 640, 670, 14 Op. A. G. 200, 18 Op. A. G. 201, 5 U. S. Mon. 288; American Bar, 1 Fed. 335; Am. B. 180, 20 St. 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, 231, 232, 233, 234, 235, 236, 237, 238, 239, 240, 241, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 250, 251, 252, 253, 254, 255, 256, 257, 258, 259, 260, 261, 262, 263, 264, 265, 266, 267, 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 273, 274, 275, 276, 277, 278, 279, 280, 281, 282, 283, 284, 285, 286, 287, 288, 289, 290, 291, 292, 293, 294, 295, 296, 297, 298, 299, 300, 301, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 307, 308, 309, 310, 311, 312, 313, 314, 315, 316, 317, 318, 319, 320, 321, 322, 323, 324, 325, 326, 327, 328, 329, 330, 331, 332, 333, 334, 335, 336, 337, 338, 339, 340, 341, 342, 343, 344, 345, 346, 347, 348, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360, 361, 362, 363, 364, 365, 366, 367, 368, 369, 370, 371, 372, 373, 374, 375, 376, 377, 378, 379, 380, 381, 382, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 389, 390, 391, 392, 393, 394, 395, 396, 397, 398, 399, 400, 401, 402, 403, 404, 405, 406, 407, 408, 409, 410, 411, 412, 413, 414, 415, 416, 417, 418, 419, 420, 421, 422, 423, 424, 425, 426, 427, 428, 429, 430, 431, 432, 433, 434, 435, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 443, 444, 445, 446, 447, 448, 449, 450, 451, 452, 453, 454, 455, 456, 457, 458, 459, 460, 461, 462, 463, 464, 465, 466, 467, 468, 469, 470, 471, 472, 473, 474, 475, 476, 477, 478, 479, 480, 481, 482, 483, 484, 485, 486, 487, 488, 489, 490, 491, 492, 493, 494, 495, 496, 497, 498, 499, 500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510, 511, 512, 513, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 533, 534, 535, 536, 537, 538, 539, 540, 541, 542, 543, 544, 545, 546, 547, 548, 549, 550, 551, 552, 553, 554, 555, 556, 557, 558, 559, 560, 561, 562, 563, 564, 565, 566, 567, 568, 569, 570, 571, 572, 573, 574, 575, 576, 577, 578, 579, 580, 581, 582, 583, 584, 585, 586, 587, 588, 589, 590, 591, 592, 593, 594, 595, 596, 597, 598, 599, 600, 601, 602, 603, 604, 605, 606, 607, 608, 609, 610, 611, 612, 613, 614, 615, 616, 617, 618, 619, 620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627, 628, 629, 630, 631, 632, 633, 634, 635, 636, 637, 638, 639, 640, 641, 642, 643, 644, 645, 646, 647, 648, 649, 650, 651, 652, 653, 654, 655, 656, 657, 658, 659, 660, 661, 662, 663, 664, 665, 666, 667, 668, 669, 670, 671, 672, 673, 674, 675, 676, 677, 678, 679, 680, 681, 682, 683, 684, 685, 686, 687, 688, 689, 690, 691, 692, 693, 694, 695, 696, 697, 698, 699, 700, 701, 702, 703, 704, 705, 706, 707, 708, 709, 710, 711, 712, 713, 714, 715, 716, 717, 718, 719, 720, 721, 722, 723, 724, 725, 726, 727, 728, 729, 730, 731, 732, 733, 734, 735, 736, 737, 738, 739, 740, 741, 742, 743, 744, 745, 746, 747, 748, 749, 750, 751, 752, 753, 754, 755, 756, 757, 758, 759, 760, 761, 762, 763, 764, 765, 766, 767, 768, 769, 770, 771, 772, 773, 774, 775, 776, 777, 778, 779, 780, 781, 782, 783, 784, 785, 786, 787, 788, 789, 790, 791, 792, 793, 794, 795, 796, 797, 798, 799, 800, 801, 802, 803, 804, 805, 806, 807, 808, 809, 810, 811, 812, 813, 814, 815, 816, 817, 818, 819, 820, 821, 822, 823, 824, 825, 826, 827, 828, 829, 830, 831, 832, 833, 834, 835, 836, 837, 838, 839, 840, 841, 842, 843, 844, 845, 846, 847, 848, 849, 850, 851, 852, 853, 854, 855, 856, 857, 858, 859, 860, 861, 862, 863, 864, 865, 866, 867, 868, 869, 870, 871, 872, 873, 874, 875, 876, 877, 878, 879, 880, 881, 882, 883, 884, 885, 886, 887, 888, 889, 890, 891, 892, 893, 894, 895, 896, 897, 898, 899, 900, 901, 902, 903, 904, 905, 906, 907, 908, 909, 910, 911, 912, 913, 914, 915, 916, 917, 918, 919, 920, 921, 922, 923, 924, 925, 926, 927, 928, 929, 930, 931, 932, 933, 934, 935, 936, 937, 938, 939, 940, 941, 942, 943, 944, 945, 946, 947, 948, 949, 950, 951, 952, 953, 954, 955, 956, 957, 958, 959, 960, 961, 962, 963, 964, 965, 966, 967, 968, 969, 970, 971, 972, 973, 974, 975, 976, 977, 978, 979, 980, 981, 982, 983, 984, 985, 986, 987, 988, 989, 990, 991, 992, 993, 994, 995, 996, 997, 998, 999, 1000.

- 2 St. 233, Mar. 26, 1804, C 35—An Act erecting Louisiana into two territories, and providing for the temporary government thereof.¹⁰
- 2 St. 231, Mar. 26, 1804, C 43—An Act to make further appropriations for the purpose of extinguishing the Indian claims.
- 2 St. 303, Mar. 27, 1811, C 41—An Act supplementary to the act intitled, "An act regulating the grants of land, and providing for the disposal of the lands of the United States, south of the state of Tennessee."
- 2 St. 301, Jan. 11, 1805, C 6—An Act to divide the Indiana Territory into two separate governments.¹¹
- 2 St. 315, Feb. 14, 1807, C 17—An Act making appropriations for the support of the Military establishment of the United States, for the year 1807.
- 2 St. 321, Mar. 2, 1805, C 20—An Act for ascertaining and adjusting the titles and claims to land, within the territory of Orleans, and the district of Louisiana.¹²
- 2 St. 317, Mar. 3, 1805, C 41—An Act further providing for the government of the district of Louisiana.¹³
- 2 St. 339, Mar. 3, 1805, C 30—An Act making appropriations for carrying into effect certain Indian treaties, and for other purposes of Indian trade and intercourse.
- 2 St. 341, Mar. 3, 1805, C 39—An Act supplementary to the act intitled "An act making provision for the disposal of the public lands in the Indiana territory, and for other purposes."¹⁴
- 2 St. 352, February 28, 1806, C 11—An Act extending the powers of the Surveyor-general to the territory of Louisiana, and for other purposes.¹⁵
- 2 St. 351, Apr. 18, 1806, C 31—An Act to authorize the state of Tennessee to issue grants, and perfect titles to certain lands therein described, and to settle the claims to the vacant and unappropriated lands within the same.¹⁶
- 2 St. 366, Apr. 21, 1807, C 41—An Act to regulate and fix the compensation of clerks, and to authorize the laying out certain public lands; and for other purposes.¹⁷
- 2 St. 402, Apr. 21, 1806, C 48—An Act for establishing trading houses with the Indian tribes.¹⁸
- 2 St. 407, Apr. 21, 1806, C 49—An Act making appropriations for carrying into effect certain Indian treaties.¹⁹
- 2 St. 408, Apr. 18, 1806, C 54—An Act making appropriations for the support of the Military establishment of the United States, for the year 1806.
- 2 St. 412, Jan. 10, 1807, C 8—An Act making appropriations for the support of the Military establishment of the United States, for the year 1807.
- 2 St. 424, Mar. 2, 1807, C 31—An Act to extend the time for locating Virginia military (land) warrants, for returning surveys thereon to the office of the Secretary of the department of War, and appropriating lands for the use of schools, in the Virginia military reservation, in lieu of those heretofore appropriated.
- 2 St. 432, Mar. 8, 1807, C 20—An Act making appropriations for the support of Government during the year 1807.
- 2 St. 487, Mar. 3, 1807, C 34—An Act regulating the grants of land in the territory of Michigan.²⁰
- 2 St. 440, Mar. 8, 1807, C 35—An Act making appropriations for carrying into effect a treaty between the United States and the Chickasaw tribe of Indians; and to establish a land office in the Mississippi territory.²¹
- 2 St. 448, Mar. 3, 1807, C 41—An Act making appropriations for carrying into effect certain treaties with the Cherokee and Piankeshaw tribes of Indians.²²
- 2 St. 418, Mar. 3, 1807, C 49—An Act making provision for the disposal of the public lands, situated between the United States military tract and the Connecticut reserve, and for other purposes.²³
- 2 St. 456, Jan. 9, 1808 C 9—An Act extending the right of suffrage in the Mississippi territory; and for other purposes.

¹⁰ See 1 St. 402, 2 St. 88, 173, 245. 2 St. 331, 748. *Cited Leigh* 29 C. Cls. 248, *Hort. Springs* 2 P. S. 698.

¹¹ See 1 St. 402, 2 St. 88, 173, 245. 2 St. 331, 748. *Cited Leigh* 29 C. Cls. 248, *Hort. Springs* 2 P. S. 698.

¹² See 1 St. 402, 2 St. 88, 173, 245. 2 St. 331, 748. *Cited Leigh* 29 C. Cls. 248, *Hort. Springs* 2 P. S. 698.

¹³ See 1 St. 402, 2 St. 88, 173, 245. 2 St. 331, 748. *Cited Leigh* 29 C. Cls. 248, *Hort. Springs* 2 P. S. 698.

¹⁴ See 1 St. 402, 2 St. 88, 173, 245. 2 St. 331, 748. *Cited Leigh* 29 C. Cls. 248, *Hort. Springs* 2 P. S. 698.

¹⁵ See 1 St. 402, 2 St. 88, 173, 245. 2 St. 331, 748. *Cited Leigh* 29 C. Cls. 248, *Hort. Springs* 2 P. S. 698.

¹⁶ See 1 St. 402, 2 St. 88, 173, 245. 2 St. 331, 748. *Cited Leigh* 29 C. Cls. 248, *Hort. Springs* 2 P. S. 698.

¹⁷ See 1 St. 402, 2 St. 88, 173, 245. 2 St. 331, 748. *Cited Leigh* 29 C. Cls. 248, *Hort. Springs* 2 P. S. 698.

¹⁸ See 1 St. 402, 2 St. 88, 173, 245. 2 St. 331, 748. *Cited Leigh* 29 C. Cls. 248, *Hort. Springs* 2 P. S. 698.

¹⁹ See 1 St. 402, 2 St. 88, 173, 245. 2 St. 331, 748. *Cited Leigh* 29 C. Cls. 248, *Hort. Springs* 2 P. S. 698.

²⁰ See 1 St. 402, 2 St. 88, 173, 245. 2 St. 331, 748. *Cited Leigh* 29 C. Cls. 248, *Hort. Springs* 2 P. S. 698.

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²² See 1 St. 402, 2 St. 88, 173, 245. 2 St. 331, 748. *Cited Leigh* 29 C. Cls. 248, *Hort. Springs* 2 P. S. 698.

²³ See 1 St. 402, 2 St. 88, 173, 245. 2 St. 331, 748. *Cited Leigh* 29 C. Cls. 248, *Hort. Springs* 2 P. S. 698.

- 2 St. 162, Feb. 10, 1804, C 17—An Act making appropriations for the support of Government during the year 1803.
- 2 St. 307, Feb. 19, 1808, C 30—An Act making appropriations for carrying into effect certain Indian treaties.
- 2 St. 449, Feb. 24, 1806, C 21—An Act extending the right of suffrage in the Indiana territory.
- 2 St. 470, Mar. 3, 1808 C 27—An Act making appropriations for the support of the Military establishment of the United States, for the year 1808.
- 2 St. 479, Mar. 29, 1808, C 40—An Act concerning the sale of the Lands of the United States, and for other purposes.²⁴
- 2 St. 502, Apr. 25, 1808, C 67—An Act supplemental to "An act regulating the grants of land in the territory of Michigan."
- 2 St. 514, Feb. 4, 1809 C 18—An Act for dividing the Indiana Territory into two separate governments.²⁵
- 2 St. 526, Feb. 27, 1809, C 19—An Act extending the right of suffrage in the Indiana territory, and for other purposes.²⁶
- 2 St. 527, Feb. 28, 1809, C 20—An Act for the relief of certain Alabama and Wyandott Indians.²⁷
- 2 St. 544, Mar. 3, 1809, C 31—An Act supplemental to the act intitled "An act for establishing trading houses with the Indian tribes."²⁸
- 2 St. 516, Mar. 3, 1809, C 30—An Act making appropriations for the support of the Military establishment, and of the Navy of the United States, for the year 1809.
- 2 St. 518, June 15, 1809, C 46—An Act supplementary to an act, intitled "An act making appropriations for carrying into effect a treaty between the United States and the Chickasaw tribe of Indians; and to establish a land-office in the Mississippi Territory."²⁹
- 2 St. 559, Mar. 2, 1810, C 15—An Act making appropriations for the support of the Military establishment of the United States, for the year 1810.
- 2 St. 604, Mar. 2, 1810, C 17—An Act providing for the third census or enumeration of the inhabitants of the United States.
- 2 St. 600, Apr. 30, 1810, C 35—An Act Act providing for the sale of certain lands in the Indiana territory, and for other purposes.³⁰
- 2 St. 619, Apr. 30, 1810, C 37—An Act regulating the Post-office Establishment.
- 2 St. 607, May 1, 1810, C 48—An Act making appropriations for carrying into effect certain Indian treaties.³¹
- 2 St. 616, Feb. 8, 1811, C 9—An Act making appropriations for the support of the Military establishment of the United States, for the year 1811.
- 2 St. 641, Feb. 20, 1811, C 21—An Act to enable the people of the Territory of Orleans to form a constitution and state government, and for the admission of such state into the Union, on an equal footing with the original states, and for other purposes.³²
- 2 St. 618, Feb. 20, 1811, C 22—An Act making appropriations for the support of Government for the year 1811.
- 2 St. 640, Feb. 25, 1811, C 24—An Act providing for the sale of a tract of land lying in the state of Tennessee, and a tract in the Indiana territory.
- 2 St. 649, Feb. 25, 1811, C 25—An Act providing for the removal of the land office established at Nashville, in the state of Tennessee, and Carlton in the state of Ohio, and to authorize the register and receiver of public monies to superintend the public sales of land in this district east of Peal river.
- 2 St. 655, Mar. 3, 1811, C 30—An Act for establishing trading houses with the Indian tribes.³³
- 2 St. 660, Mar. 3, 1811, C 38—An Act to extend the right of suffrage in the Indiana territory, and for other purposes.
- 2 St. 660, Mar. 3, 1811, C 41—An Act making appropriations for carrying into effect a treaty between the United States and the Great and Little Osage nations of Indians, concluded at

²⁴ See 1 St. 402, 2 St. 88, 173, 245. 2 St. 331, 748. *Cited Leigh* 29 C. Cls. 248, *Hort. Springs* 2 P. S. 698.

²⁵ See 1 St. 402, 2 St. 88, 173, 245. 2 St. 331, 748. *Cited Leigh* 29 C. Cls. 248, *Hort. Springs* 2 P. S. 698.

²⁶ See 1 St. 402, 2 St. 88, 173, 245. 2 St. 331, 748. *Cited Leigh* 29 C. Cls. 248, *Hort. Springs* 2 P. S. 698.

²⁷ See 1 St. 402, 2 St. 88, 173, 245. 2 St. 331, 748. *Cited Leigh* 29 C. Cls. 248, *Hort. Springs* 2 P. S. 698.

²⁸ See 1 St. 402, 2 St. 88, 173, 245. 2 St. 331, 748. *Cited Leigh* 29 C. Cls. 248, *Hort. Springs* 2 P. S. 698.

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³⁰ See 1 St. 402, 2 St. 88, 173, 245. 2 St. 331, 748. *Cited Leigh* 29 C. Cls. 248, *Hort. Springs* 2 P. S. 698.

³¹ See 1 St. 402, 2 St. 88, 173, 245. 2 St. 331, 748. *Cited Leigh* 29 C. Cls. 248, *Hort. Springs* 2 P. S. 698.

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³³ See 1 St. 402, 2 St. 88, 173, 245. 2 St. 331, 748. *Cited Leigh* 29 C. Cls. 248, *Hort. Springs* 2 P. S. 698.

³⁴ See 1 St. 402, 2 St. 88, 173, 245. 2 St. 331, 748. *Cited Leigh* 29 C. Cls. 248, *Hort. Springs* 2 P. S. 698.

³⁵ See 1 St. 402, 2 St. 88, 173, 245. 2 St. 331, 748. *Cited Leigh* 29 C. Cls. 248, *Hort. Springs* 2 P. S. 698.

³⁶ See 1 St. 402, 2 St. 88, 173, 245. 2 St. 331, 748. *Cited Leigh* 29 C. Cls. 248, *Hort. Springs* 2 P. S. 698.

³⁷ See 1 St. 402, 2 St. 88, 173, 245. 2 St. 331, 748. *Cited Leigh* 29 C. Cls. 248, *Hort. Springs* 2 P. S. 698.

³⁸ See 1 St. 402, 2 St. 88, 173, 245. 2 St. 331, 748. *Cited Leigh* 29 C. Cls. 248, *Hort. Springs* 2 P. S. 698.

³⁹ See 1 St. 402, 2 St. 88, 173, 245. 2 St. 331, 748. *Cited Leigh* 29 C. Cls. 248, *Hort. Springs* 2 P. S. 698.

⁴⁰ See 1 St. 402, 2 St. 88, 173, 245. 2 St. 331, 748. *Cited Leigh* 29 C. Cls. 248, *Hort. Springs* 2 P. S. 698.

⁴¹ See 1 St. 402, 2 St. 88, 173, 245. 2 St. 331, 748. *Cited Leigh* 29 C. Cls. 248, *Hort. Springs* 2 P. S. 698.

⁴² See 1 St. 402, 2 St. 88, 173, 245. 2 St. 331, 748. *Cited Leigh* 29 C. Cls. 248, *Hort. Springs* 2 P. S. 698.

⁴³ See 1 St. 402, 2 St. 88, 173, 245. 2 St. 331, 748. *Cited Leigh* 29 C. Cls. 248, *Hort. Springs* 2 P. S. 698.

²⁴ See 1 St. 402, 2 St. 88, 173, 245. 2 St. 331, 748. *Cited Leigh* 29 C. Cls. 248, *Hort. Springs* 2 P. S. 698.

²⁵ See 1 St. 402, 2 St. 88, 173, 245. 2 St. 331, 748. *Cited Leigh* 29 C. Cls. 248, *Hort. Springs* 2 P. S. 698.

²⁶ See 1 St. 402, 2 St. 88, 173, 245. 2 St. 331, 748. *Cited Leigh* 29 C. Cls. 248, *Hort. Springs* 2 P. S. 698.

²⁷ See 1 St. 402, 2 St. 88, 173, 245. 2 St. 331, 748. *Cited Leigh* 29 C. Cls. 248, *Hort. Springs* 2 P. S. 698.

²⁸ See 1 St. 402, 2 St. 88, 173, 245. 2 St. 331, 748. *Cited Leigh* 29 C. Cls. 248, *Hort. Springs* 2 P. S. 698.

²⁹ See 1 St. 402, 2 St. 88, 173, 245. 2 St. 331, 748. *Cited Leigh* 29 C. Cls. 248, *Hort. Springs* 2 P. S. 698.

³⁰ See 1 St. 402, 2 St. 88, 173, 245. 2 St. 331, 748. *Cited Leigh* 29 C. Cls. 248, *Hort. Springs* 2 P. S. 698.

³¹ See 1 St. 402, 2 St. 88, 173, 245. 2 St. 331, 748. *Cited Leigh* 29 C. Cls. 248, *Hort. Springs* 2 P. S. 698.

³² See 1 St. 402, 2 St. 88, 173, 245. 2 St. 331, 748. *Cited Leigh* 29 C. Cls. 248, *Hort. Springs* 2 P. S. 698.

³³ See 1 St. 402, 2 St. 88, 173, 245. 2 St. 331, 748. *Cited Leigh* 29 C. Cls. 248, *Hort. Springs* 2 P. S. 698.

³⁴ See 1 St. 402, 2 St. 88, 173, 245. 2 St. 331, 748. *Cited Leigh* 29 C. Cls. 248, *Hort. Springs* 2 P. S. 698.

³⁵ See 1 St. 402, 2 St. 88, 173, 245. 2 St. 331, 748. *Cited Leigh* 29 C. Cls. 248, *Hort. Springs* 2 P. S. 698.

³⁶ See 1 St. 402, 2 St. 88, 173, 245. 2 St. 331, 748. *Cited Leigh* 29 C. Cls. 248, *Hort. Springs* 2 P. S. 698.

³⁷ See 1 St. 402, 2 St. 88, 173, 245. 2 St. 331, 748. *Cited Leigh* 29 C. Cls. 248, *Hort. Springs* 2 P. S. 698.

³⁸ See 1 St. 402, 2 St. 88, 173, 245. 2 St. 331, 748. *Cited Leigh* 29 C. Cls. 248, *Hort. Springs* 2 P. S. 698.

³⁹ See 1 St. 402, 2 St. 88, 173, 245. 2 St. 331, 748. *Cited Leigh* 29 C. Cls. 248, *Hort. Springs* 2 P. S. 698.

⁴⁰ See 1 St. 402, 2 St. 88, 173, 245. 2 St. 331, 748. *Cited Leigh* 29 C. Cls. 248, *Hort. Springs* 2 P. S. 698.

⁴¹ See 1 St. 402, 2 St. 88, 173, 245. 2 St. 331, 748. *Cited Leigh* 29 C. Cls. 248, *Hort. Springs* 2 P. S. 698.

⁴² See 1 St. 402, 2 St. 88, 173, 245. 2 St. 331, 748. *Cited Leigh* 29 C. Cls. 248, *Hort. Springs* 2 P. S. 698.

⁴³ See 1 St. 402, 2 St. 88, 173, 245. 2 St. 331, 748. *Cited Leigh* 29 C. Cls. 248, *Hort. Springs* 2 P. S. 698.

- Fort Clarke, on the tenth day of November, 1805, and for other purposes."
- 2 St. 605; Jan. 15, 1811; J. Res. relative to the occupation of the Florida by the United States of America."
- 2 St. 606; Mar. 3, 1811, C. 47—An Act concerning an act to enable the President of the United States, under certain contingencies, to take possession of the country lying east of the river Perdida, and south of the State of Georgia and the Mississippi territory, and for other purposes, and the declaration accompanying the same."
- 2 St. 608; Dec. 12, 1811, C. 85—An Act to authorize the surveying and meting of certain roads, in the state of Ohio, as contemplated by the treaty of Brownstown in the territory of Michigan."
- 2 St. 670; Jan. 2, 1812, C. 11—An Act authorizing the President of the United States to raise certain companies of Rangers for the protection of the frontier of the United States."
- 2 St. 682; Feb. 21, 1812, C. 20—An Act making appropriations for the support of the Military Establishment of the United States, for the year 1812."
- 2 St. 687; Feb. 21, 1812, C. 33—An Act making appropriations for the support of Government for the year 1812."
- 2 St. 701; Apr. 10, 1812, C. 51—An Act for the relief of the officers and soldiers who served in the late campaign on the Wabash."
- 2 St. 710; Apr. 23, 1812, C. 68—An Act for the establishment of a General Land-Office in the Department of the Treasury."
- Sec. 1-12, S. 410, 453.
- 2 St. 728; May 0, 1812, C. 77—An Act to provide for designating, surveying and granting the Military Bounty Lands."
- 2 St. 741; May 20, 1812, C. 90—An Act to extend the right of suffrage in the Illinois territory, and for other purposes."
- 2 St. 748; June 4, 1812, C. 95—An Act providing for the government of the territory of Missouri."
- 2 St. 748; June 15, 1812, C. 98—An Act making further provision for settling the claims to land in the territory of Missouri."
- 2 St. 781; July 0, 1812, C. 131—An Act making additional appropriations for the Military Establishment and for the Indian Department for the year 1812."
- 2 St. 822; Mar. 3, 1813, C. 57—An Act making appropriations for the support of the military establishment and of the volunteer militia in the actual service of the United States, for the year 1813."
- 2 St. 820; Mar. 3, 1813, C. 61—An Act vesting in the President of the United States the power of retaliation."
- 3 STAT.**
- 3 St. 104; Mar. 10, 1814, C. 25—An Act making appropriations for the support of the military establishment of the United States, for one year 1814."
- 3 St. 143; Oct. 25, 1814, C. 1—An Act further to extend the right of suffrage, and to increase the number of members of the legislative council in the Mississippi territory."
- 3 St. 201; Feb. 1, 1815, C. 33—An Act attaching to the Canton district in the state of Ohio, the tract of land lying between the foot of the rapids of the Miami of Lake Erie, and the Connecticut reserve."
- 3 St. 222; Mar. 3, 1815, C. 72—An Act making appropriations for the support of the military establishment, for the year 1815."
- 3 St. 228; Mar. 3, 1815, C. 85—An Act to provide for ascertaining and surveying of the boundary lines fixed by the treaty with the Creek Indians, and for other purposes."
- 3 St. 230; Mar. 3, 1815, C. 90—An Act to continue in force, for a limited time, the act entitled "An act for establishing trading-houses with the Indian tribes."
- 3 St. 277; Apr. 16, 1816, C. 45—An Act making appropriations for the support of government for the year 1816."
- 3 St. 286; Apr. 16, 1816, C. 63—An Act to authorize the President of the United States to enter the road laid out from the foot of the rapids of the river Miami of Lake Erie, to the western line of the Connecticut reserve."
- 3 St. 280; Apr. 19, 1816, C. 67—An Act to enable the people of the Indiana Territory to form a constitution and state government, and for the admission of such state into the Union on an equal footing with the original states."
- 3 St. 308; Apr. 20, 1816, C. 102—An Act providing for the sale of the tract of land at the lower rapids of Sandusky river."
- 3 St. 315; Apr. 27, 1816, C. 112—An Act making appropriations for repairing certain roads therein described."
- 3 St. 319; Apr. 27, 1816, C. 132—An Act providing for the sale of the tract of land, at the British fort at the Miami of the Lake, at the foot of the Rapids, and for other purposes."
- 3 St. 325; Apr. 20, 1816, C. 151—An Act to provide for the appointment of a surveyor of the public lands in the territories of Illinois and Missouri."
- Sec. 1-12, S. 2223.
- 3 St. 328; Apr. 20, 1816, C. 152—An Act making appropriations for carrying into effect a treaty between the United States and the Cherokee tribe of Indians, concluded at Washington, on the twenty-second day of March, 1816."
- 3 St. 380; Apr. 20, 1816, C. 160—An Act making appropriations for the support of the military establishment of the United States, for the year 1816."
- 3 St. 382; Apr. 20, 1816, C. 164—An Act to authorize the survey of two millions of acres of the public lands in lieu of that quantity heretofore authorized to be surveyed, in the territory of Michigan, as military bounty lands."
- 3 St. 382; Apr. 20, 1816, C. 165—An Act supplementary to the act passed the thirteenth of March, 1802, to regulate trade and intercourse with the Indian tribes, and to preserve peace on the frontiers."
- 3 St. 348; Mar. 1, 1817, C. 23—An Act to enable the people of the western part of the Mississippi territory to form a constitution and state government, and for the admission of such state into the Union, on an equal footing with the original states."
- 3 St. 359; Mar. 3, 1817, C. 35—An Act making provision for the support of the military establishment for the year 1817."
- 3 St. 383; Mar. 3, 1817, C. 45—An Act to continue in force an act, entitled "An act for establishing trading houses with the Indian tribes."
- 3 St. 374; Mar. 3, 1817, C. 61—An Act to set apart and dispose of certain public lands, for the encouragement of the cultivation of the vine and olive."
- 3 St. 375; Mar. 3, 1817, C. 62—An Act to authorize the appointment of a surveyor for the lands in the northern part of the Mississippi territory, and the sale of certain lands therein described."
- 3 St. 378; Mar. 3, 1817, C. 80—An Act making additional appropriations to defray the expenses of the army and militia during the late war with Great Britain."
- 3 St. 380; Mar. 3, 1817, C. 88—An Act making provision for the location of the lands reserved by the first article of the treaty of the ninth of August, 1814, between the United States and the Creek nation, to certain chiefs and warriors of that nation, and for other purposes."
- 3 St. 385; Mar. 3, 1817, C. 92—An Act to provide for the punishment of crimes and offences committed within the Indian boundaries."
- 3 St. 388; Mar. 3, 1817, C. 106—An Act making appropriations for carrying into effect certain Indian treaties, and for other purposes."
- 3 St. 397; Mar. 3, 1817, C. 110—An Act to amend the act "authorizing the payment for property lost, captured, or destroyed by the enemy, while in the military service of the United States,

¹ *Rey. 2 St. 617; 7 St. 107, S. 8 St. 277.*

² *Rey. 2 St. 471.*

³ *Not published until S. 8 St. 471.*

⁴ *Rey. 2 St. 49, 112, S. 8 St. 288.*

⁵ *Rey. 2 St. 495.*

⁶ *Chas. Op. Sol. M. 11004, Nov. 5, 1928.*

⁷ *Rey. 2 St. 522.*

⁸ *Rey. 2 St. 574.*

⁹ *Rey. 2 St. 288, 281, S. 8 St. 408.*

¹⁰ *Rey. 2 St. 660, 728, 784, 785.*

¹¹ *Rey. 2 St. 791, sec. 1.*

¹² *Rey. 2 St. 80.*

¹³ *Rey. 2 St. 112.*

¹⁴ *Rey. 2 St. 120, S. 8 St. 374, 378, 485.*

¹⁵ *Rey. 2 St. 493.*

¹⁶ *Rey. 2 St. 680, S. 8 St. 215.*

¹⁷ *Rey. 2 St. 668; 7 St. 112.*

¹⁸ *Rey. N. W. Ord. 1787, U. S. C. (1864 ed.) p. XXIII, S. 8 St. 289.*

¹⁹ *Rey. 7 St. 49.*

²⁰ *Rey. 7 St. 49.*

²¹ *Rey. 7 St. 49.*

²² *Rey. 2 St. 728.*

²³ *Rey. 2 St. 180, S. 8 St. 729. *Obid.*: Leighton 26 C. Cl. 288.*

²⁴ *Rey. N. W. Ord. 1787, U. S. C. (1864 ed.) p. XXIII, S. 8 St. 348, 472;*

²⁵ *Rey. 2 St. 116, S. 8 St. 377, S. 8 St. 302.*

²⁶ *Rey. 2 St. 116, S. 8 St. 377.*

²⁷ *Rey. 7 St. 120; S. 8 St. 228.*

²⁸ *Rey. 7 St. 120; S. 8 St. 228.*

²⁹ *Rey. 7 St. 120; S. 8 St. 228.*

³⁰ *Rey. 7 St. 120; S. 8 St. 228.*

³¹ *Rey. 7 St. 120; S. 8 St. 228.*

³² *Rey. 7 St. 120; S. 8 St. 228.*

³³ *Rey. 7 St. 120; S. 8 St. 228.*

³⁴ *Rey. 7 St. 120; S. 8 St. 228.*

³⁵ *Rey. 7 St. 120; S. 8 St. 228.*

³⁶ *Rey. 7 St. 120; S. 8 St. 228.*

³⁷ *Rey. 7 St. 120; S. 8 St. 228.*

- and for other purposes," passed the month of April, 1816¹
- 3 St 390, Dec 11, 1810, § Res I—Resolution for admitting the state of Indiana into the Union²
- 3 St 407, Feb 19, 1818, C 14—An Act making appropriations for the military service of the United States for the year 1818
- 3 St 418, Apr 9, 1818, C 45—An Act making appropriation for the support of government for the year 1818³
- 3 St 423, April 11, 1818, C 47—An Act to extend the time for locating Virginia military land warrants, and retaining surveyors thereon to the General Land Office, and for designating the western boundary line of the Virginia military tract⁴
- 3 St 428, Apr 10, 1818, C 46—An Act directing the manner of appointing Indian Agents, and continuing the Act for establishing trading houses with the Indian tribes⁵
- 3 St 428, Apr 18, 1818, C 67—An Act to enable the people of the Illinois territory to form a constitution and state government, and for the admission of such state into the Union on an equal footing with the original states⁶
- 3 St 443, Aug 1, 1818, C 87—An Act to regulate and fix the compensation of the clerks in the different offices⁷
- 3 St 450, Apr 20, 1818, C 102—An Act to increase the pay of the militia while in actual service, and for other purposes⁸
- 3 St 461, Apr 20, 1818, C 104—An Act fixing the compensation of Indian agents and factors⁹
- 3 St 463, Apr 20, 1818, C 109—An Act supplementary to the several acts making appropriations for the year 1818¹⁰
- 3 St 469, Apr 20, 1818, C 92—An Act respecting the surveying and sale of the public lands in the Alabama territory
- 3 St 471, Jan 15, 1811, § Res—Relative to the Occupation of the Floridas by the United States of America
- 3 St 471, Jan 15, 1811, An Act to enable the President of the United States, under certain contingencies, to take possession of the country lying east of the river Perdido, and south of the state of Georgia and the Mississippi territory, and for other purposes¹¹
- 3 St 472, Feb 12, 1818, C 98—An Act authorizing the President of the United States to take possession of a tract of country lying south of the Mississippi territory and west of the river Perdido
- 3 St 472, Mar 8, 1811, An Act concerning an act to enable the President of the United States, under certain contingencies, to take possession of the country lying east of the river Perdido, and south of the state of Georgia and the Mississippi territory, and for other purposes, and the declaration accompanying the same¹²
- 3 St 472; Dec 10, 1817, § Res I—Resolution for the admission of the State of Mississippi into the Union¹³
- 3 St 478, Dec 16, 1818, C 8—An Act making a partial appropriation for the military service of the United States, for the year 1819, and to make good a deficit in the appropriation for holding treaties with the Indians
- 3 St 480; Feb 15, 1819, C 13—An Act making appropriations for the military service of the United States for the year 1819¹⁴
- 3 St 482, Feb 16, 1819, C 22—An Act authorizing the election of a delegate from the Michigan territory to the Congress of the United States, and extending the right of suffrage to the citizens of said territory
- 3 St 484, Feb 20, 1819, C 28—An Act authorizing the President of the United States to purchase the lands reserved by the act of the third of March, 1817, to certain chiefs, warriors, or other Indians of the Creek nation¹⁵
- 3 St 485, Feb 20, 1819, C 31—An Act providing for a grant of land for the seat of government in the State of Mississippi, and for the support of a seminary of learning within the said state¹⁶
- 3 St 489, Mar 2, 1819, C 47—An Act to enable the people of the Alabama territory to form a constitution and state govern-

- ment, and for the admission of such state into the Union on an equal footing with the original states¹⁷
- 3 St 493, Mar 2, 1819, C 49—An Act establishing a separate territorial government in the southern part of the territory of Missouri¹⁸
- 3 St 498; Mar 3, 1819, C 54—An Act making appropriations for the support of government for the year 1819
- 3 St 514, Mar 3, 1819, C 80—An Act to continue in force, for a further term, the act entitled "An act for establishing trading houses with the Indian tribes," and for other purposes¹⁹
- 3 St 518, Mar 3, 1819, U 85—An Act making provision for the evacuation of the Indian tribes adjoining the frontier settlements²⁰ § R 3 307, 25 U S C 721
- 3 St 517, Mar 3, 1819, C 87—An Act making appropriations to carry into effect treaties concluded with several Indian tribes therein mentioned²¹
- 3 St 521, Mar 3, 1819, C 92—An Act to designate the boundaries of districts, and establish land offices for the disposal of the public lands not heretofore offered for sale in the states of Ohio and Indiana²²
- 3 St 523, Mar 3, 1819, C 94—An Act to authorize the President of the United States to take possession of East and West Florida, and establish a temporary government therein²³
- 3 St 530, Mar 3, 1819 C 90—An Act concerning invalid
- 3 St 536, Dec 8, 1818, § Res I—Resolution declaring the admission of the state of Illinois into the Union²⁴
- 3 St 544, Mar 4, 1820, C 20—An Act to continue in force for a further time, the act entitled "An act for establishing trading-houses with the Indian tribes,"
- 3 St 515, Mar 6, 1820, C 23—An Act to authorize the people of the Missouri territory to form a constitution and state government, and for the admission of such state into the Union on an equal footing with the original states, and to prohibit slavery in certain territories²⁵
- 3 St 548, Mar 14, 1820 C 91—An Act to provide for taking the fourth census, or enumeration of the inhabitants of the United States, and for other purposes
- 3 St 552, Apr 21, 1820, C 40—An Act making appropriations for the support of government, for the year 1820²⁶
- 3 St 562, Apr 14, 1820, C 46—An act making appropriations for the military service of the United States, for the year 1820
- 3 St 576, May 11, 1820, C 89—An Act, authorizing the sale of thirteen sections of land, lying within the land district of Canton, in the state of Ohio²⁷
- 3 St 576, May 11, 1820, C 92—An Act to amend the act, entitled "An act to provide for the publication of the laws of the United States, and for other purposes"²⁸
- 3 St 577, May 11, 1820, C 94—An Act to annex certain lands within the territory of Michigan to the district of Detroit²⁹
- 3 St 601, May 15, 1820, C 185—An Act granting to the state of Ohio the right of preemption to certain quarter sections of land³⁰
- 3 St 608, Dec 14, 1819; § Res I—Resolution declaring the admission of the state of Alabama into the Union³¹
- 3 St 628, May 16, 1820, C 187—An Act making appropriations for carrying into effect the treaties concluded with the Chippewa and Kickapoo nations of Indians.

¹ *Ag.* 3 St 201; see 9 S 4 St 618² *Ag.* N W Ord 1787, U S C (1894 ed) p XXIII, § 8 St 299³ *Ag.* 3 St 171⁴ *Ag.* 3 St 487, *Cited* Reynolds, 2 Fed. 417.⁵ *Ag.* 3 St 652, § 4 St 723⁶ *Ag.* N W Ord 1787, U S C (1894 ed) p XXIII, § 8 St 598⁷ *Ag.* 3 St 624, § 4 St 738⁸ *Ag.* 3 St 614, § 4 St 729, *Cited* U S, 25 Fed. Cas No 18015⁹ *Ag.* 3 St 668, § 8 St 772.¹⁰ *Ag.* 3 St 471¹¹ *Ag.* N W Ord 1787, U S C (1894 ed) p XXIII, § 8 St 848¹² *Ag.* 3 St 69, 182¹³ *Ag.* 3 St 848¹⁴ *Ag.* 3 St 238, sec 5¹⁵ *Ag.* N W Ord 1787, U S C (1894 ed) p XXIII, Vol I, Am. St. Papers, Public Lands, p 126; § R 3 St 119, 10 St 630¹⁶ *Ag.* 3 St 757¹⁷ *Ag.* 3 St 481, *Ag.* 3 St 757¹⁸ *Ag.* 11 St 86, 100, 273, *Ag.* 17 St 437, 461 *Cited* U S ex rel Young 4 Mont 58¹⁹ *Ag.* 20 U S C 452, 48 St 596, sec 1, as amended 49 St 1458;²⁰ 25 U S C 451, 48 St 596 sec 2, as amended 49 St 1458;²¹ 25 U S C 455, 48 St 596 sec 3, as amended 49 St 1458;²² 25 U S C 455, 48 St 596 sec 4, as amended 49 St 1458;²³ 25 U S C 471, 48 St 598 sec 11;²⁴ *Ag.* 7 St 68, 180, 171, 376, 181, 184, 186, 188, 189, 192, 193²⁵ *Ag.* 3 St 437²⁶ *Ag.* 3 St 44²⁷ *Ag.* 3 St 502²⁸ *Ag.* N W Ord 1787, U S C (1894 ed) p XXIII, § 8 St 458²⁹ *Ag.* 10 St 672³⁰ *Ag.* 10 St 672³¹ *Ag.* Vol I, Am. St. Papers, Public Lands, p 126³² *Ag.* 3 St 448, 7 St 160, Art. 1³³ *Ag.* 3 St 439 sec. 1, *Cited* 6 Op A G 627.³⁴ *Ag.* 3 St 208³⁵ *Ag.* 3 St 176³⁶ *Ag.* N W Ord 1787, U S C (1894 ed) p XXIII, Vol I, Am. St. Papers, Public Lands, p 126³⁷ *Ag.* 3 St 202, 206 § 4 St 780; § St 86; 7 St 628

- 4 St 194, May 22, 1820, C 155—An Act for the relief of the Florida Indians.
- 4 St 200, Jan 30, 1827, C 0—An Act to allow the citizens of the territory of Michigan to elect the members of their legislative council, and for other purposes.
- 4 St 202, Feb 8, 1827, C 0—An Act to provide for the confirmation and settlement of private land claims in East Florida, and for other purposes.
- 4 St 214, May 2, 1827, C 29—An Act making appropriations for the military service of the United States, for the year 1827.
- 4 St 217, Mar 9, 1827, C 32—An Act making appropriations for the Indian department, for the year 1827.
- 4 St 232, Mar 2, 1827, C 40—An Act making appropriations to carry into effect certain Indian treaties.
- 4 St 238, Mar 2, 1827, C 50—An Act in addition to "An act to regulate and give the compensation of the clerks in the different offices," passed April, 1818.
- 4 St 234, May 2, 1827, C 52—An Act to authorize the state of Indiana to locate and make a road thence named.
- 4 St 255, Mar 4, 1827, C 53—An Act concerning a seminary of learning in the territory of Arkansas.
- 4 St 247, Feb 12, 1828, C 0—An Act making appropriations for the support of government for the year 1828.
- 4 St 267, Mar 21, 1828, C 21—An Act making appropriations for the military service of the United States, for the year 1828.
- 4 St 204, Apr 28, 1828, C 40—An Act extending the limits of certain land offices in Indiana, and for other purposes.
- 4 St 207, May 9, 1828, C 47—An Act making appropriations for the Indian department, for the year 1828.
- 4 St 276, May 18, 1828, C 57—An Act for the punishment of conventions of the first article of the treaty between the United States and Russia.
- 4 St 300, May 24, 1828, C 04—An Act making appropriations to carry into effect certain Indian treaties.
- 4 St 302, May 24, 1828, C 07—An Act to enable the President of the United States to hold a treaty with the Chickasaws, Ottawas, Pottawatomies, Winnebagoes, Fox and Sac nations of Indians.
- 4 St 305, May 24, 1828, C 108—An Act to aid the state of Ohio in extending the Miami canal from Dayton to Lake Erie, and to grant a quantity of land to said state to aid in the construction of the canal authorized by law, and for making donations of land to certain persons in Arkansas territory.
- 4 St 315, May 24, 1828, C 124—An Act making appropriations to enable the President of the United States to defray the expenses of delegations of the Choctaw, Creek, Cherokee, and Chickasaw, and other tribes of Indians, to explore the country west of the Mississippi.
- 4 St 323, Jan 6, 1829, C 1—An Act making appropriations for the support of government, for the first quarter of the year 1829.
- 4 St 338, Mar 2, 1829, C 24—An Act making additional appropriations for the support of government for the year 1829.
- 4 St 348, Mar 2, 1829, C 26—An Act making additional appropriations for the military service of the United States, for the year 1829.
- 4 St 352, Mar 2, 1829, C 32—An Act making appropriations for the Indian department, for the year 1829.
- 4 St 361, Mar 2, 1829, C 50—An Act making appropriations for carrying into effect certain treaties with the Indian tribes, and for holding a treaty with the Pottawatomies.
- 4 St 373, Feb 27, 1830, C 20—An Act making appropriations for the Indian department, for the year 1830.
- 4 St 383, Mar 23, 1830, C 40—An Act to provide for taking the fifth census or enumeration of the inhabitants of the United States.
- 4 St 390, March 25, 1830, C 11—An Act making appropriations to carry into effect certain Indian treaties.
- 4 St 394, Apr 7, 1830, C 00—An Act making appropriations to pay the expenses incurred in holding certain Indian treaties.
- 4 St 397, Apr 30, 1830, C 54—An Act for the re-appropriation of certain unexpended balances for former appropriations.
- 4 St 401, Mar 20, 1830, C 90—An Act making appropriations to carry into effect the treaty of Little Rock, Mo.
- 4 St 411, May 28, 1830, C 148—An Act to provide for an exchange of lands with the Indians residing in any of the States or Territories, and for their removal west of the river Mississippi.
- 4 St 413, Feb 13, 1831, C 3—An Act making appropriations for carrying into effect certain Indian treaties.
- 4 St 433, Jan 27, 1831, C 8—An Act for closing certain accounts, and making appropriations for alterations in the Indian department.
- 4 St 412, Feb 13, 1831, C 26—An Act to provide hereafter for the payment of \$3,000 annually to the Seneca Indians, and for other purposes.
- 4 St 442, Feb 19, 1831, C 27—An Act to establish a land office in the territory of Michigan, and for other purposes.
- 4 St 443, Feb 26, 1831, C 82—An Act to authorize the appointment of a subsequent agent to the Winnebago Indians, on Rock River.
- 4 St 463, Mar 2, 1831, C 50—An Act making appropriation for carrying into effect certain Indian treaties.
- 4 St 404, Mar 2, 1831, C 60—An Act to carry into effect certain Indian treaties.
- 4 St 405, Mar 2, 1831, C 61—An Act making appropriations for the military service for the year 1831.
- 4 St 470, Mar 2, 1831, C 64—An Act making appropriations for the Indian department for the year 1831.
- 4 St 481, Mar 8, 1831, C 104—An Act for the benefit of Percus Lovely, and for other purposes.
- 4 St 492, Mar 8, 1831, C 116—An Act to create the office of surveyor of the public lands for the state of Louisiana.
- 4 St 501, Mar 31, 1832, C 58—An Act to add a part of the southern to the northern district of Alabama.
- 4 St 503, Apr 20, 1832, C 71—An Act making appropriations in conformity with the stipulations of certain Indian treaties.
- 4 St 614, May 5, 1832, C 75—An Act to provide the means of extending the benefits of vaccination, as a preventive of the small-pox, to the Indian tribes, and thereby, as far as possible.
- 4 St 320, 4 St 691
- 4 St 340, 4 St 214, 4 St 106, 210 4 St 681
- 4 St 7 St 807
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- able, to save them from the destructive ravages of that disease
- 4 St. 519; May 31, 1832; C 100—An Act making appropriations for the Indian department for the year 1832. Sec. 2—It S. 2063; 25 U. S. C. 30
- 4 St. 524; May 31, 1832, C 115—An Act defining the qualifications of voters in the territory of Arkansas
- 4 St. 529; June 4, 1832; C 101—An Act making appropriations for Indian annuities, and other similar objects, for the year 1832
- 4 St. 528; June 4, 1832, C 124—An Act making appropriations in conformity with the stipulations of certain treaties with the Cheyenne, Shawnee, Ottoway, Seneca, Wyandots, Cherokee, and Choctaw
- 4 St. 532; June 16, 1832, C 130—An Act for the re-appropriation of certain unexpended balances of former appropriations; and for other purposes
- 4 St. 534; July 9, 1832, C 174—An Act to provide for the appointment of a commissioner of Indian Affairs, and for other purposes. Sec. 3—R. S. 403-405; 25 U. S. C. 1 & 2 (42 M. 1580). See Historical Note 25 U. S. C. A. 1 & 2. Sec. 3—R. S. 404; 25 U. S. C. 8 (42 R. 24). See Historical Note 25 U. S. C. A. 8. Sec. 4—R. S. 2130; 25 U. S. C. 241 (19 R. 244, sec. 1; 27 R. 200; 29 R. 500, sec. 1). See Historical Note 25 U. S. C. A. 241. Sec. 5—R. S. 2073; 25 U. S. C. 65 (19 R. 244, sec. 1). USCA Historical Note: R. S. 2073 was derived from sec. 5 re above Act which, with the exception of the use of the words "Secretary of War" in place of the words "Secretary of Interior," is identical with the Code section 2. S. 2073 did not contain the word "agents," and, after the words "in consequence of," the word "immigration." The word "agents" was inserted and "immigration" was changed to "emigration," by amendment by Act Feb. 27, 1877, c. 60, sec. 1, 19 St. 244.
- 4 St. 574; July 9, 1832, C 175—An Act to enable the President to extinguish Indian title within the state of Indiana, Illinois, and territory of Michigan
- 4 St. 571; July 10, 1832; C 103—An Act to establish additional land districts in the state of Alabama, and for other purposes
- 4 St. 578; July 13, 1832, C 200—An Act to carry into effect certain Indian treaties
- 4 St. 579; July 13, 1832; C 202—An Act authorizing the Secretary of War to pay to the Seneca tribe of Indians, the balance of an annuity, of \$6,000, recently paid to said Indians, and remaining unpaid for the year 1829
- 4 St. 580; July 14, 1832; C 224—An Act supplementary to the several acts making appropriations for the civil and military service during the year 1832
- 4 St. 584; July 14, 1832; C 228—An Act to provide for the extinguishment of the Indian title to lands lying in the states of Missouri and Illinois, and for other purposes
- 4 St. 585; July 14, 1832; C 231—An Act to provide for the appointment of three commissioners to treat with the Indians, and for other purposes
- 4 St. 591; July 14, 1832; C 240—An Act to authorize the sale of certain public lands in the state of Ohio
- 4 St. 613; Feb. 20, 1833; C. 83—An Act for the payment of horses and arms lost in the military service of the United States against the Indians on the frontiers of Illinois and the Michigan territory
- 4 St. 616; Feb. 20, 1833; C. 40—An Act making appropriations for Indian annuities, and other similar objects, for the year 1833
- 4 St. 619; Mar. 2, 1833; C 54—An Act making appropriations for the civil and diplomatic expenses of government for the year 1833
- 4 St. 611; Mar. 2, 1833; C 50—An Act making appropriations for the Indian Department for the year 1833
- 4 St. 636; May 2, 1833, C 59—An Act making appropriations to carry into effect certain Indian treaties, and for other purposes for the year 1833
- 4 St. 662; Mar. 2, 1833; C 70—An Act for the more perfect defence of the frontiers
- 4 St. 651; Mar. 2, 1833, C 77—An Act to create sundry new land offices, and to alter the boundaries of other land offices of the United States
- 4 St. 665; Mar. 2, 1833; C 95—An Act to extend the provisions of the act of the third March, 1807, entitled "An Act to prevent settlements being made on lands ceded to the United States, until authorized by law"
- 4 St. 669; Mar. 2, 1833 J Res IV—A Resolution authorizing the Secretary of War to correct certain mistakes
- 4 St. 673; Mar. 14, 1834, C 31—An Act making appropriations for the support of the army for the year 1834
- 4 St. 677; June 18, 1834, C 47—An Act making appropriations for the Indian Department for the year 1834
- 4 St. 682; June 20, 1834, C 74—An Act making appropriations for Indian annuities, and other similar objects, for the year 1834
- 4 St. 680; June 20, 1834; C 70—An Act to create additional land districts in the states of Illinois and Missouri, and in the territory north of the state of Illinois
- 4 St. 705; June 25, 1834, C 105—An Act making appropriations to carry into effect certain Indian treaties, and for other purposes
- 4 St. 710; June 30, 1834; C 137—An Act authorizing the selection of certain Washoe and Erie Canal lands in the state of Ohio
- 4 St. 721; June 30, 1834; C 145—An Act to carry into full effect the fourth article of the treaty of the eighth of January, 1821, with the Creek nation of Indians, so far as relates to the claims of citizens of Georgia against said Indians, prior to 1821
- 4 St. 726; June 30, 1834; C 153—An Act to provide for the payment of claims, for property lost, captured, or destroyed, by the enemy, while in the military service of the United States, during the late war with the Indians on the frontiers of Illinois and Michigan territory
- 4 St. 729; June 30, 1834, C 161—An Act to regulate trade and intercourse with the Indian tribes, and to preserve peace on the frontiers
- Sec. 2—R. S. 2120, 2131; Sec. 3—R. S.
- 11 R. S. 411 R. 618
 4 St. 611, 236, 800, 807, 403, 411, 7, 51, 210, 808, 809, 810, 811, 812, 813, 814, 815, 816, 817, 818, 819, 820, 821, 822, 823, 824, 825, 826, 827, 828, 829, 830, 831, 832, 833, 834, 835, 836, 837, 838, 839, 840, 841, 842, 843, 844, 845, 846, 847, 848, 849, 850, 851, 852, 853, 854, 855, 856, 857, 858, 859, 860, 861, 862, 863, 864, 865, 866, 867, 868, 869, 870, 871, 872, 873, 874, 875, 876, 877, 878, 879, 880, 881, 882, 883, 884, 885, 886, 887, 888, 889, 890, 891, 892, 893, 894, 895, 896, 897, 898, 899, 900, 901, 902, 903, 904, 905, 906, 907, 908, 909, 910, 911, 912, 913, 914, 915, 916, 917, 918, 919, 920, 921, 922, 923, 924, 925, 926, 927, 928, 929, 930, 931, 932, 933, 934, 935, 936, 937, 938, 939, 940, 941, 942, 943, 944, 945, 946, 947, 948, 949, 950, 951, 952, 953, 954, 955, 956, 957, 958, 959, 960, 961, 962, 963, 964, 965, 966, 967, 968, 969, 970, 971, 972, 973, 974, 975, 976, 977, 978, 979, 980, 981, 982, 983, 984, 985, 986, 987, 988, 989, 990, 991, 992, 993, 994, 995, 996, 997, 998, 999, 1000, 1001, 1002, 1003, 1004, 1005, 1006, 1007, 1008, 1009, 1010, 1011, 1012, 1013, 1014, 1015, 1016, 1017, 1018, 1019, 1020, 1021, 1022, 1023, 1024, 1025, 1026, 1027, 1028, 1029, 1030, 1031, 1032, 1033, 1034, 1035, 1036, 1037, 1038, 1039, 1040, 1041, 1042, 1043, 1044, 1045, 1046, 1047, 1048, 1049, 1050, 1051, 1052, 1053, 1054, 1055, 1056, 1057, 1058, 1059, 1060, 1061, 1062, 1063, 1064, 1065, 1066, 1067, 1068, 1069, 1070, 1071, 1072, 1073, 1074, 1075, 1076, 1077, 1078, 1079, 1080, 1081, 1082, 1083, 1084, 1085, 1086, 1087, 1088, 1089, 1090, 1091, 1092, 1093, 1094, 1095, 1096, 1097, 1098, 1099, 1100, 1101, 1102, 1103, 1104, 1105, 1106, 1107, 1108, 1109, 1110, 1111, 1112, 1113, 1114, 1115, 1116, 1117, 1118, 1119, 1120, 1121, 1122, 1123, 1124, 1125, 1126, 1127, 1128, 1129, 1130, 1131, 1132, 1133, 1134, 1135, 1136, 1137, 1138, 1139, 1140, 1141, 1142, 1143, 1144, 1145, 1146, 1147, 1148, 1149, 1150, 1151, 1152, 1153, 1154, 1155, 1156, 1157, 1158, 1159, 1160, 1161, 1162, 1163, 1164, 1165, 1166, 1167, 1168, 1169, 1170, 1171, 1172, 1173, 1174, 1175, 1176, 1177, 1178, 1179, 1180, 1181, 1182, 1183, 1184, 1185, 1186, 1187, 1188, 1189, 1190, 1191, 1192, 1193, 1194, 1195, 1196, 1197, 1198, 1199, 1200, 1201, 1202, 1203, 1204, 1205, 1206, 1207, 1208, 1209, 1210, 1211, 1212, 1213, 1214, 1215, 1216, 1217, 1218, 1219, 1220, 1221, 1222, 1223, 1224, 1225, 1226, 1227, 1228, 1229, 1230, 1231, 1232, 1233, 1234, 1235, 1236, 1237, 1238, 1239, 1240, 1241, 1242, 1243, 1244, 1245, 1246, 1247, 1248, 1249, 1250, 1251, 1252, 1253, 1254, 1255, 1256, 1257, 1258, 1259, 1260, 1261, 1262, 1263, 1264, 1265, 1266, 1267, 1268, 1269, 1270, 1271, 1272, 1273, 1274, 1275, 1276, 1277, 1278, 1279, 1280, 1281, 1282, 1283, 1284, 1285, 1286, 1287, 1288, 1289, 1290, 1291, 1292, 1293, 1294, 1295, 1296, 1297, 1298, 1299, 1300, 1301, 1302, 1303, 1304, 1305, 1306, 1307, 1308, 1309, 1310, 1311, 1312, 1313, 1314, 1315, 1316, 1317, 1318, 1319, 1320, 1321, 1322, 1323, 1324, 1325, 1326, 1327, 1328, 1329, 1330, 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2493, 2494, 2495, 2496, 2497, 2498, 2499, 2

- 6 St. 475; May 18, 1842, C. 20—An Act making appropriations for the civil and diplomatic expenses of Government for the year 1842.
R. S. 1848.
- 6 St. 400; June 13, 1842; C. 40—An Act to amend an act entitled "An act to carry into effect, in the States of Alabama and Mississippi, the existing compacts with those States with regard to the live pecan, fund and the school reservations."
R. S. 1848.
- 5 St. 433; July 17, 1842, C. 04—An Act making appropriations for the current and contingent expenses of the Indian Department, and for fulfilling treaty stipulations with the various Indian tribes, for the year 1842.
R. S. 1848.
- 5 St. 504, Aug. 11, 1842, C. 127—An Act to provide for the settlement of the claims of the State of Georgia for the services of her militia.
- 5 St. 603; Aug. 10, 1842, C. 178—An Act authorizing the settlement and payment of certain claims of the State of Alabama.
- 6 St. 513, Aug. 23, 1842; C. 187—An Act to provide for the satisfaction of claims arising under the fourteenth and sixteenth articles of the treaty of Dancing Rabbit creek, concluded in September, 1830.
R. S. 1848.
- 5 St. 522, Aug. 23, 1842, C. 194—An Act to authorize the selection of school lands in lieu of those granted to the half-breeds of the Sae and Fox Indians.
R. S. 1848.
- 5 St. 623, Aug. 20, 1842; C. 202—An Act legalizing and making appropriations for such necessary outlays as have been usually included in the general appropriation bills without authority of law, and to be provided for certain incidental expenses of the Departments and offices of the Government, and for other purposes.
R. S. 1848.
- 5 St. 542; Aug. 20, 1842, C. 202—An Act to authorize the States of Indiana and Illinois to select certain quantities of land, in lieu of like quantities heretofore granted to the States, for the construction of the Wabash and Erie and the Illinois and Michigan canals.
R. S. 1848.
- 5 St. 546; Aug. 29, 1842, C. 204—An Act to provide for the reports of the decisions of the Supreme Court of the United States.
R. S. 1848.
- 5 St. 576; Aug. 31, 1842; C. 275—An Act making appropriations to carry into effect a treaty with the Wyandott Indians, and for other purposes.
R. S. 1848.
- 5 St. 583, May 13, 1842; J. Res. No. IV—Joint Resolution to continue two clerks in the business of reservations and grants under Indian treaties.
R. S. 1848.
- 5 St. 584; Aug. 30, 1842; J. Res. No. X—Joint Resolution to institute proceedings to ascertain the title to Rush Island, ceded in the Cadeo Treaty.
R. S. 1848.
- 5 St. 580; Dec. 24, 1842, C. 2—An Act making appropriations for the civil and diplomatic expenses of Government for the half calendar year ending the thirtieth day of June 1843.
R. S. 1848.
- 5 St. 603; Mar. 3, 1843; C. 50—An Act to perfect the titles to lands south of the Arkansas river, held under New Madrid locations, and pre-emption rights under the act of 1814(16).
R. S. 1848.
- 5 St. 611, Mar. 8, 1843; C. 78—An Act authorizing the sale of lands, with the improvements thereon erected by the United States, for the use of their agents, teachers, farmers, mechanics, and other persons employed amongst the Indians.
R. S. 1848.
- 5 St. 612; Mar. 8, 1843; C. 80—An Act making appropriations for fulfilling treaty stipulations with the various Indian tribes, and for the current and contingent expenses of the Indian Department, for the half calendar year beginning the first day of January and ending the thirtieth day of June, 1843, and for the fiscal year beginning the first day of July, 1843,

and ending the thirtieth day of June, 1844, and for other purposes.
R. S. 1848.

- 5 St. 610, Mar. 8, 1843, C. 80—An Act to authorize the investigation of alleged frauds under the pre-emption laws, and for other purposes.
R. S. 2272.
- 5 St. 622; Mar. 3, 1843; C. 88—An Act directing the survey of the northern line of the reservation for the half-breeds of the Sae and Fox tribes of Indians by the treaty of August 1824.
R. S. 1848.
- 5 St. 624, Mar. 3, 1843, C. 91—An Act providing for the sale of certain lands in the States of Ohio and Michigan, ceded by the Wyandott tribe of Indians, and for other purposes.
R. S. 1848.
- 5 St. 600; Mar. 3, 1843; C. 100—An Act making appropriations for the civil and diplomatic expenses of Government for the fiscal year ending the thirtieth day of June, 1844.
R. S. 1848.
- 5 St. 615, Mar. 3, 1843, C. 101—An Act for the relief of the Stockbridge tribe of Indians, in the Territory of Wisconsin.
R. S. 1848.
- 5 St. 606, June 15, 1844, C. 64—An Act to repeal an act entitled "An act directing the survey of the northern line of the reservation for the half-breeds of the Sae and Fox tribes of Indians, by the treaty of August, 1824," approved March 8, 1843.
R. S. 1848.
- 5 St. 673, June 15, 1844, C. 78—An Act making an appropriation for the payment of horses lost by the Missouri volunteers in the Florida war.
R. S. 1848.
- 5 St. 679; June 17, 1844; C. 80—An Act to enable the War Department to apply certain balances of appropriation, and for other purposes.
R. S. 1848.
- 5 St. 680; June 17, 1844; C. 103—An Act supplementary to the act entitled "An act to regulate trade and intercourse with the Indian tribes, and to preserve peace on the frontiers," passed thirtieth June, 1834.
R. S. 1848.
- 5 St. 680; June 17, 1844; C. 104—An Act explanatory of the Treaty made with the Chippewa Indians at Saganaw, the twenty-third of January, 1838.
R. S. 1848.
- 5 St. 681; June 17, 1844, C. 105—An Act making appropriations for the civil and diplomatic expenses of Government for the fiscal year ending the thirtieth day of June 1845, and for other purposes.
R. S. 1848.
- 5 St. 704; June 17, 1844; C. 108—An Act making appropriations for the current and contingent expenses of the Indian Department, and for fulfilling treaty stipulations with the various Indian tribes, for the fiscal year commencing on the first day of July, 1844, and ending on the thirtieth day of June, 1845.
R. S. 1848.
- 5 St. 713, June 12, 1844; J. Res. No. XII—A Resolution to continue two clerks in the business of reservations and grants under Indian treaties.
R. S. 1848.
- 5 St. 719; June 15, 1844; J. Res. No. XV—A Resolution for the relief of certain claimants under the Cherokee treaty of 1838.
R. S. 1848.
- 5 St. 727; Feb. 26, 1845; C. 25—An Act to amend an act entitled "An act to carry into effect, in the States of Alabama and Mississippi, the existing compacts with those States with regard to the 5 per cent. fund and the school reservations."
R. S. 1848.
- 5 St. 762; Mar. 8, 1845; C. 71—An Act making appropriations for the civil and diplomatic expenses of the Government for the year ending the thirtieth June, 1845, and for other purposes.
R. S. 1848.
- 5 St. 703; Mar. 8, 1845, C. 72—An Act making appropriations for the current and contingent expenses of the Indian Department, and for fulfilling treaty stipulations with the

1149 5 St. 118.
1150 5 St. 78; 5 St. 158; 7 St. 582. 5 St. 40, 544.
1151 10 St. 514.
1152 10 St. 200; 217; 7 St. 888; 840. 5 St. 612; 704; 8 St. 114, 122, 144; 10 St. 16, 41. 1153 4 Op. A. G. 541; 4 Op. A. G. 549. 4 Op. A. G. 545. 4 Op. A. G. 518; Choctaw, 119 U. S. 1, 1075. 21 C. 11; 68; Whitem, 6 Wall. 88.
1154 5 St. 28; 5 St. 658, May 18, 1842; 7 St. 478. 5 St. 704.
1155 7 St. 399; 822.
1156 11 St. 581.
1157 5 St. 409; 5 St. 623; 718.
1158 7 St. 470.
1159 5 St. 211; 8 St. 623, 643; 5 St. 623.
1160 11 St. 2, 625.

1161 5 St. 241, 228, 267, 518; 7 St. 828, 501, 598. 5 St. 661; 9 St. 615. 1162 5 St. 241, 228, 267, 518; 7 St. 828, 501, 598. 1163 5 St. 241, 228, 267, 518; 7 St. 828, 501, 598. 1164 5 St. 241, 228, 267, 518; 7 St. 828, 501, 598. 1165 5 St. 241, 228, 267, 518; 7 St. 828, 501, 598. 1166 5 St. 241, 228, 267, 518; 7 St. 828, 501, 598. 1167 5 St. 241, 228, 267, 518; 7 St. 828, 501, 598. 1168 5 St. 241, 228, 267, 518; 7 St. 828, 501, 598. 1169 5 St. 241, 228, 267, 518; 7 St. 828, 501, 598. 1170 5 St. 241, 228, 267, 518; 7 St. 828, 501, 598. 1171 5 St. 241, 228, 267, 518; 7 St. 828, 501, 598. 1172 5 St. 241, 228, 267, 518; 7 St. 828, 501, 598. 1173 5 St. 241, 228, 267, 518; 7 St. 828, 501, 598. 1174 5 St. 241, 228, 267, 518; 7 St. 828, 501, 598. 1175 5 St. 241, 228, 267, 518; 7 St. 828, 501, 598. 1176 5 St. 241, 228, 267, 518; 7 St. 828, 501, 598. 1177 5 St. 241, 228, 267, 518; 7 St. 828, 501, 598. 1178 5 St. 241, 228, 267, 518; 7 St. 828, 501, 598. 1179 5 St. 241, 228, 267, 518; 7 St. 828, 501, 598. 1180 5 St. 241, 228, 267, 518; 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various Indian tribes, for the fiscal year commencing on the first day of July, 1845, and ending on the thirtieth day of June, 1846."

- 5 St 717, Mar 1, 1845, § Res No VII.—A Resolution amendatory of the resolution passed April 30, 1841, "respecting the application of certain appropriations heretofore made."
5 St 890, Mar 2, 1845, § Res No XI.—A Joint Resolution authorizing the Secretary of War to pay any balance that may be due the Shawnee Indians who served in the Florida war.

6 STAT.

- 6 St 9, Aug 11, 1700, C 14.—An Act for the relief of disabled soldiers and sailors who were in the service of the United States, and of certain other persons.
6 St 7, Apr 12, 1792, C 10.—An Act for ascertaining the bounds of a tract of land purchased by John Cleves Symmes.
6 St 12, Feb 27, 1793, C 14.—An Act making provision for the persons therein mentioned.
6 St 16, May 31, 1794, C 38.—An Act to compensate Arthur R. Cain.
6 St 42, Jan 20, 1798, C 7.—An Act for the relief of John Frank.
6 St 81, May 8, 1798, C 41.—An Act directing the payment of a detachment of militia, for services performed in the year 1794, under Major James Ore.
6 St 46, Mar 10, 1802, C 10.—An Act for the relief of Francis Douchette.
6 St 40, Apr 8, 1802, C 19.—An Act for the relief of Isaac Zane.
6 St 67, Mar 2, 1805, C 25.—An Act for the relief of the widow and orphan children of Robert Elliot.
6 St 67, Mar 8, 1805, C 76.—An Act making provision for the widow and orphan children of Thomas Plann.
6 St 68, Mar 3, 1805, C 45.—An Act for the relief of Richard Taylor.
6 St 67, Mar 8, 1807, C 48.—An Act concerning invalid pensioners.
6 St 68, Feb 25, 1811, C 24.—An Act providing for the sale of a tract of land lying in the state of Tennessee, and a tract in the Indiana territory.
6 St 108, Dec 12, 1811, C 7.—An Act for the relief of Josiah H. Webb.
6 St 125, Aug 2, 1813, C 62.—An Act for the relief of David Tinsley.
6 St 148, Apr 18, 1814, C 80.—An Act for the relief of John Pitchin.
6 St 149, Feb 24, 1815, C 62.—An Act for granting and securing to Anthony Shaine, the right of the United States to a tract of land in the State of Ohio.
6 St 167, Apr 28, 1816, C 97.—An Act for the relief of Young King, a chief of the Seneca tribe of Indians.
6 St 171, Apr 27, 1816, C 122.—An Act for the relief of Samuel Mance.
6 St 191, Mar 9, 1817, C 68.—An Act for the relief of certain Creek Indians.
6 St 198, Mar 8, 1817, C 68.—An Act for the relief of Alexander Holmes and Benjamin Hough.
6 St 221, Apr 20, 1818, C 110.—An Act for the relief of Peggy Bailey.
6 St 216, Apr 20, 1818, C 130.—An Act for the relief of Coneha Mayon.
6 St 229, Mar 8, 1819, C 67.—An Act in behalf of the Connecticut Asylum for teaching the Deaf and Dumb.
6 St 244, May 4, 1820, C 66.—An Act for the relief of Jacob Konkopot, and others, of the Nation of Stockbridge Indians, residing in the State of New York.
6 St 232, May 15, 1820, C 129.—An Act for the relief of Joshua Newsom, Peter Crook, and James Babb.
6 St 267, May 6, 1822, C 60.—An Act confirming the title to a tract of land to Alana Dibreel and Sophia Hancock.
6 St 270, May 7, 1822, C 76.—An Act granting a tract of land to William Conner and wife and to their children.

- 6 St 272, May 7, 1822, C 84.—An Act for the relief of William Donly.
6 St 278, May 7, 1822, C 120.—An Act for the relief of John Holmes.
6 St 282, Mar 3, 1823, C 76.—An Act for the relief of John B. Hogan.
6 St 290, May 5, 1824, C 57.—An Act for the benefit of Alfred Moore and Sterling Organ, assignees, of Morris Lanes.
6 St 297, May 6, 1824, C 60.—An Act to authorize the settlement of the accounts of Benjamin Lincoln, and others.
6 St 300, May 27, 1824, C 78.—An Act for the relief of the representatives of Samuel Mum, deceased.
6 St 311, May 20, 1824, C 170.—An Act appropriating a sum of money to Benjamin Hildman, of the State of Indiana.
6 St 316, May 20, 1824, C 201.—An Act for the relief of John Holliday.
6 St 322, Mar 3, 1825, C 80.—An Act for the relief of Samuel Dale, of Alabama.
6 St 323, Mar 3, 1825, C 83.—An Act granting certain rights to David Price, Josiah Fleckles, and John Weatherford.
6 St 328, Mar 8, 1825, C 56.—An Act for the relief of the Companies of Mounted Rangers, commanded by Captains Boyle and McElhenny.
6 St 330, Mar 8, 1825, C 118.—An Act for the relief of William Little, administrator of Minor Reeves.
6 St 339, Apr 5, 1826, C 24.—An Act for the benefit of the incorporated Kentucky Asylum, for teaching the deaf and dumb.
6 St 341, May 16, 1826, C 52.—An Act for the relief of James Osborn, of Vincennes, Indiana, and James Kay, of Kentucky.
6 St 341, May 16, 1826, C 53.—An Act for the relief of William Hambley and Edmund Doyle.
6 St 342, May 16, 1826, C 77.—An Act relinquishing the right of the United States, in a certain tract of land, to Samuel Binschei.
6 St 342, May 16, 1826, C 90.—An Act relinquishing the right of the United States, in a certain tract of land, to William Hollinger.
6 St 343, May 18, 1826, C 69.—An Act for the relief of James Wilkott, and Mary his wife, of the State of Ohio.
6 St 349, May 20, 1826, C 101.—An Act to make compensation to Hugh McClung, for a tract of land situate in the state of Tennessee.
6 St 354, May 22, 1826, C 137.—An Act for the relief of the Florida Indians.
6 St 360, Mar 2, 1827, C 53.—An Act concerning a Summary of Sentences in the Territory of Arkansas.
6 St 361, Mar 2, 1827, C 65.—An Act for the relief of William Morrison.
6 St 378, May 19, 1828, C 65.—An Act for the relief of Thomas Brown and Aaron Stanton, of the state of Indiana.
6 St 379, May 23, 1828, C 74.—An Act making an appropriation to augment the Indian fund, to be reserved to Peter Lynd, of the Cherokee tribe of Indians, within the limits of the state of Georgia, by the treaty of 1810, between the United States and said tribe of Indians.
6 St 387, May 24, 1828, C 139.—An Act for the benefit of John Vinton, of the state of Tennessee.
6 St 408, Mar 23, 1830, C 42.—An Act to provide for the payment of sundry citizens of the territory of Arkansas, for trespasses committed on their property by the Osage Indians, in the years 1816, 1817, and 1822.
6 St 409, Mar 26, 1830, C 46.—An Act for the relief of Francis Compaet.
6 St 411, Apr 7, 1830, C 61.—An Act for the relief of the legal representatives of Jean Baptiste Coucou.
6 St 412, Apr 7, 1830, C 66.—An Act for the relief of Hubert La Croix.
6 St 416, May 20, 1830, C 97.—An Act for the relief of sundry military and other officers and soldiers, and for other purposes.

* See 1 St 618, 4 St 37, 181, 442, 504, 777, 735, 5 St 158, 349, 519, 6 St 704, 7 St 31, 44, 46, 88, 74, 84, 91, 98, 100, 107, 113, 116, 160, 178, 186, 188, 190, 208, 210, 212, 234, 236, 240, 254, 268, 280, 300, 309, 317, 320, 322, 327, 328, 338, 345, 351, 353, 365, 370, 374, 391, 391, 398, 409, 416, 417, 424, 428, 481, 482, 449, 450, 468, 491, 517, 525, 536, 538, 540, 548, 549, 569, 574, 576, 581, 582, 591, 599, 600, 609, 610, 611, 612, 613, 614, 615, 616, 617, 618, 619, 620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627, 628, 629, 630, 631, 632, 633, 634, 635, 636, 637, 638, 639, 640, 641, 642, 643, 644, 645, 646, 647, 648, 649, 650, 651, 652, 653, 654, 655, 656, 657, 658, 659, 660, 661, 662, 663, 664, 665, 666, 667, 668, 669, 670, 671, 672, 673, 674, 675, 676, 677, 678, 679, 680, 681, 682, 683, 684, 685, 686, 687, 688, 689, 690, 691, 692, 693, 694, 695, 696, 697, 698, 699, 700, 701, 702, 703, 704, 705, 706, 707, 708, 709, 710, 711, 712, 713, 714, 715, 716, 717, 718, 719, 720, 721, 722, 723, 724, 725, 726, 727, 728, 729, 730, 731, 732, 733, 734, 735, 736, 737, 738, 739, 740, 741, 742, 743, 744, 745, 746, 747, 748, 749, 750, 751, 752, 753, 754, 755, 756, 757, 758, 759, 760, 761, 762, 763, 764, 765, 766, 767, 768, 769, 770, 771, 772, 773, 774, 775, 776, 777, 778, 779, 780, 781, 782, 783, 784, 785, 786, 787, 788, 789, 790, 791, 792, 793, 794, 795, 796, 797, 798, 799, 800, 801, 802, 803, 804, 805, 806, 807, 808, 809, 810, 811, 812, 813, 814, 815, 816, 817, 818, 819, 820, 821, 822, 823, 824, 825, 826, 827, 828, 829, 830, 831, 832, 833, 834, 835, 836, 837, 838, 839, 840, 841, 842, 843, 844, 845, 846, 847, 848, 849, 850, 851, 852, 853, 854, 855, 856, 857, 858, 859, 860, 861, 862, 863, 864, 865, 866, 867, 868, 869, 870, 871, 872, 873, 874, 875, 876, 877, 878, 879, 880, 881, 882, 883, 884, 885, 886, 887, 888, 889, 890, 891, 892, 893, 894, 895, 896, 897, 898, 899, 900, 901, 902, 903, 904, 905, 906, 907, 908, 909, 910, 911, 912, 913, 914, 915, 916, 917, 918, 919, 920, 921, 922, 923, 924, 925, 926, 927, 928, 929, 930, 931, 932, 933, 934, 935, 936, 937, 938, 939, 940, 941, 942, 943, 944, 945, 946, 947, 948, 949, 950, 951, 952, 953, 954, 955, 956, 957, 958, 959, 960, 961, 962, 963, 964, 965, 966, 967, 968, 969, 970, 971, 972, 973, 974, 975, 976, 977, 978, 979, 980, 981, 982, 983, 984, 985, 986, 987, 988, 989, 990, 991, 992, 993, 994, 995, 996, 997, 998, 999, 1000.

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* See 1 St 618, 4 St 37, 181, 442, 504, 777, 735, 5 St 158, 349, 519, 6 St 704, 7 St 31, 44, 46, 88, 74, 84, 91, 98, 100, 107, 113, 116, 160, 178, 186, 188, 190, 208, 210, 212, 234, 236, 240, 254, 268, 280, 300, 309, 317, 320, 322, 327, 328, 338, 345, 351, 353, 365, 370, 374, 391, 391, 398, 409, 416, 417, 424, 428, 481, 482, 449, 450, 468, 491, 517, 525, 536, 538, 540, 548, 549, 569, 574, 576, 581, 582, 591, 599, 600, 609, 610, 611, 612, 613, 614, 615, 616, 617, 618, 619, 620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627, 628, 629, 630, 631, 632, 633, 634, 635, 636, 637, 638, 639, 640, 641, 642, 643, 644, 645, 646, 647, 648, 649, 650, 651, 652, 653, 654, 655, 656, 657, 658, 659, 660, 661, 662, 663, 664, 665, 666, 667, 668, 669, 670, 671, 672, 673, 674, 675, 676, 677, 678, 679, 680, 681, 682, 683, 684, 685, 686, 687, 688, 689, 690, 691, 692, 693, 694, 695, 696, 697, 698, 699, 700, 701, 702, 703, 704, 705, 706, 707, 708, 709, 710, 711, 712, 713, 714, 715, 716, 717, 718, 719, 720, 721, 722, 723, 724, 725, 726, 727, 728, 729, 730, 731, 732, 733, 734, 735, 736, 737, 738, 739, 740, 741, 742, 743, 744, 745, 746, 747, 748, 749, 750, 751, 752, 753, 754, 755, 756, 757, 758, 759, 760, 761, 762, 763, 764, 765, 766, 767, 768, 769, 770, 771, 772, 773, 774, 775, 776, 777, 778, 779, 780, 781, 782, 783, 784, 785, 786, 787, 788, 789, 790, 791, 792, 793, 794, 795, 796, 797, 798, 799, 800, 801, 802, 803, 804, 805, 806, 807, 808, 809, 810, 811, 812, 813, 814, 815, 816, 817, 818, 819, 820, 821, 822, 823, 824, 825, 826, 827, 828, 829, 830, 831, 832, 833, 834, 835, 836, 837, 838, 839, 840, 841, 842, 843, 844, 845, 846, 847, 848, 849, 850, 851, 852, 853, 854, 855, 856, 857, 858, 859, 860, 861, 862, 863, 864, 865, 866, 867, 868, 869, 870, 871, 872, 873, 874, 875, 876, 877, 878, 879, 880, 881, 882, 883, 884, 885, 886, 887, 888, 889, 890, 891, 892, 893, 894, 895, 896, 897, 898, 899, 900, 901, 902, 903, 904, 905, 906, 907, 908, 909, 910, 911, 912, 913, 914, 915, 916, 917, 918, 919, 920, 921, 922, 923, 924, 925, 926, 927, 928, 929, 930, 931, 932, 933, 934, 935, 936, 937, 938, 939, 940, 941, 942, 943, 944, 945, 946, 947, 948, 949, 950, 951, 952, 953, 954, 955, 956, 957, 958, 959, 960, 961, 962, 963, 964, 965, 966, 967, 968, 969, 970, 971, 972, 973, 974, 975, 976, 977, 978, 979, 980, 981, 982, 983, 984, 985, 986, 987, 988, 989, 990, 991, 992, 993, 994, 995, 996, 997, 998, 999, 1000.

* See 1 St 618, 4 St 37, 181, 442, 504, 777, 735, 5 St 158, 349, 519, 6 St 704, 7 St 31, 44, 46, 88, 74, 84, 91, 98, 100, 107, 113, 116, 160, 178, 186, 188, 190, 208, 210, 212, 234, 236, 240, 254, 268, 280, 300, 309, 317, 320, 322, 327, 328, 338, 345, 351, 353, 365, 370, 374, 391, 391, 398, 409, 416, 417, 424, 428, 481, 482, 449, 450, 468, 491, 517, 525, 536, 538, 540, 548, 549, 569, 574, 576, 581, 582, 591, 599, 600, 609, 610, 611, 612, 613, 614, 615, 616, 617, 618, 619, 620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627, 628, 629, 630, 631, 632, 633, 634, 635, 636, 637, 638, 639, 640, 641, 642, 643, 644, 645, 646, 647, 648, 649, 650, 651, 652, 653, 654, 655, 656, 657, 658, 659, 660, 661, 662, 663, 664, 665, 666, 667, 668, 669, 670, 671, 672, 673, 674, 675, 676, 677, 678, 679, 680, 681, 682, 683, 684, 685, 686, 687, 688, 689, 690, 691, 692, 693, 694, 695, 696, 697, 698, 699, 700, 701, 702, 703, 704, 705, 706, 707, 708, 709, 710, 711, 712, 713, 714, 715, 716, 717, 718, 719, 720, 721, 722, 723, 724, 725, 726, 727, 728, 729, 730, 731, 732, 733, 734, 735, 736, 737, 738, 739, 740, 741, 742, 743, 744, 745, 746, 747, 748, 749, 750, 751, 752, 753, 754, 755, 756, 757, 758, 759, 760, 761, 762, 763, 764, 765, 766, 767, 768, 769, 770, 771, 772, 773, 774, 775, 776, 777, 778, 779, 780, 781, 782, 783, 784, 785, 786, 787, 788, 789, 790, 791, 792, 793, 794, 795, 796, 797, 798, 799, 800, 801, 802, 803, 804, 805, 806, 807, 808, 809, 810, 811, 812, 813, 814, 815, 816, 817, 818, 819, 820, 821, 822, 823, 824, 825, 826, 827, 828, 829, 830, 831, 832, 833, 834, 835, 836, 837, 838, 839, 840, 841, 842, 843, 844, 845, 846, 847, 848, 849, 850, 851, 852, 853, 854, 855, 856, 857, 858, 859, 860, 861, 862, 863, 864, 865, 866, 867, 868, 869, 870, 871, 872, 873, 874, 875, 876, 877, 878, 879, 880, 881, 882, 883, 884, 885, 886, 887, 888, 889, 890, 891, 892, 893, 894, 895, 896, 897, 898, 899, 900, 901, 902, 903, 904, 905, 906, 907, 908, 909, 910, 911, 912, 913, 914, 915, 916, 917, 918, 919, 920, 921, 922, 923, 924, 925, 926, 927, 928, 929, 930, 931, 932, 933, 934, 935, 936, 937, 938, 939, 940, 941, 942, 943, 944, 945, 946, 947, 948, 949, 950, 951, 952, 953, 954, 955, 956, 957, 958, 959, 960, 961, 962, 963, 964, 965, 966, 967, 968, 969, 970, 971, 972, 973, 974, 975, 976, 977, 978, 979, 980, 981, 982, 983, 9

- 6 St. 428, May 28, 1830, C 118—An Act for the relief of Henry Williams.^a
- 6 St. 432; May 28, 1830, C 133—An Act for the relief of Captain John Wood.^a
- 6 St. 438; May 20, 1830, C 107—An Act for the relief of Thomas W. Newton, assignee of Robert Crittenden.^a
- 6 St. 443; May 20, 1830; C 184—An Act to relinquish the reversionary interest of the United States in certain Indian reservations in the State of Alabama.^a
- 6 St. 448; May 31, 1830; C 223—An Act authorizing the county of Allen to purchase a portion of the reservation including Fort Wayne.^a
- 6 St. 449, May 31, 1830; C 223—An Act for the relief of John Baptiste Jerome.^a
- 6 St. 450; May 31, 1830; C 226—An Act for the relief of Gabriel Gouffroy.^a
- 6 St. 455; Mar. 8, 1831, C 106—An Act for the relief of John Nicks.^a
- 6 St. 460; Mar. 8, 1831, C 107—An Act for the relief of Brevet Major Riley, and Lieutenants Brook and Sawright.^a
- 6 St. 472; Jan. 10, 1832, C 6—An Act for the relief of Lewis Anderson.^a
- 6 St. 472; Jan. 10, 1832; C 7—An Act for the relief of Charles Cassidy.^a
- 6 St. 473; Jan. 23, 1832, C 11—An Act for the relief of Robert A. Forsythe.^a
- 6 St. 473; Jan. 23, 1832; C 12—An Act for the relief of William D. King, James Davies, and Garland Lincoln.^a
- 6 St. 480; Mar. 10, 1832, C 46—An Act for the relief of Anthony Foreman, John G. Ross, Cherokee delegation.^a
- 6 St. 483; Mar. 31, 1832, C 50—An Act for the relief of John Rodgers.^a
- 6 St. 484; May 31, 1832; C 122—An Act for the relief of Joseph W. Torrey.^a
- 6 St. 508; July 1, 1832, C 108—An Act for the relief of Samuel Dale.^a
- 6 St. 507; July 18, 1832; C 211—An Act for the relief of Joseph Elliot.^a
- 6 St. 519; July 14, 1832; C 272—An Act for the relief of William D. Gaines and William M. King.^a
- 6 St. 519; July 14, 1832, C 274—An Act for the relief of William Wayne Wells, of the State of Indiana.^a
- 6 St. 521; July 14, 1832, C 280—An Act granting to Middleton McKay, a section of land in lieu of the reservation given him by the treaty of Dancing Rabbit Creek.^a
- 6 St. 527; July 14, 1832; C 300—An Act for the relief of Mary Davis, Robert Bond, James Patridge, and John G. Smith.^a
- 6 St. 530; Jan. 30, 1833; C 15—An Act for the relief of George Mayfield.^a
- 6 St. 534; Feb. 9, 1833; C 28—An Act for the relief of Gabriel Gouffroy and Jean Baptiste Beauregard.^a
- 6 St. 572; June 28, 1834; C 111—An Act for the relief of George Elliott.^a
- 6 St. 581; June 30, 1834; C 180—An Act for the relief of sundry citizens of the United States, who have lost property by the depredations of certain Indian tribes.^a
- 6 St. 583; June 30, 1834; C 190—An Act for the relief of Alexander J. Robinson.^a
- 6 St. 592; June 30, 1834; C 224—An Act for the relief of James Fife, a Creek Indian.^a
- 6 St. 596; June 30, 1834; C 242—An Act for the relief of Charles J. Hund.^a
- 6 St. 598; June 30, 1834; C 248—An Act for the relief of Hieba Homa, otherwise called Captain Red Pepper, an Indian of the Choctaw tribe.^a
- 6 St. 597; June 30, 1834; C 245—An Act for the relief of the legal representatives of Thomas H. Boyles, deceased.^a
- 6 St. 601; June 30, 1834; C 261—An Act to confirm the selection and survey of two sections of land to Francis Lafontaine and son, and their assignees.^a
- 6 St. 607; Feb. 13, 1835; C 20—An Act for the relief of Silas D. Fisher.^a
- 6 St. 609; Mar. 3, 1835; C 60—An Act placing Captain Cole, a Seneca Indian chief, on the pension roll.^a
- 6 St. 613; Mar. 3, 1835, C 83—An Act for the relief of John Daugherty, an Indian agent.^a
- 6 St. 614; Mar. 3, 1835; C 87—An Act for the relief of Richard T. Archer.^a
- 6 St. 622; Feb. 17, 1835; C 12—An Act for the relief of Joseph Cooper.^a
- 6 St. 635; Feb. 17, 1835; C 26—An Act for the relief of Benjamin Franklin Stickney.^a
- 6 St. 627; Feb. 17, 1835, C 85—An Act for the relief of Abner Stinson.^a
- 6 St. 633; May 28, 1835; C 83—An Act for the relief of Silas Fisher, a Choctaw Indian.^a
- 6 St. 630; June 23, 1836, C 122—An Act to authorize the President of the United States to cause to be issued to Albert J. Smith, and others, patents for certain reservations of land in Michigan Territory.^a
- 6 St. 630; June 23, 1836; C 123—An Act for the relief of Henry Stoddard.^a
- 6 St. 640; June 23, 1836, C 128—An Act for the relief of James Canfield.^a
- 6 St. 641; June 23, 1836; C 132—An Act for the relief of Benjamin and Nancy Merrill.^a
- 6 St. 650; July 1, 1836, C 240—An Act for the relief of James Alexander, and Iva Nash.^a
- 6 St. 660; July 1, 1836, C 245—An Act for the relief of Seloto Evans.^a
- 6 St. 661; July 1, 1836, C 247—An Act for the relief of Joshua Pitcher.^a
- 6 St. 681; July 1, 1836; C 250—An Act confirming to the legal representatives of Thomas P. Reddick, a tract of six hundred and forty acres of land.^a
- 6 St. 671; July 2, 1836; C 300—An Act for the relief of Joseph Boggs.^a
- 6 St. 676; July 2, 1836; C 327—An Act for the relief of Josette Deaubien and her children.^a
- 6 St. 677; July 2, 1836; C 333—An Act for the relief of Samuel Lynn, Lynn MacGhee, and Semoice, friendly Creek Indians.^a
- 6 St. 678; July 2, 1836; C 334—An Act for the relief of Susan Marlow.^a
- 6 St. 685; Feb. 9, 1837; C 11—An Act for the relief of John E. Wool.^a
- 6 St. 680; Mar. 2, 1837; C 29—An Act to amend an act approved the second of July, 1836, for the relief of Samuel Smith, Lynn MacGhee, and Semoice, Creek Indians; and, also, an act passed the second July, 1836, for the relief of Susan Marlow.^a
- 6 St. 703; Feb. 22, 1838; C 10—An Act for the relief of John B. Perkins.^a
- 6 St. 707; Mar. 10, 1838; C 30—An Act for the relief of James Baker.^a
- 6 St. 707; Mar. 10, 1838; C 37—An Act for the relief of Jonathan Davis.^a
- 6 St. 710; Apr. 6, 1838; C 50—An Act for the relief of Isaac Wellborn, Junior, and William Wellborn.^a
- 6 St. 720; July 7, 1838; C 208—An Act for the relief of William A. Whitehead.^a
- 6 St. 747; Feb. 6, 1839; C 11—An Act for the relief of Jean B. Valle.^a
- 6 St. 749; Feb. 6, 1839; C 19—An Act to confirm the sale of certain reservations.^a
- 6 St. 750; Mar. 2, 1839; C 68—An Act for the relief of the legal representatives of Thomas T. Triplett.^a
- 6 St. 760; Mar. 3, 1839; C 138—An Act for the relief of Milley Yates.^a

^a See 7 St. 120, 160.^a See 7 St. 293.^a See 2 St. 183, Sec. 4.^a See 7 St. 155, Art. 5.^a See 7 St. 126 (Dec. 6, 1817, correct date).^a See 7 St. 155, 165.^a See 7 St. 180.^a See 7 St. 232.^a See 7 St. 120, 224.^a See 2 St. 154, Sec. 14; 4 St. 428 (May 31, 1830, correct date).^a See 7 St. 588.^a See 6 St. 160.^a See 7 St. 180, Art. 2.^a See 7 St. 840, Art. 2, § 6 St. 688.^a See 7 St. 310, § 6 St. 607.^a See 7 St. 208, Art. 2.^a See 7 St. 355, Art. II.^a See 7 St. 120.^a See 7 St. 155, 165.^a See 7 St. 375.^a See 7 St. 120, § 10 St. 755, A. 6 St. 680.^a See 7 St. 120, A. 6 St. 680.^a See 4 St. 749, Sec. 14; 7 St. 475, Art. 13.^a See 6 St. 677, 678; 6 St. 7 St. 120.^a See 7 St. 155, 165.^a See 7 St. 182, Art. 2.^a See 7 St. 375, Art. 2.^a See 7 St. 240.^a See 7 St. 553, Art. 14.

- 6 St 771, Mar 8, 1839, C 148—An Act for the relief of Winslow Lewis
- 6 St 776, Mar 8, 1839, C 160—An Act for the relief of Henry Grady, of Macon county, North Carolina
- 6 St 776, Mar 8, 1839, C 161—An Act for the relief of A J Pickett and George W Gayle
- 6 St 779, Mar 8, 1840, C 170—An Act for the relief of certain settlers, living on what is called the Salt Lick reservation, in the western district of Tennessee
- 6 St 787, Mar 8, 1830, C 210—An Act for the relief of Cornelius Taylor
- 6 St 788, Mar 8, 1839, C 217—An Act to authorize the President of the United States to cause to be issued to Michael Ambuster, assignee of U-s-y-yoholo, a Creek Indian, a patent for a certain reservation of land in the State of Alabama
- 6 St 789, Mar 8, 1839, C 221—An Act providing for paying the companies of militia in the State of Indiana, called into the service of the United States
- 6 St 790, Mar 8, 1839, C 223—An Act for the relief of John Dougherty, of Wisconsin
- 6 St 792, Mar 8, 1839, C 232—An Act for the relief of Jamison and Williamson
- 6 St 792, Mar 8, 1810, C 233—An Act for the relief of Susan Gratiot, administratrix, and Charles H Gratiot, administrator, of Henry Gratiot, deceased
- 6 St 792, Mar 8, 1839, C 250—An Act for the relief of John J. McCarty
- 6 St 797, Apr 27, 1840, C 9—An Act for the relief of Sutton Stephens
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- 6 St 787, Mar 8, 1839, C 160—An Act for the relief of Henry Grady, of Macon county, North Carolina
- 6 St 776, Mar 8, 1839, C 161—An Act for the relief of A J Pickett and George W Gayle
- 6 St 779, Mar 8, 1840, C 170—An Act for the relief of certain settlers, living on what is called the Salt Lick reservation, in the western district of Tennessee
- 6 St 787, Mar 8, 1830, C 210—An Act for the relief of Cornelius Taylor
- 6 St 788, Mar 8, 1839, C 217—An Act to authorize the President of the United States to cause to be issued to Michael Ambuster, assignee of U-s-y-yoholo, a Creek Indian, a patent for a certain reservation of land in the State of Alabama
- 6 St 789, Mar 8, 1839, C 221—An Act providing for paying the companies of militia in the State of Indiana, called into the service of the United States
- 6 St 790, Mar 8, 1839, C 223—An Act for the relief of John Dougherty, of Wisconsin
- 6 St 792, Mar 8, 1839, C 232—An Act for the relief of Jamison and Williamson
- 6 St 792, Mar 8, 1810, C 233—An Act for the relief of Susan Gratiot, administratrix, and Charles H Gratiot, administrator, of Henry Gratiot, deceased
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- 6 St 879, Jan 20, 1843, C 7—An Act for the relief of Elasha

- Moteland, William M Kennedy, Robert J Kennedy, and Minon R Lewis
- 6 St 887, Mar 1, 1843, C 61—An Act for the relief of John E Hunt, and others
- 6 St 888, Mar 1, 1843, C 63—An Act for the relief of William G Sanders
- 6 St 889, Mar 3, 1843, C 182—An Act granting a pension to David Welch
- 6 St 890, Mar 3, 1843, C 138—An Act for the relief of Johnson Patrick
- 6 St 901, Mar 3, 1843, C 161—An Act for the relief of George C Johnston
- 6 St 912, June 10, 1844, C 43—An Act for the relief of Daniel G Skinner, of Alabama
- 6 St 913, June 12, 1844, C 48—An Act for the relief of Joseph Payton, Harrison Young and Benjamin Young
- 6 St 913, June 15, 1844, C 70—An Act for the relief of George Wallis
- 6 St 913, June 17, 1844, C 77—An Act authorizing a patent to be issued to Joseph Campion for a certain tract of land in the state of Michigan
- 6 St 915, June 15, 1844, C 81—An Act for the relief of George W Allen and Reuben Allen
- 6 St 919, June 17, 1844, C 114—An Act for the relief of Isaac S Ketchum
- 6 St 920, June 17, 1844, C 115—An Act for the relief of Isaac S Ketchum, late special Indian agent
- 6 St 920, June 17, 1844, C 116—An Act for the relief of William Henson
- 6 St 922, June 17, 1844, C 128—An Act for the relief of Harvey Elth
- 6 St 924, June 17, 1844, C 135—An Act for the relief of Henry S Commager
- 6 St 925, June 17, 1844, C 141—An Act for the relief of William R Davis
- 6 St 927, June 17, 1844, C 151—An Act for the relief of William R Davis
- 6 St 928, June 17, 1844, C 154—An Act granting a pension to "Milly," an Indian woman of the Creek Nation
- 6 St 929, June 17, 1844, C 157—An Act for the relief of F A Kerr
- 6 St 930, June 17, 1844, C 160—An Act for the relief of Benjamin Murphy
- 6 St 936, Feb 28, 1845, C 28—An Act vesting in the county commissioners of the county of Wyandott the right to certain town lots and out lots in the town of Upper Sandusky, in the state of Ohio
- 6 St 942, Mar 8, 1845, J Res No 12—A Joint Resolution for the benefit of Frances Siocum and her children and grandchildren of the Miami tribe of Indians

7 STAT.

- 7 St 13; Sept 17, 1778—Treaty (articles of agreement and confederation) with Delaware Nation
- 7 St 15, Oct 22, 1784—Treaty with Six Nations
- 7 St 18; Jan 21, 1785—Treaty with Montfort, Delaware, Chip-pawa and Ottawa Nations
- 7 St 18, Nov 28, 1785—Treaty (articles) with Cherokees
- 7 St 21, Jan 3, 1788—Treaty with Choctaw Nation
- 7 St 24; Jan 10, 1780—Treaty with Chickasaws

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- 7 St. 105, Nov. 17, 1807—Treaty with Ottawa, Chippewa, Wendotte, and Potawatamie Nations¹⁰
- 7 St. 107, Nov. 10, 1808—Treaty with Great and Little Osage Nations¹¹
- 7 St. 112, Nov. 25, 1808—Treaty with Chippewa, Ottawa, Potawatamie, Wendotte, and Shawannee Nations¹²
- 7 St. 114, Sept. 30, 1809—Treaty with Delaware, Potawatamie, Shawnee, and Little Osage Nations¹³
- 7 St. 117, Sept. 30, 1809—Treaty (separate article) with Miami, Red River, Delaware, and Potawatamie Tribes¹⁴
- 7 St. 119, Oct. 20, 1809—Treaty (now annulled) with Indian tribes, now of the Oneida and the Wyandotte¹⁵
- 7 St. 117, Dec. 9, 1809—Treaty with Kickapoo Tribe¹⁶
- 7 St. 118, July 22, 1810—Treaty with Wyandotte, Delaware, Shawannee, Seneca, and Miami¹⁷
- 7 St. 120, Aug. 10, 1810—Treaty (articles of agreement and capitulation) with Creek Nation¹⁸
- 7 St. 122, July 15, 1810—Treaty with Potawatamie Tribe¹⁹
- 7 St. 124, July 15, 1810—Treaty with Piankashaw Tribe²⁰
- 7 St. 121, July 19, 1810—Treaty with Teoson Tribe²¹
- 7 St. 120, July 19, 1810—Treaty with Seneca of the Lakes²²
- 7 St. 127, July 19, 1810—Treaty with Seneca of the River St. Louis²³
- 7 St. 128, July 19, 1810—Treaty with Yankton Tribe²⁴
- 7 St. 129, July 19, 1810—Treaty with Miami Tribe²⁵
- 7 St. 130, Sept. 24, 1810—Treaty with Kickapoo Tribe²⁶
- 7 St. 131, Sept. 24, 1810—Treaty with Wyandotte, Delaware, Seneca, Shawannee, Miami, Chippewa, Ottawa, and Potawatamie Tribes²⁷
- 7 St. 133, Sept. 12, 1815—Treaty with Great and Little Osage Nations²⁸
- 7 St. 144, Sept. 13, 1815—Treaty with Sac Nation²⁹
- 7 St. 171, Sept. 11, 1815—Treaty with Fox Nation³⁰
- 7 St. 136, Sept. 16, 1815—Treaty with Iowa Nation³¹
- 7 St. 137, Oct. 12, 1815—Treaty with Kickapoo Tribe³²
- 7 St. 138, May 22, 1816—Treaty with Cherokee Nation³³
- 7 St. 139, May 22, 1816—Treaty with Cherokee Nation (fourth article)³⁴
- 7 St. 141, May 16, 1816—Treaty with Sac of Rock River³⁵
- 7 St. 142, June 9, 1816—Treaty with Seneca of the Lakes, Seneca of the Broad Land, and the Seneca who shoot in the Pine Tops³⁶
- 7 St. 144, June 3, 1816—Treaty with Winnebago Tribe³⁷
- 7 St. 145, June 4, 1816—Treaty with Wena and Kickapoo³⁸
- 7 St. 146, Aug. 24, 1816—Treaty with united tribes of Ottawas, Chippewa, and Potawatamies³⁹

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- 7 St. 146, Aug. 24, 1816—Treaty with united tribes of Ottawas, Chippewa, and Potawatamies³⁹

- 7 St. 118, Sept. 14, 1810—Treaty with Cherokees⁴⁰
- 7 St. 130, Sept. 20, 1810—Treaty with Chickasaws⁴¹
- 7 St. 132, Oct. 7, 1810—Treaty with Choctaw Nation⁴²
- 7 St. 134, May 30, 1817—Treaty with Monongahela Nation⁴³
- 7 St. 174, June 24, 1817—Treaty with Ojibwa Tribe⁴⁴
- 7 St. 153, June 25, 1817—Treaty with Pontiac Tribe⁴⁵
- 7 St. 176, July 8, 1817—Treaty with Cherokee Nation⁴⁶
- 7 St. 180, Sept. 24, 1817—Treaty with Wyandotte, Seneca, Delaware, Shawannee, Potawatamie, Ottawa, and Chippewa Tribes⁴⁷
- 7 St. 171, Jan. 22, 1818—Treaty with Creek Nation⁴⁸
- 7 St. 172, June 15, 1818—Treaty with Grand Laverne Tribe⁴⁹
- 7 St. 174, June 15, 1818—Treaty with Pawnee Noddy Pawnee Tribe⁵⁰
- 7 St. 174, June 20, 1818—Treaty with Pawnee Republic⁵¹
- 7 St. 175, June 22, 1818—Treaty with Pawnee Mainland Tribe⁵²
- 7 St. 176, Aug. 21, 1818—Treaty with Quapaw Nation⁵³
- 7 St. 178, Sept. 17, 1818—Treaty with Wyandotte, Seneca, Shawannee, and Ottawa Tribes⁵⁴
- 7 St. 180, Sept. 20, 1818—Treaty with Wyandotte Tribe⁵⁵
- 7 St. 181, Sept. 25, 1818—Treaty with Peoria, Ka, Kaskia, Michigamea, Tachika, and Tremont Tribes⁵⁶
- 7 St. 183, Sept. 25, 1818—Treaty with Great and Little Osage Nation⁵⁷
- 7 St. 184, Oct. 2, 1818—Treaty with Win Tribe⁵⁸
- 7 St. 188, Oct. 3, 1818—Treaty with Delaware Nation⁵⁹
- 7 St. 189, Oct. 6, 1818—Treaty with Miami Nation⁶⁰
- 7 St. 192, Oct. 19, 1818—Treaty with Chickasaw⁶¹

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- 7 St. 189, Oct. 6, 1818—Treaty with Miami Nation⁶⁰
- 7 St. 192, Oct. 19, 1818—Treaty with Chickasaw⁶¹

- 7 St. 303, Aug. 11, 1827—Treaty with Chippewa, Menomonee, and Winnebago Tribes.
 7 St. 305, Sept. 10, 1827—Treaty with Potawatamie Tribe.
 7 St. 307, Nov. 16, 1827—Treaty (articles of agreement) with Creek Nation.
 7 St. 309, Feb. 11, 1828—Treaty with Red River, or, Thornton County of Mexico Indians.
 7 St. 311, May 14, 1828—Treaty (articles of a convention) with Choctaw Nation.
 7 St. 313, Aug. 23, 1828—Treaty (articles of agreement) with United Tribes of Potawatamie, Chippewa and Ottawa Indians, and Winnebago.
 7 St. 317, Sept. 20, 1828—Treaty with Potawatamie Tribe.
 7 St. 320, July 20, 1829—Treaty with United Nations of Chippewa, Ottawa, and Potawatamie Indians.
 7 St. 323, Aug. 1, 1829—Treaty with Winnebago Indians.
 7 St. 326, Aug. 3, 1829—Treaty (articles of agreement) with Delaware Indians.
 7 St. 327, Sept. 24, 1829—Supplementary Article to Delaware Treaty, Oct. 3, 1818.
 7 St. 328, July 15, 1830—Treaty with Confederated Tribes of the Sac and Foxes, the Medawab-Kantow, Wahpoota, Wahpoota and Sacagaw Bands of Tribes of Sioux, the Omahas, Ioways, Ottomans and Missourians.
 7 St. 339, Sept. 27, 1830—Treaty with Chehaw Nation.

- Op. 801, St. 7816, Memo. Sol. Aug. 31, 1930. Anonymous, 1 Fed. Cas. 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, 231, 232, 233, 234, 235, 236, 237, 238, 239, 240, 241, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 250, 251, 252, 253, 254, 255, 256, 257, 258, 259, 260, 261, 262, 263, 264, 265, 266, 267, 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 273, 274, 275, 276, 277, 278, 279, 280, 281, 282, 283, 284, 285, 286, 287, 288, 289, 290, 291, 292, 293, 294, 295, 296, 297, 298, 299, 300, 301, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 307, 308, 309, 310, 311, 312, 313, 314, 315, 316, 317, 318, 319, 320, 321, 322, 323, 324, 325, 326, 327, 328, 329, 330, 331, 332, 333, 334, 335, 336, 337, 338, 339, 340, 341, 342, 343, 344, 345, 346, 347, 348, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360, 361, 362, 363, 364, 365, 366, 367, 368, 369, 370, 371, 372, 373, 374, 375, 376, 377, 378, 379, 380, 381, 382, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 389, 390, 391, 392, 393, 394, 395, 396, 397, 398, 399, 400, 401, 402, 403, 404, 405, 406, 407, 408, 409, 410, 411, 412, 413, 414, 415, 416, 417, 418, 419, 420, 421, 422, 423, 424, 425, 426, 427, 428, 429, 430, 431, 432, 433, 434, 435, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 443, 444, 445, 446, 447, 448, 449, 450, 451, 452, 453, 454, 455, 456, 457, 458, 459, 460, 461, 462, 463, 464, 465, 466, 467, 468, 469, 470, 471, 472, 473, 474, 475, 476, 477, 478, 479, 480, 481, 482, 483, 484, 485, 486, 487, 488, 489, 490, 491, 492, 493, 494, 495, 496, 497, 498, 499, 500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510, 511, 512, 513, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 533, 534, 535, 536, 537, 538, 539, 540, 541, 542, 543, 544, 545, 546, 547, 548, 549, 550, 551, 552, 553, 554, 555, 556, 557, 558, 559, 560, 561, 562, 563, 564, 565, 566, 567, 568, 569, 570, 571, 572, 573, 574, 575, 576, 577, 578, 579, 580, 581, 582, 583, 584, 585, 586, 587, 588, 589, 590, 591, 592, 593, 594, 595, 596, 597, 598, 599, 600, 601, 602, 603, 604, 605, 606, 607, 608, 609, 610, 611, 612, 613, 614, 615, 616, 617, 618, 619, 620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627, 628, 629, 630, 631, 632, 633, 634, 635, 636, 637, 638, 639, 640, 641, 642, 643, 644, 645, 646, 647, 648, 649, 650, 651, 652, 653, 654, 655, 656, 657, 658, 659, 660, 661, 662, 663, 664, 665, 666, 667, 668, 669, 670, 671, 672, 673, 674, 675, 676, 677, 678, 679, 680, 681, 682, 683, 684, 685, 686, 687, 688, 689, 690, 691, 692, 693, 694, 695, 696, 697, 698, 699, 700, 701, 702, 703, 704, 705, 706, 707, 708, 709, 710, 711, 712, 713, 714, 715, 716, 717, 718, 719, 720, 721, 722, 723, 724, 725, 726, 727, 728, 729, 730, 731, 732, 733, 734, 735, 736, 737, 738, 739, 740, 741, 742, 743, 744, 745, 746, 747, 748, 749, 750, 751, 752, 753, 754, 755, 756, 757, 758, 759, 760, 761, 762, 763, 764, 765, 766, 767, 768, 769, 770, 771, 772, 773, 774, 775, 776, 777, 778, 779, 780, 781, 782, 783, 784, 785, 786, 787, 788, 789, 790, 791, 792, 793, 794, 795, 796, 797, 798, 799, 800, 801, 802, 803, 804, 805, 806, 807, 808, 809, 810, 811, 812, 813, 814, 815, 816, 817, 818, 819, 820, 821, 822, 823, 824, 825, 826, 827, 828, 829, 830, 831, 832, 833, 834, 835, 836, 837, 838, 839, 840, 841, 842, 843, 844, 845, 846, 847, 848, 849, 850, 851, 852, 853, 854, 855, 856, 857, 858, 859, 860, 861, 862, 863, 864, 865, 866, 867, 868, 869, 870, 871, 872, 873, 874, 875, 876, 877, 878, 879, 880, 881, 882, 883, 884, 885, 886, 887, 888, 889, 890, 891, 892, 893, 894, 895, 896, 897, 898, 899, 900, 901, 902, 903, 904, 905, 906, 907, 908, 909, 910, 911, 912, 913, 914, 915, 916, 917, 918, 919, 920, 921, 922, 923, 924, 925, 926, 927, 928, 929, 930, 931, 932, 933, 934, 935, 936, 937, 938, 939, 940, 941, 942, 943, 944, 945, 946, 947, 948, 949, 950, 951, 952, 953, 954, 955, 956, 957, 958, 959, 960, 961, 962, 963, 964, 965, 966, 967, 968, 969, 970, 971, 972, 973, 974, 975, 976, 977, 978, 979, 980, 981, 982, 983, 984, 985, 986, 987, 988, 989, 990, 991, 992, 993, 994, 995, 996, 997, 998, 999, 1000.

7 Pt 714, Sept 22, 1850—Treaty with Potawatomi Tribe.
7 St 517, Sept 24, 1850—Treaty with Shawnee Indians.
7 St 516, Sept 24, 1850—Treaty with Sac and Fox Tribe.
7 St 517, Sept 25, 1850—Treaty with Sac and Fox Tribe.
7 St 521 Oct 15, 1846—Treaty (article of a convention) with
Ojibwa, Mesquimie, Ojibwa, and Yankton and Santee bands
of Sioux.

7 St 527, Nov 5, 1846—Convention with Wabunahk, Sisseton,
and Upper Medakantia tribes of Sioux Indians.
7 St 528, Jan 14, 1847—Treaty with Saganawau tribe of Chippewa
Nation.

7 St 512, Feb 11, 1847—Treaty with Pottawatomie Tribe.
7 St 531, May 26, 1847—Treaty with Kowa, Ka-ka and
Twa-ha-ta Nations.

7 St 531, June 20, 1847—Treaty with Chippewa Nation.
7 St 538, Sept 29, 1847—Treaty with Sisseton Nation.
7 St 540, Oct 31, 1847—Treaty with confederated tribes of Sac
and Foxes.

7 St 552 Oct 21, 1857—Treaty with Yankton tribe of Sioux
Indians.

7 St 549 Oct 21, 1857—Treaty with Sac and Foxes of Missouri.
7 St 541, Nov 1, 1857—Treaty with Winnebago Nation.

7 St 547, Nov 23, 1857—Treaty with Iowa Indians.
7 St 547, Dec 20, 1857—Treaty with Saganawau tribe of Chippewa
Nation.

7 St 570, Jan 17, 1858—Treaty with New York Indians.
7 St 575, Jan 23, 1858—Treaty with Chippewa Nation.
7 St 570, Feb 3, 1858—Treaty with Oneida Indians (Fur
and Indian and Oneida parties).

7 St 578 Oct 10, 1858—Treaty with Iowa Tribe.
7 St 579, Nov 6, 1858—Treaty with Miami Tribe.

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7 St 574, Nov 23, 1858—Treaty with Creek Nation.
7 St 576, Jan 11, 1859—Treaty with Great and Little Osage
Nations.

7 St 577, Feb 7, 1859—Articles Supplementary to certain
treaties with Saganawau tribe of Chippewa.

7 St 580, Sept 3, 1859—Treaty with the Stockbridges and
Muscogee Tribes.

7 St 582, Nov 28, 1860—Treaty with Miami Tribe.
7 St 586, May 20, 1862—Treaty with Seneca Nation.

7 St 591, Oct 1, 1862—Treaty with Chippewa Indians.
7 St 596, Oct 11, 1862—Treaty with confederated tribes of Sac
and Fox Indians.

7 St 601, Sept 15, 1797—Contract with the Seneca nation of
Indians.

8 STAT.

8 St 110, Nov 19, 1794—Treaty with Great Britain.

8 St 128, Oct 27, 1795—Treaty with Spain.

8 St 200, Apr 18, 1803—Treaty with France.

8 St 218, Dec 24, 1811—Treaty with Great Britain.

8 St 222, Feb 22, 1810, Oct 20, 1820—Treaty with Spain.

8 St 302, Apr 5, 17, 1824—Convention with Russia.

8 St 410, Apr 5, 1811—Treaty with Mexico.

9 STAT.

9 St 13, May 19, 1848, C 22—An Act to provide for raising a
Regiment of mounted Riflemen, and in establishing mili-
tary Stations on the Route to Oregon.

9 St 29, June 27, 1849, C 34—An Act making appropriations
for the current and contingent expenses of the Indian De-
partment, and for fulfilling treaty stipulations with the
various Indian Tribes, on the year ending June 30, 1849.

9 St 2062, 27 U S C 131 U S C 8 C 1 Historical Note.
R 8 2062 was derived from sec 1 instant Act. No appo-

9 St 512, 121, 704, 706, 0 St 20, 124, 252, 183, 544, 574, 10 St 41, 226,
316, 570, 11 St 598.

9 St 512, 121, 704, 706, 0 St 20, 124, 252, 183, 544, 574, 10 St 41, 226,
316, 570, 11 St 598.

9 St 512, 121, 704, 706, 0 St 20, 124, 252, 183, 544, 574, 10 St 41, 226,
316, 570, 11 St 598.

9 St 512, 121, 704, 706, 0 St 20, 124, 252, 183, 544, 574, 10 St 41, 226,
316, 570, 11 St 598.

9 St 512, 121, 704, 706, 0 St 20, 124, 252, 183, 544, 574, 10 St 41, 226,
316, 570, 11 St 598.

9 St 512, 121, 704, 706, 0 St 20, 124, 252, 183, 544, 574, 10 St 41, 226,
316, 570, 11 St 598.

9 St 512, 121, 704, 706, 0 St 20, 124, 252, 183, 544, 574, 10 St 41, 226,
316, 570, 11 St 598.

9 St 512, 121, 704, 706, 0 St 20, 124, 252, 183, 544, 574, 10 St 41, 226,
316, 570, 11 St 598.

9 St 512, 121, 704, 706, 0 St 20, 124, 252, 183, 544, 574, 10 St 41, 226,
316, 570, 11 St 598.

9 St 512, 121, 704, 706, 0 St 20, 124, 252, 183, 544, 574, 10 St 41, 226,
316, 570, 11 St 598.

9 St 512, 121, 704, 706, 0 St 20, 124, 252, 183, 544, 574, 10 St 41, 226,
316, 570, 11 St 598.

9 St 512, 121, 704, 706, 0 St 20, 124, 252, 183, 544, 574, 10 St 41, 226,
316, 570, 11 St 598.

9 St 512, 121, 704, 706, 0 St 20, 124, 252, 183, 544, 574, 10 St 41, 226,
316, 570, 11 St 598.

9 St 512, 121, 704, 706, 0 St 20, 124, 252, 183, 544, 574, 10 St 41, 226,
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9 St 512, 121, 704, 706, 0 St 20, 124, 252, 183, 544, 574, 10 St 41, 226,
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9 St 512, 121, 704, 706, 0 St 20, 124, 252, 183, 544, 574, 10 St 41, 226,
316, 570, 11 St 598.

9 St 512, 121, 704, 706, 0 St 20, 124, 252, 183, 544, 574, 10 St 41, 226,
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9 St 512, 121, 704, 706, 0 St 20, 124, 252, 183, 544, 574, 10 St 41, 226,
316, 570, 11 St 598.

9 St 512, 121, 704, 706, 0 St 20, 124, 252, 183, 544, 574, 10 St 41, 226,
316, 570, 11 St 598.

9 St 512, 121, 704, 706, 0 St 20, 124, 252, 183, 544, 574, 10 St 41, 226,
316, 570, 11 St 598.

9 St 512, 121, 704, 706, 0 St 20, 124, 252, 183, 544, 574, 10 St 41, 226,
316, 570, 11 St 598.

- 9 St. 658, Aug. 3, 1840, C 74—An Act for the Relief of the legal Representatives of Peter Monard, Joseph T. Betts, Jacob Reumann, and Edmund Roberts, of the State of Illinois, Survivors of Felix St. Vrain, late Indian Agent, deceased.
- 9 St. 659, Aug. 6, 1840, U 45—An Act to provide for the final Settlement of the Accounts of John C. Howell, late Agent for the Creek Indians.
- 9 St. 672, Aug. 8, 1840, C 159—An Act for the Relief of the Heirs and legal Representatives of Criss Thomas, deceased.
- 9 St. 673, Aug. 8, 1840, C 162—An Act for the Relief of Langley and Jenkins.
- 9 St. 674, Aug. 8, 1840, C 172—An Act authorizing the Inhabitants of Township one, of Lucas thirteen east, Seneca County, Ohio, to relinquish certain Lands selected for Schools, and to obtain others in lieu of them.
- 9 St. 675, Aug. 8, 1840, C 173—An Act authorizing the Trustees of Township Township, Wyandott County, Ohio, to select Lands for Schools, within the Wyandott Cession.
- 9 St. 677, Aug. 10, 1840, C 182—An Act to allow Elijah White Reimbursement of Expenses incurred in him settling Sub-Agent of Indian Affairs west of the Rocky Mountains.
- 9 St. 678, Aug. 10, 1840, C 184—An Act for the Relief of James Ewing, of Arkansas, and others.
- 9 St. 680, June 10, 1841, J Res No 8—A Resolution to correct a clerical Error in the Act approved June 8, 1840 "for the Relief of the legal Representatives of George Duval, a Cherokee Indian."
- 9 St. 688, Mar. 2, 1847, C 42—An Act for the Relief of Elijah White, and others.
- 9 St. 689, Mar. 3, 1847, C 43—An Act for the Relief of Doctor Clark Littlewhite.
- 9 St. 707, Mar. 8, 1847, C 114—An Act for the Relief of the legal Representatives of the late Joseph B. Freeman and Thomas J. Chapman.
- 9 St. 701, Mar. 8, 1847, C 117—An Act for the Relief of George B. Russell and others.
- 9 St. 708, Mar. 8, 1847, J Res No 18—Joint Resolution for the Relief of the Heirs of Stephen Johnson, deceased.
- 9 St. 708, Mar. 8, 1847, J Res No 11—Joint Resolution for the Relief of William B. Stokes, surviving Partner of John N. C. Stockton and Company.
- 9 St. 710, Feb. 15, 1848, C 11—An Act for the Relief of Joseph and Linford Ward.
- 9 St. 712, Apr. 12, 1848, C 90—An Act for the Relief of the legal Representatives of George Elmer, deceased.
- 9 St. 710, May 31, 1848, C 68—An Act for the Relief of Samuel W. Bell, a Native of the Cherokee Nation.
- 9 St. 718, June 13, 1848, C 69—An Act for the Relief of Charles J. Doll.
- 9 St. 787, Aug. 11, 1848, C 162—An Act for the Relief of Joseph Eddy, a Cherokee Indian, or his Assignee.
- 9 St. 738, Aug. 14, 1848, C 184—An Act for the Relief of Charles M. Gibson.
- 9 St. 789, Aug. 14, 1848, C 188—An Act for the Relief of Mill-Edie Gilpin, Executor of the last Will and Testament of George Gilpin, deceased.
- 9 St. 740, Aug. 14, 1848, C 192—An Act for the Relief of the legal Representatives of Thomas J. V. Owen, deceased.
- 9 St. 741, Aug. 14, 1848, C 197—An Act for the Relief of John P. B. Guitold and the legal Representatives of Henry Guitold.
- 9 St. 742, Aug. 14, 1848, C 200—An Act to compensate R. M. Johnson, for the Erection of certain Buildings for the Use of the Cherokee Academy.
- 9 St. 746, Mar. 14, 1849, J Res No 3—A Resolution for the Relief of Botsey McIntosh.
- 9 St. 748, Aug. 14, 1848, J Res No 28—A Resolution for the Relief of H. B. Galtner.
- 9 St. 702, February 10, 1849, C 54—An Act to authorize the Secretary of War to make Remission for the killing of a Caddo Boy by Volunteer Troops in Texas.
- 9 St. 767, Feb. 22, 1849, C 67—An Act for the Relief of Thomas T. Gammage.
- 9 St. 769, Mar. 2, 1849, C 62—An Act for the Relief of E. B. Cogswell.

9 St. 678, Aug. 8, 1840, C 159.
9 St. 672, Aug. 8, 1840, C 159.
9 St. 673, Aug. 8, 1840, C 162.
9 St. 674, Aug. 8, 1840, C 172.
9 St. 675, Aug. 8, 1840, C 173.
9 St. 677, Aug. 10, 1840, C 182.
9 St. 678, Aug. 10, 1840, C 184.
9 St. 680, June 10, 1841, J Res No 8.
9 St. 688, Mar. 2, 1847, C 42.
9 St. 689, Mar. 3, 1847, C 43.
9 St. 707, Mar. 8, 1847, C 114.
9 St. 701, Mar. 8, 1847, C 117.
9 St. 708, Mar. 8, 1847, J Res No 18.
9 St. 708, Mar. 8, 1847, J Res No 11.
9 St. 710, Feb. 15, 1848, C 11.
9 St. 712, Apr. 12, 1848, C 90.
9 St. 710, May 31, 1848, C 68.
9 St. 718, June 13, 1848, C 69.
9 St. 787, Aug. 11, 1848, C 162.
9 St. 738, Aug. 14, 1848, C 184.
9 St. 789, Aug. 14, 1848, C 188.
9 St. 740, Aug. 14, 1848, C 192.
9 St. 741, Aug. 14, 1848, C 197.
9 St. 742, Aug. 14, 1848, C 200.
9 St. 746, Mar. 14, 1849, J Res No 3.
9 St. 748, Aug. 14, 1848, J Res No 28.
9 St. 702, February 10, 1849, C 54.
9 St. 767, Feb. 22, 1849, C 67.
9 St. 769, Mar. 2, 1849, C 62.

- 9 St. 777, Mar. 3, 1849, C 134—An Act for the Relief of Henry D. Christian.
- 9 St. 777, Mar. 3, 1849, C 136—An Act for the Relief of P. Chontenay, Junior, and Company.
- 9 St. 777, Mar. 3, 1849, C 137—An Act for the Relief of George Couder.
- 9 St. 787, Mar. 3, 1849, C 163—An Act for the Relief of Lowry Williams.
- 9 St. 789, Mar. 3, 1849, C 167—An Act for the Relief of Thomas Talbot and others.
- 9 St. 791, Feb. 22, 1849, J Res No 3—A Resolution to delay the Removals of certain Chippewa Indians and their interpreters.
- 9 St. 799, July 20, 1850, C 35—An Act for the Relief of Joseph P. Williams.
- 9 St. 801, Aug. 30, 1850, C 49—An Act for the Relief of Al-hal-hal and his legal Representatives and their Grantees.
- 9 St. 804, Sept. 28, 1850, C 83—An Act for the Payment of a Company of Indian Volunteers.
- 9 St. 806, May 1, 1850, J Res No 6—A Resolution to extend the Franchise of a Joint Resolution for the Benefit of Frances Stoen and her Children and Grandchildren, or the Miami Tribe of Indians, approved Mar. 8, 1845, to certain other individuals of the same tribe.
- 9 St. 809, Aug. 10, 1850, J Res No 12—A Resolution for the Settlement of Account with the Heirs and Representatives of Colonel Pierce M. Butler, late Agent for the Cherokee Indians.
- 9 St. 807, Sept. 18, 1850, J Res No 14—A Resolution for the Settlement of Account with the Heirs and Representatives of Colonel Pierce M. Butler, late Agent for the Cherokee Indians.
- 9 St. 812, Mar. 3, 1851, C 81—An Act for the Relief of H. J. McClintock, Harrison Gill, and Mansfield, Bartlet.
- 9 St. 821, Jan. 4, 1849, Treaty with Crooks and Seandulais.
- 9 St. 842, Jan. 14, 1849, Treaty with Kanawus Indians.
- 9 St. 844, Jan. 15, 1849, Treaty with Comanches and other tribes (I-on-a, An-da-ah, Cadoo, Lajun, Lou-whu, Kreechi, Tah-wah-ah, W-eh-ah, and W-ah-ah).
- 9 St. 853, June 6 & 17, 1849, Treaty with Potawatomi Nation.
- 9 St. 871, Aug. 6, 1849, Treaty with the Cherokees.
- 9 St. 878, Oct. 13, 1849, Treaty with Winnebago Indians.
- 9 St. 904, Aug. 2, 1849, Treaty with Chippewas.

9 St. 787, Aug. 11, 1848, C 162.
9 St. 738, Aug. 14, 1848, C 184.
9 St. 789, Aug. 14, 1848, C 188.
9 St. 740, Aug. 14, 1848, C 192.
9 St. 741, Aug. 14, 1848, C 197.
9 St. 742, Aug. 14, 1848, C 200.
9 St. 746, Mar. 14, 1849, J Res No 3.
9 St. 748, Aug. 14, 1848, J Res No 28.
9 St. 702, February 10, 1849, C 54.
9 St. 767, Feb. 22, 1849, C 67.
9 St. 769, Mar. 2, 1849, C 62.
9 St. 777, Mar. 3, 1849, C 134.
9 St. 777, Mar. 3, 1849, C 136.
9 St. 777, Mar. 3, 1849, C 137.
9 St. 787, Mar. 3, 1849, C 163.
9 St. 789, Mar. 3, 1849, C 167.
9 St. 791, Feb. 22, 1849, J Res No 3.
9 St. 799, July 20, 1850, C 35.
9 St. 801, Aug. 30, 1850, C 49.
9 St. 804, Sept. 28, 1850, C 83.
9 St. 806, May 1, 1850, J Res No 6.
9 St. 809, Aug. 10, 1850, J Res No 12.
9 St. 807, Sept. 18, 1850, J Res No 14.
9 St. 812, Mar. 3, 1851, C 81.
9 St. 821, Jan. 4, 1849, Treaty with Crooks and Seandulais.
9 St. 842, Jan. 14, 1849, Treaty with Kanawus Indians.
9 St. 844, Jan. 15, 1849, Treaty with Comanches and other tribes (I-on-a, An-da-ah, Cadoo, Lajun, Lou-whu, Kreechi, Tah-wah-ah, W-eh-ah, and W-ah-ah).
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9 St. 787, Aug. 11, 1848, C 162.
9 St. 738, Aug. 14, 1848, C 184.
9 St. 789, Aug. 14, 1848, C 188.
9 St. 740, Aug. 14, 1848, C 192.
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9 St. 746, Mar. 14, 1849, J Res No 3.
9 St. 748, Aug. 14, 1848, J Res No 28.
9 St. 702, February 10, 1849, C 54.
9 St. 767, Feb. 22, 1849, C 67.
9 St. 769, Mar. 2, 1849, C 62.
9 St. 777, Mar. 3, 1849, C 134.
9 St. 777, Mar. 3, 1849, C 136.
9 St. 777, Mar. 3, 1849, C 137.
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9 St. 904, Aug. 2, 1849, Treaty with Chippewas.

eration therein mentioned, and to confirm the title of Charles G. Gunter thereto."

10 St 831, Aug 1, 1854, J Res No 21—Joint Resolution for the Relief of John A. Byrum
10 St 842, Jan 12, 1855, C 35—An Act for the Relief of the Legal Representatives of James Hawn, of Arkansas, and others

10 St 842, Jan 12, 1855, C 30—An Act for the Relief of Susan Cordy, and others

10 St 843, Jan 18, 1855, C 49—An Act for indemnifying Moses D. Hogan, for Cattle destroyed by the Indians in eighteen hundred and forty-two

10 St 848, Feb 10, 1855, C 65—An Act for the Relief of the Heirs of Joseph Gerard

10 St 871, Mar 3, 1855, J Res No 30—Joint Resolution for the Relief of James Hughes

10 St 871, Mar 3, 1855, J Res No 20—Joint Resolution for the Relief of Joel Henry Drey

10 St 840, July 23, 1851—Treaty with Sioux¹
10 St 631, Aug 5, 1851—Treaty with Sioux²

10 St 974, June 22, 1852—Treaty with Chickasaws³
10 St 974, July 1, 1852—Treaty with Apaches⁴

10 St 1013, July 27, 1853—Treaty with Chamanches⁵
10 St 1018, Sept 10, 1853—Treaty with Hogue River Indians⁶

10 St 1027, Sept 10, 1853—Treaty with Cow Creek Indians⁷
10 St 1031, Dec 30, 1853—Treaty with Mexico⁸

10 St 1038, Mar 15, 1854—Treaty with Ottoes and Missourias⁹
10 St 1043, Mar 15, 1854—Treaty with Chamanches¹⁰

10 St 1048, May 6, 1854—Treaty with Delawares¹¹
10 St 1063, May 10, 1854—Treaty with Shawnees¹²

10 St 1064, May 12, 1854—Treaty with Menomonees¹³

¹ 8 St 120

² 10 St 421, 220, 270, 315, 688, 11 St 85, 107, 273, 356, 12 St 44, 221, 512, 1007, 1042, 17 St 812, 25 St 876, 31 St 1006, 34 St 835

³ 6 St 221, Aug 6, 1851—Treaty with Hogue River Indians⁴
315; Medakwanton, 67 C. Cla 537, Sioux, 27 D U S 424, Sioux, 28 D U S 501

⁵ 10 St 568, 8 St 10, 11 St 220, 300, 315, 974, 11 St 85, 107, 273, 356, 12 St 44, 221, 512, 1007, 1042, 17 St 812, 25 St 876, 31 St 1006, 34 St 835

⁶ 10 St 568, 8 St 10, 11 St 220, 300, 315, 974, 11 St 85, 107, 273, 356, 12 St 44, 221, 512, 1007, 1042, 17 St 812, 25 St 876, 31 St 1006, 34 St 835

⁷ 10 St 568, 8 St 10, 11 St 220, 300, 315, 974, 11 St 85, 107, 273, 356, 12 St 44, 221, 512, 1007, 1042, 17 St 812, 25 St 876, 31 St 1006, 34 St 835

⁸ 10 St 568, 8 St 10, 11 St 220, 300, 315, 974, 11 St 85, 107, 273, 356, 12 St 44, 221, 512, 1007, 1042, 17 St 812, 25 St 876, 31 St 1006, 34 St 835

⁹ 10 St 568, 8 St 10, 11 St 220, 300, 315, 974, 11 St 85, 107, 273, 356, 12 St 44, 221, 512, 1007, 1042, 17 St 812, 25 St 876, 31 St 1006, 34 St 835

¹⁰ 10 St 568, 8 St 10, 11 St 220, 300, 315, 974, 11 St 85, 107, 273, 356, 12 St 44, 221, 512, 1007, 1042, 17 St 812, 25 St 876, 31 St 1006, 34 St 835

¹¹ 10 St 568, 8 St 10, 11 St 220, 300, 315, 974, 11 St 85, 107, 273, 356, 12 St 44, 221, 512, 1007, 1042, 17 St 812, 25 St 876, 31 St 1006, 34 St 835

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¹³ 10 St 568, 8 St 10, 11 St 220, 300, 315, 974, 11 St 85, 107, 273, 356, 12 St 44, 221, 512, 1007, 1042, 17 St 812, 25 St 876, 31 St 1006, 34 St 835

¹⁴ 10 St 568, 8 St 10, 11 St 220, 300, 315, 974, 11 St 85, 107, 273, 356, 12 St 44, 221, 512, 1007, 1042, 17 St 812, 25 St 876, 31 St 1006, 34 St 835

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¹⁸ 10 St 568, 8 St 10, 11 St 220, 300, 315, 974, 11 St 85, 107, 273, 356, 12 St 44, 221, 512, 1007, 1042, 17 St 812, 25 St 876, 31 St 1006, 34 St 835

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²⁹ 10 St 568, 8 St 10, 11 St 220, 300, 315, 974, 11 St 85, 107, 273, 356, 12 St 44, 221, 512, 1007, 1042, 17 St 812, 25 St 876, 31 St 1006, 34 St 835

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10 St 1089, May 17, 1854—Treaty with Ioways¹
10 St 1074, May 18, 1854—Treaty with Sacs and Foxes²

10 St 1078, May 18, 1854—Treaty with Kickapoos³
10 St 1082, May 30, 1854—Treaty with Kaskaskias, Peoria, Shawnee, and Wen Tribes⁴

10 St 1085, June 5, 1854—Treaty with Miami Indians⁵
10 St 1100, Sept 30, 1854—Treaty with Chippewas⁶

10 St 1116, Nov 4, 1854—Treaty with Choctaws and Chickasaws⁷

10 St 1119, Nov 15, 1854—Treaty with Rogue Rivers⁸
10 St 1122, Nov 18, 1854—Treaty with Chasmas, and other tribes⁹

10 St 1126, Nov 23, 1854—Treaty with Umpuags and Calapooas¹⁰

10 St 1130, Dec 9, 1854—Treaty with Ottoes and Missourias¹¹
10 St 1132, Dec 20, 1854—Treaty with Niquallies¹²

10 St 1143, Jan 22, 1855—Treaty with Willamette Indians¹³
10 St 1150, Jan 31, 1855—Treaty with Wyandottes¹⁴

10 St 1156, Feb 22, 1855—Treaty with Chippewas¹⁵

25 L D 17, Sol Memo, Oct 20, 1856, Rehears 10 St 5 637, U S ex l Rehears, 6 P 201, Wisconsin, 213 U S 427

¹ 10 St 1130, Dec 9, 1854—Treaty with Ottoes and Missourias²
10 St 1132, Dec 20, 1854—Treaty with Niquallies³

³ 10 St 1130, Dec 9, 1854—Treaty with Ottoes and Missourias⁴
10 St 1132, Dec 20, 1854—Treaty with Niquallies⁵

⁴ 10 St 1130, Dec 9, 1854—Treaty with Ottoes and Missourias⁶
10 St 1132, Dec 20, 1854—Treaty with Niquallies⁷

⁵ 10 St 1130, Dec 9, 1854—Treaty with Ottoes and Missourias⁸
10 St 1132, Dec 20, 1854—Treaty with Niquallies⁹

⁶ 10 St 1130, Dec 9, 1854—Treaty with Ottoes and Missourias¹⁰
10 St 1132, Dec 20, 1854—Treaty with Niquallies¹¹

⁷ 10 St 1130, Dec 9, 1854—Treaty with Ottoes and Missourias¹²
10 St 1132, Dec 20, 1854—Treaty with Niquallies¹³

⁸ 10 St 1130, Dec 9, 1854—Treaty with Ottoes and Missourias¹⁴
10 St 1132, Dec 20, 1854—Treaty with Niquallies¹⁵

⁹ 10 St 1130, Dec 9, 1854—Treaty with Ottoes and Missourias¹⁶
10 St 1132, Dec 20, 1854—Treaty with Niquallies¹⁷

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10 St 1132, Dec 20, 1854—Treaty with Niquallies²¹

¹² 10 St 1130, Dec 9, 1854—Treaty with Ottoes and Missourias²²
10 St 1132, Dec 20, 1854—Treaty with Niquallies²³

¹³ 10 St 1130, Dec 9, 1854—Treaty with Ottoes and Missourias²⁴
10 St 1132, Dec 20, 1854—Treaty with Niquallies²⁵

¹⁴ 10 St 1130, Dec 9, 1854—Treaty with Ottoes and Missourias²⁶
10 St 1132, Dec 20, 1854—Treaty with Niquallies²⁷

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¹⁶ 10 St 1130, Dec 9, 1854—Treaty with Ottoes and Missourias³⁰
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- Stipulations with various Indian Tribes, for the Year ending June 30, 1858, C 3-1, S 2152, 7 USC 2307.
- USCA Historical Note. The Act of June 4, 1882, 25 Stat 107, provided "That after the passage of this act any U S marshal is hereby authorized and required, when necessary to execute any process connected with any criminal proceedings, issued out of the District or District Court of the United States for the district of which he is marshal or by any commissioner of either of said courts, to enter the Indian Territory, and to execute the same therein in the same manner that he is now required by law to execute like processes in his own district." This Act was expressly repealed by a provision in 30 St 1287.
- 11 St 174, Dec 22, 1863, C 5-An Act to confirm the Land Claim of certain Pueblos and Towns in the Territory of New Mexico.
- 11 St 286, Feb 26, 1850, C 50-An Act to protect the Land Grant for School Purposes in Salfy County, Nebraska Territory.
- 11 St 398, Feb 28, 1859, C 60-An Act making Appropriations for the current and contingent Expenses of the Indian Department, and for fulfilling Treaty Stipulations with various Indian Tribes, for the Year ending June 30, 1860.¹ Sec 8-23, S 2157.
- 11 St 406, June 1, 1859, C 70-An Act making appropriations for fulfilling Treaty Stipulations with the Yancetio and Tonawanda Indians for the Year ending June 30, 1860, and for other Purposes.
- 11 St 410, May 11, 1859, C 80-An Act making Appropriations for the Legislative, Executive, and Judicial Expenses of Government for the Year ending the thirtieth of June, 1860.
- 11 St 427, May 8, 1859, C 82-An Act making Appropriations in sundry Civil Expenses of the Government for the Year ending the thirtieth of June, 1860.
- 11 St 431, May 3, 1859, C 83-An Act making Appropriations for the Support of the Army for the Year ending the thirtieth of June, 1860.
- 11 St 443, May 29, 1859, C 84-An Act for the Relief of William M F Magnay.
- 11 St 450, June 14, 1859, C 86-An Act making Appropriations for the Payment of certain Claims.
- 11 St 451, July 8, 1859, C 86-An Act authorizing a Settlement of the Accounts of Charles P Babcock, late Indian Agent at Detroit, in the State of Michigan.
- 11 St 460, Aug 11, 1859, C 90-An Act for the Relief of Brigadier General John B. Walbach, of the United States Army.
- 11 St 465, Aug 18, 1859, C 110-An Act for the Relief of Dempsey Pittman.
- 11 St 469, Aug 18, 1859, C 141-An Act for the Relief of Brigadier-General John B Walbach, of the United States Army.
- 11 St 475, July 8, 1859, J Res No 11-Joint Resolution authorizing the Secretary of the Interior to settle the Accounts of Oliver M Waggoner.
- 11 St 483, Aug 23, 1859, C 23-An Act for the Relief of James M Lindsay.²

¹ See 30 St 80, Sec 2, 9 Stat 252, Sec 4, 10 Stat 701, Sec 7, 11 Stat 174, 12 Stat 107, 13 Stat 107, 14 Stat 107, 15 Stat 107, 16 Stat 107, 17 Stat 107, 18 Stat 107, 19 Stat 107, 20 Stat 107, 21 Stat 107, 22 Stat 107, 23 Stat 107, 24 Stat 107, 25 Stat 107, 26 Stat 107, 27 Stat 107, 28 Stat 107, 29 Stat 107, 30 Stat 107, 31 Stat 107, 32 Stat 107, 33 Stat 107, 34 Stat 107, 35 Stat 107, 36 Stat 107, 37 Stat 107, 38 Stat 107, 39 Stat 107, 40 Stat 107, 41 Stat 107, 42 Stat 107, 43 Stat 107, 44 Stat 107, 45 Stat 107, 46 Stat 107, 47 Stat 107, 48 Stat 107, 49 Stat 107, 50 Stat 107, 51 Stat 107, 52 Stat 107, 53 Stat 107, 54 Stat 107, 55 Stat 107, 56 Stat 107, 57 Stat 107, 58 Stat 107, 59 Stat 107, 60 Stat 107, 61 Stat 107, 62 Stat 107, 63 Stat 107, 64 Stat 107, 65 Stat 107, 66 Stat 107, 67 Stat 107, 68 Stat 107, 69 Stat 107, 70 Stat 107, 71 Stat 107, 72 Stat 107, 73 Stat 107, 74 Stat 107, 75 Stat 107, 76 Stat 107, 77 Stat 107, 78 Stat 107, 79 Stat 107, 80 Stat 107, 81 Stat 107, 82 Stat 107, 83 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- 11 St 488, Jan 21, 1857, C 17-An Act for the Relief of the Heirs of Major General Atcham St Clair.
- 11 St 503, Mar 4, 1857, C 71-An Act for the Relief of Jesse Morrison, of Illinois.
- 11 St 511, Mar 4, 1857, C 115-An Act for the Relief of John Ryker, an Indian, of the State of Michigan.
- 11 St 524, Mar 4, 1857, C 116-An Act for the Relief of Miss Mary Gay.
- 11 St 534, Mar 3, 1857, C 147-An Act for the Relief of Jefferson Wilson, Administrator, with the Will annexed, of John W. Wynn, deceased.
- 11 St 538, June 1, 1858, C 70-An Act for the Relief of William B Trotter.
- 11 St 538, June 8, 1858, C 87-An Act for the Relief of the Heirs of Legal Representatives of Richard D Rowland, deceased, and others.
- 11 St 541, June 8, 1858, C 130-An Act for the Relief of the Heirs of Richard Talbot.
- 11 St 576, Jan 12, 1859, C 7-An Act for the Relief of Joseph Hardy and Alton Long.
- 11 St 574, Jan 17, 1857-Treaty with Chickasaws and Chickasaws.
- 11 St 577, Sept 3, 1859-Treaty with Stockbridges and Muncies.
- 11 St 581, Sept 3, 1859-Treaty with Wyandott Indians.
- 11 St 590, June 13, 1851-Treaty (supplementary article) with Chickasaws.
- 11 St 607, Dec 9, 1851-Treaty with Ottawas and Micmacs.
- 11 St 611, June 22, 1855-Treaty with Chickasaws and Chickasaws.
- 11 St 621, July 31, 1855-Treaty with Ottawas and Chipewas.
- 11 St 631, Aug 2, 1855-Treaty with Chipewas of Sault Ste Marie.
- 11 St 638, Aug 2, 1855-Treaty with Chipewas.
- 11 St 657, Oct 17, 1855-Treaty with Blackfoot Indians.
- 11 St 663, Feb 5, 1856-Treaty with Stockbridges and Muncies.
- 11 St 670, Feb 17, 1856-Treaty with Micmacs.
- 11 St 680, Aug 7, 1856-Treaty with Chickasaws and Micmacs.

¹ See 7 St 306, 8 St 306, 9 St 306, 10 St 306, 11 St 306, 12 St 306, 13 St 306, 14 St 306, 15 St 306, 16 St 306, 17 St 306, 18 St 306, 19 St 306, 20 St 306, 21 St 306, 22 St 306, 23 St 306, 24 St 306, 25 St 306, 26 St 306, 27 St 306, 28 St 306, 29 St 306, 30 St 306, 31 St 306, 32 St 306, 33 St 306, 34 St 306, 35 St 306, 36 St 306, 37 St 306, 38 St 306, 39 St 306, 40 St 306, 41 St 306, 42 St 306, 43 St 306, 44 St 306, 45 St 306, 46 St 306, 47 St 306, 48 St 306, 49 St 306, 50 St 306, 51 St 306, 52 St 306, 53 St 306, 54 St 306, 55 St 306, 56 St 306, 57 St

- 1816, 1840," 1922." Sec 6—R S 1850, 1800, Sec 6—R S 1861, 1926, Sec 11—R S 1877, 1878, 1895, 1936, 1942, Sec 16—R S 1893
- 12 St 338, February 13, 1862, C 24—An Act to amend an Act entitled "An Act to regulate Trade and Intercourse with the Indian Tribes, and to preserve Peace on the Frontiers," approved June 30, 1854."
- 12 St 344, Feb 24, 1862, C 30—An Act to authorize a Change of Appropriations for the Payment of necessary Expenditures in the Service of the United States for Indian Affairs"
- 12 St 348, Mar 1, 1862, C 31—An Act making Appropriations for sundry Civil Expenses, of the Government for the Year ending the thirtieth of June, 1863, and additional Appropriations for the Year ending the thirtieth of June, 1862
- 12 St 355, Mar 14, 1862, C 41—An Act making Appropriations for the Legislative, Executive, and Judicial Expenses of the Government for the Year ending thirtieth of June, 1863, and additional Appropriations for the Year ending thirtieth of June, 1862"
- 12 St 414, June 2, 1862, C 94—An Act to establish a Land Office in Colorado Territory, and for other Purposes" R S 2227"
- 12 St 413, June 2, 1862, C 95—An Act to establish certain Post-Routes, and for other Purposes
- 12 St 427, June 14, 1862, C 103—An Act to protect the Property of Indians who have adopted the Habits of civilized Life" Sec 1—R S 2119, 26 USC 185, Sec 2—R S 2120, 26 USC 186, Sec 3—R S 2121, 26 USC 187
- 12 St 480, July 1, 1862, C 120—An Act to aid in the Construction of a Railroad and Telegraph Line from the Missouri River to the Pacific Ocean, and to secure to the Government the Use of the same for Postal, Military, and Other Purposes"
- 12 St 498, July 1, 1862, C 129—An Act to provide for the Appointment of an Indian Agent in Colorado Territory
- 12 St 512, July 5, 1862, C 135—An Act making Appropriations for the current and contingent Expenses of the Indian Department, and for fulfilling Treaty Stipulations with various Indian Tribes, for the Year ending June 30, 1863" Sec 1, p 528—R S 2080, 25 USC 72, Sec 5—R S 2081; Sec 6—R S 2108" 25 USC 160
- 12 St 539, July 12, 1862, C 156—An Act relating to Trust Funds of several Indian Tribes invested by the Government in certain State Bonds abstracted from the Custody of the late Secretary of the Interior"
- 12 St 566, July 14, 1862, C 165—An Act for the Relief of Pre-emptors on the Home Reservations of the Winnebagos, in the Blue-earth Region, in the State of Minnesota"
- 12 St 614, Feb 22, 1862, J Res No 18—A Resolution for the Relief of the loyal Portion of the Creek, Seminole, Chickasaw, and Choctaw Indians"
- 12 St 629, July 17, 1862, J Res No 97—A Resolution to repeal and modify Secs 2 and 8 of an Act entitled "An Act to

settle the Titles to certain Lands set apart for the Use of certain Half-breed Kansas Indians in Kansas Territory," approved May 28, 1860, and to repeal part of sec 1 of said Act"

- 12 St 628, J. 17, 1862, J Res No 98—Joint Resolution authorizing the Secretary of the Interior to expend, from a Fund in the United States Treasury belonging to the Winnebagos Indians, the sum of \$50,000, or so much thereof as may be necessary, for the Benefit of said Indians"
- 12 St 629, July 17, 1862, J Res No 71—A Resolution making further Appropriations for the current and contingent Expenses of the Indian Department, and for fulfilling Treaty Stipulations with the various Indian Tribes, for the Year ending June 30, 1863
- 12 St 680, July 17, 1862, J Res No 72—A Resolution suspending the Sale by sealed Bids, of the Lands of the Kansas and Sac and Fox Indians
- 12 St 648, Feb 12, 1863, C 82—An Act to supply Deficiencies in the Appropriations for the Service of the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 1863"
- 12 St 652, Feb 16, 1863, C 97—An Act for the Relief of Persons for Damages sustained by Reason of Depredations and Injuries by certain Bands of Sioux Indians"
- 12 St 658, Feb 21, 1863, C 53—An Act for the Removal of Winnebagos Indians, and for the sale of their Reservation in Minnesota for their Benefit"
- 12 St 664, Feb 24, 1863, C 56—An Act to provide a temporary Government for the Territory of Arizona, and for other Purposes" Sec 1—R S 1850, 1800, 1901, Sec 2—R S 702, 1841, 1842, 1813, 1844, 1846, 1847, 1848, 1849" 1850, 1871, 1861, 1857, 1850, 1800, 1862, 1868, 1864, 1865, 1866, 1867, 1868, 1869, 1870, 1871, 1872, 1873, 1876, 1870, 1877, 1878, 1881, 1882, 1883, 1884, 1891, 1908, 1909, 1910, 1913, 1918, 1922," 1905, 1909, 1902, 1904, 1910
- 12 St 682, Feb 25, 1863, C 80—An Act making Appropriations for the Legislative, Executive, and Judicial Expenses of the Government for the Year ending thirtieth June, 1864, and for the Year 1863, and for other Purposes"
- 12 St 700, Mar 2, 1864, C 10—An Act to amend an Act entitled "An Act to provide a Temporary Government for the Territory of Colorado" Sec 4—R S 1842
- 12 St 744, Mar 8, 1863, C 79—An Act making Appropriations for sundry Civil Expenses of the Government for the Year ending June 30, 1864, and for the Year ending the 30th of June, 1863, and for other Purposes"
- 12 St 774, Mar 8, 1863, C 99—An Act making Appropriations for the current and contingent Expenses of the Indian Department, and for fulfilling Treaty Stipulations with various Indian Tribes, for the Year ending June 30, 1864" Sec 1, p 762—R S 2007, 25 USC C 61
- 12 St 808, Mar 8, 1863, C 107—An Act supplementary to an Act entitled "An Act for the Relief of Persons for Damages sustained by Reason of Depredations and Injuries by certain Bands of Sioux Indians," approved February 16, 1863"

• R S 20 St 178

• R S 20 St 178

• R S 20 St 178, Sec 80. *Orded* 14 On A G 290, U S v. Bridgman, 7 Fed 594, 1878, 1879, 1880, 1881, 1882, 1883, 1884, 1885, 1886, 1887, 1888, 1889, 1890, 1891, 1892, 1893, 1894, 1895, 1896, 1897, 1898, 1899, 1900, 1901, 1902, 1903, 1904, 1905, 1906, 1907, 1908, 1909, 1910, 1911, 1912, 1913, 1914, 1915, 1916, 1917, 1918, 1919, 1920, 1921, 1922, 1923, 1924, 1925, 1926, 1927, 1928, 1929, 1930, 1931, 1932, 1933, 1934, 1935, 1936, 1937, 1938, 1939, 1940, 1941, 1942, 1943, 1944, 1945, 1946, 1947, 1948, 1949, 1950, 1951, 1952, 1953, 1954, 1955, 1956, 1957, 1958, 1959, 1960, 1961, 1962, 1963, 1964, 1965, 1966, 1967, 1968, 1969, 1970, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1974, 1975, 1976, 1977, 1978, 1979, 1980, 1981, 1982, 1983, 1984, 1985, 1986, 1987, 1988, 1989, 1990, 1991, 1992, 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026, 2027, 2028, 2029, 2030, 2031, 2032, 2033, 2034, 2035, 2036, 2037, 2038, 2039, 2040, 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2207, 2208, 2209, 2210, 2211, 2212, 2213, 2214, 2215, 2216, 2217, 2218, 2219, 2220, 2221, 2222, 2223, 2224, 2225, 2226, 2227, 2228, 2229, 2230, 2231, 2232, 2233, 2234, 2235, 2236, 2237, 2238, 2239, 2240, 2241, 2242, 2243, 2244, 2245, 2246, 2247, 2248, 2249, 2250, 2251, 2252, 2253, 2254, 2255, 2256, 2257, 2258, 2259, 2260, 2261, 2262, 2263, 2264, 2265, 2266, 2267, 2268, 2269, 2270, 2271, 2272, 2273, 2274, 2275, 2276, 2277, 2278, 2279, 2280, 2281, 2282, 2283, 2284, 2285, 2286, 2287, 2288, 2289, 2290, 2291, 2292, 2293, 2294, 2295, 2296, 2297, 2298, 2299, 2300, 2301, 2302, 2303, 2304, 2305, 2306, 2307, 2308, 2309, 2310, 2311, 2312, 2313, 2314, 2315, 2316, 2317, 2318, 2319, 2320, 2321, 2322, 2323, 2324, 2325, 2326, 2327, 2328, 2329, 2330, 2331, 2332, 2333, 2334, 2335, 2336, 2337, 2338, 2339, 2340, 2341, 2342, 2343, 2344, 2345, 2346, 2347, 2348, 2349, 2350, 2351, 2352, 2353, 2354, 2355, 2356, 2357, 2358, 2359, 2360, 2361, 2362, 2363, 2364, 2365, 2366, 2367, 2368, 2369, 2370, 2371, 2372, 2373, 2374, 2375, 2376, 2377, 2378, 2379, 2380, 2381, 2382, 2383, 2384, 2385, 2386, 2387, 2388, 2389, 2390, 2391, 2392, 2393, 2394, 2395, 2396, 2397, 2398, 2399, 2400, 2401, 2402, 2403, 2404, 2405, 2406, 2407, 2408, 2409, 2410, 2411, 2412, 2413, 2414, 2415, 2416, 2417, 2418, 2419, 2420, 2421, 2422, 2423, 2424, 2425, 2426, 2427, 2428, 2429, 2430, 2431, 2432, 2433, 2434, 2435, 2436, 2437, 2438, 2439, 2440, 2441, 2442, 2443, 2444, 2445, 2446, 2447, 2448, 2449, 2450, 2451, 2452, 2453, 2454, 2455, 2456, 2457, 2458, 2459, 2460, 2461, 2462, 2463, 2464, 2465, 2466, 2467, 2468, 2469, 2470, 2471, 2472, 2473, 2474, 2475, 2476, 2477, 2478, 2479, 2480, 2481, 2482, 2483, 2484, 2485, 2486, 2487, 2488, 2489, 2490, 2491, 2492, 2493, 2494, 2495, 2496, 2497, 2498, 2499, 2500, 2501, 2502, 2503, 2504, 2505, 2506, 2507, 2508, 2509, 2510, 2511, 2512, 2513, 2514, 2515, 2516, 2517, 2518, 2519, 2520, 2521, 2522, 2523, 2524, 2525, 2526, 2527, 2528, 2529, 2530, 2531, 2532, 2533, 2534, 2535, 2536, 2537, 2538, 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- 13 St. 541, Mar. 3, 1863. C 127—An Act making Appropriations for the current and contingent Expenses of the Indian Department, and for fulfilling Treaty Stipulations with various Indian Tribes for the Year ending thirtieth June, 1863, and for other purposes." Sec. 4—R. S. 2081, 25 USQ 111, C 3—R. S. 2310, 2311, 2317, 43 USQ 300, Sec. 3—R. S. 21357, 25 USQ 214 (41 St. 0, sec. 11, USCA Historical Note, R. S. 21358 was amended by 41 Stat. 9, sec. 1, so as to read in sec. 10th in 25 USQ 214. Sec. 0—R. S. 2127, 25 USQ 112.
- 13 St. 572, Mar. 3, 1863, J Res No 33—A Resolution directing Inquiry into the Condition of the Indian Tribes, and their Treatment by the Civil and Military Authorities.
- 13 St. 582, June 30, 1864, C 183—An Act for the Relief of the Estate of T. F. Kewell.
- 13 St. 583, July 2, 1864, C 227—An Act for the Relief of Richard C Murphy.
- 13 St. 581, July 2, 1864, C 261—An Act for the Relief of William Sargent and Others, of the State of Ohio.
- 13 St. 586, July 4, 1864, C 256—An Act for the Relief of Richard C Murphy.
- 13 St. 591, July 2, 1864, J Res No 71—Joint Resolution for the Relief of Thomas J. Galbraith.
- 13 St. 593, Feb. 9, 1865, C 31—An Act for the Relief of Louis Roberts.
- 13 St. 623, June 28, 1862—Treaty with Kickapoo Indians."
- 13 St. 603, July 3, 1862—Treaty with Shawnee Indians."
- 13 St. 607, Oct. 2, 1862—Treaty with Chippewa Indians (Red Lake and Pembina Bands) "
- 13 St. 673, Oct. 7, 1863—Treaty with Tabernash Band of Utah Indians."

- 13 St. 681, Oct. 12, 1863—Treaty with Shoshone-Goship Bands of Indians."
- 13 St. 680, Apr. 12, 1864—Treaty with Red Lake and Pembina Bands of Chippewa Indians."
- 13 St. 688, May 7, 1864—Treaty with Chippewas of Mississippi, and Pillager and Lake Winnebagoish Bands of Chippewas."
- Sec. 1 U. S. C. 142, 17 St. 26, 46, 51, 60, 85, 91, 99, 114, 101, 105, 106, 102, 218, 237, 290, 304, 317, 320, 310, 323, 370, 410, 422, 432, 610, 544, 652, 1000, 1014, 1030, 1035, 1063, 1074, 1099, 1100, 1122, 1127, 1134, 1141, 1145, 1147, 1151, 1154, 1155, 1156, 1157, 1158, 1159, 1160, 1161, 1162, 1163, 1164, 1165, 1166, 1167, 1168, 1169, 1170, 1171, 1172, 1173, 1174, 1175, 1176, 1177, 1178, 1179, 1180, 1181, 1182, 1183, 1184, 1185, 1186, 1187, 1188, 1189, 1190, 1191, 1192, 1193, 1194, 1195, 1196, 1197, 1198, 1199, 1200, 1201, 1202, 1203, 1204, 1205, 1206, 1207, 1208, 1209, 1210, 1211, 1212, 1213, 1214, 1215, 1216, 1217, 1218, 1219, 1220, 1221, 1222, 1223, 1224, 1225, 1226, 1227, 1228, 1229, 1230, 1231, 1232, 1233, 1234, 1235, 1236, 1237, 1238, 1239, 1240, 1241, 1242, 1243, 1244, 1245, 1246, 1247, 1248, 1249, 1250, 1251, 1252, 1253, 1254, 1255, 1256, 1257, 1258, 1259, 1260, 1261, 1262, 1263, 1264, 1265, 1266, 1267, 1268, 1269, 1270, 1271, 1272, 1273, 1274, 1275, 1276, 1277, 1278, 1279, 1280, 1281, 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- with Indian Affairs." See 1-R S 403, 25 U S C 2 U S C 4 A Historical Note. The derivative sections for sec 463 of the Rev Stat were section 1 of Act July 9, 1833, 4 St. 764, providing for the appointment by the President of a Commissioner of Indian Affairs to act under the direction of the Secretary of War and sec 1 of Act July 27, 1868, 15 St. 223, providing that all supervisory and appellate powers and duties in regard to Indian Affairs theretofore vested in the Secretary of the Treasury shall thereafter be exercised and performed by the Secretary of the Department of the Interior.
- 15 St. 264, July 27, 1868, C 263—An Act making Appropriations for certain extensive Expenses of the Government for the fiscal Year ending June 30, 1869
- 15 St. 264, July 27, 1868, 15 St. 89—Joint Resolution to aid in relieving from Premature Women and Children or the Navajo Indians
- 15 St. 275, Feb. 23, 1869, C 40—An Act making Appropriations (in part) for the Expenses of the Indian Department, and for fulfilling Treaty Stipulations
- 15 St. 283, Mar. 7, 1869, C 121—An Act making Appropriations for the Legislative, Executive, and Judicial Expenses of the Government for the Year ending the thirtieth of June, 1870
- 15 St. 301, Mar. 3, 1869, C 122—An Act making Appropriations for sundry Civil Expenses of the Government for the Year ending June 30, 1870, and for other Purposes
- 15 St. 311, Mar. 3, 1869, C 123—An Act making Appropriations to supply deficiencies in the Appropriations for the Service of the Government during the fiscal Year ending June 30, 1869, and for other Purposes
- 15 St. 337, Mar. 3, 1869, C 131—An Act to establish certain Post-Offices
- 15 St. 370, Mar. 2, 1868, C 18—An Act for the Relief of the Heirs of the late Major-General I B Richardson, deceased
- 15 St. 402, Mar. 3, 1869, C 173—An Act commencing certain Privileges of Lands in the Iowa District, Michigan, made by Charles H. Road and Andrew J. Cheapeau
- 15 St. 407, Oct. 1, 1867, Treaty with Confederated Tribes of Sacs and Foxes of the Mississippi
- 15 St. 407, Feb. 18, 1867, Treaty with Tribe of Sacs and Fox Indians of the Mississippi
- 15 St. 505, Feb. 19, 1867, Treaty with Reservation and Wapiniton Bands of Dakotas on Sioux Indians
- 15 St. 513, Feb. 23, 1867, Treaty with Seneca, Mixed Seneca and Shawnee, Quapaw, Confederated Penon, Kankakee, Weas, and Piankashaw, Ottawa of Blanchard's Fork and Roche de Boeuf, and certain Wyandotte
- 15 St. 531, Feb. 27, 1867, Treaty with Potawatome Tribe
- 15 St. 580, Mar. 30, 1867, Treaty with Resaca
- 15 St. 581, Oct. 21, 1867, Treaty with Kiowa and Comanche Tribes
- 15 St. 689, Oct. 21, 1867, Treaty with Kiowa, Comanche and Apache Tribes
- 15 St. 689, Oct. 21, 1867, Treaty with Cheyenne and Arapahoe Tribes
- 15 St. 619, Mar. 2, 1868, Treaty with Tobaccoe, Munchee, Cupote, Weanuche, Yampa, Grand River, and Uintah Bands of the Utes
- 15 St. 615, Apr. 29, sec. 1868—Treaty with Different Tribes of Sioux Indians
- 15 St. 649, May 7, 1868, Treaty with Crow Tribe
- 15 St. 663, May 10, 1868, Treaty with Northern Cheyenne and Arapahoe Tribes
- 15 St. 667, June 1, 1868, Treaty with Navajo Tribe
- 15 St. 673, July 8, 1868, Treaty with Eastern Band of Shoshones and the Bannock Tribe of Indians
- 483, 22 St. 68, 438, 23 St. 78, 802, 24 St. 20, 440, 25 St. 217, 060, 26 St. 336, 987, 27 St. 120, 112, 28 St. 396, 678, 29 St. 321, 80, 30 St. 63, 31 St. 402, 32 St. 1700, 33 St. 10, 34 St. 19, 35 St. 10, 36 St. 10, 37 St. 10, 38 St. 10, 39 St. 10, 40 St. 10, 41 St. 10, 42 St. 10, 43 St. 10, 44 St. 10, 45 St. 10, 46 St. 10, 47 St. 10, 48 St. 10, 49 St. 10, 50 St. 10, 51 St. 10, 52 St. 10, 53 St. 10, 54 St. 10, 55 St. 10, 56 St. 10, 57 St. 10, 58 St. 10, 59 St. 10, 60 St. 10, 61 St. 10, 62 St. 10, 63 St. 10, 64 St. 10, 65 St. 10, 66 St. 10, 67 St. 10, 68 St. 10, 69 St. 10, 70 St. 10, 71 St. 10, 72 St. 10, 73 St. 10, 74 St. 10, 75 St. 10, 76 St. 10, 77 St. 10, 78 St. 10, 79 St. 10, 80 St. 10, 81 St. 10, 82 St. 10, 83 St. 10, 84 St. 10, 85 St. 10, 86 St. 10, 87 St. 10, 88 St. 10, 89 St. 10, 90 St. 10, 91 St. 10, 92 St. 10, 93 St. 10, 94 St. 10, 95 St. 10, 96 St. 10, 97 St. 10, 98 St. 10, 99 St. 10, 100 St. 10, 101 St. 10, 102 St. 10, 103 St. 10, 104 St. 10, 105 St. 10, 106 St. 10, 107 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1099 St. 10, 1100 St. 10, 1101 St. 10, 1102 St. 10, 1103 St. 10, 1104 St. 10, 1105 St. 10, 1106 St. 10, 11

- "emigration," by amendment instant Act Sec 1—R S see 2190, 25 U S C 241 (27 St 200; see 1, 29 St 500) "See Supplemental Note 25 U S C 4 A 241"
- 10 St 254; Feb 28, 1877, C 72—An act to invite an agreement with certain lands of the Shoshone Nation of Indians and also with the Northern Arapaho and Cheyenne Indians"
- 10 St 261, Feb 28, 1877, C 75—An act to provide for the sale of certain lands in Kansas"
- 10 St 265, Mar 2, 1877, C 82—An act to provide for the preparation and publication of a new edition of the Revised Statutes of the United States, C 103—An act making appropriations for the current and contingent expenses of the Indian Department, and for fulfilling treaty stipulations with various Indian tribes, for the year ending June 30, 1878, and for other purposes "25 U, § 1 160 (18 U St 676 sec 2) USCA Hivestment Note: Provisions abundant to these, to some extent, were made by previous Indian appropriation acts"
- 10 St 291, Mar 3, 1877, C 102—An act making appropriations for the legislative, executive, and judicial expenses of the Government for the year ending June 30, 1878, and for other purposes"
- 10 St 319, Mar 3, 1877, C 103—An act establishing post-roads and for other purposes"
- 10 St 344, Mar 3, 1877, C 105—An act making appropriations for sundry civil expenses of the Government for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1878, and for other purposes"
- 10 St 368, Mar 3, 1877, C 106—An act making appropriations to supply deficiencies in the appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1877, and prior years, and for other purposes."
- 10 St 400; M. r. 3, 1877, C 127—An act for the relief of certain settlers on the public lands"
- 10 St 447, July 12, 1877, C 158—An act for the relief of the families of J. W. P. Hinckley, deceased, late superintendent of Indian Affairs in Oregon"
- 10 St. 491, Aug 15, 1870, C 314—An act for the relief of Floyd C. Babcock."
- 10 St 496, Aug 15, 1870, C 320—An act for the relief of the heirs of William Hicrens."
- 10 St 508, Jan 18, 1877, C 26—An act for the relief of Assistant Surgeon Thomas P. Aspell, United States Army."
- 10 St 511; Mar 3, 1877, C 181—An act for the relief of Redick McKee."
- 10 St 549, Mar 3, 1877, C 200—An act for the relief of Hans C Peterson."
- 10 St 603, Mar 3, 1877, C 214—An act for the relief of Roseita Hart, (late Roseita Seville) Charles C. Benoit, Emily Benoit, and Logan Fountain, half-breed Indians"

"A 82 St 900 Also see 25 U S C 421a (28 St 697). 26 U S C 241a (4 St 368)

"A 92 St 908; 26 St 114, 486; 26 St 68, 438, 532; 28 St 76, 802; 24 St 20, 440; 26 St 217, 590, 26 St 336, 589; 27 St 8, 120, 613; 28 St 280, 870, 29 St 621, 320, 30 St 624, 871, 924, 81 St 1008, 32 St 846, 33 St 38, 39, 100, 104, 108, 112, 116, 120, 124, 128, 132, 136, 140, 144, 148, 152, 156, 160, 164, 168, 172, 176, 180, 184, 188, 192, 196, 200, 204, 208, 212, 216, 220, 224, 228, 232, 236, 240, 244, 248, 252, 256, 260, 264, 268, 272, 276, 280, 284, 288, 292, 296, 300, 304, 308, 312, 316, 320, 324, 328, 332, 336, 340, 344, 348, 352, 356, 360, 364, 368, 372, 376, 380, 384, 388, 392, 396, 400, 404, 408, 412, 416, 420, 424, 428, 432, 436, 440, 444, 448, 452, 456, 460, 464, 468, 472, 476, 480, 484, 488, 492, 496, 500, 504, 508, 512, 516, 520, 524, 528, 532, 536, 540, 544, 548, 552, 556, 560, 564, 568, 572, 576, 580, 584, 588, 592, 596, 600, 604, 608, 612, 616, 620, 624, 628, 632, 636, 640, 644, 648, 652, 656, 660, 664, 668, 672, 676, 680, 684, 688, 692, 696, 700, 704, 708, 712, 716, 720, 724, 728, 732, 736, 740, 744, 748, 752, 756, 760, 764, 768, 772, 776, 780, 784, 788, 792, 796, 800, 804, 808, 812, 816, 820, 824, 828, 832, 836, 840, 844, 848, 852, 856, 860, 864, 868, 872, 876, 880, 884, 888, 892, 896, 900, 904, 908, 912, 916, 920, 924, 928, 932, 936, 940, 944, 948, 952, 956, 960, 964, 968, 972, 976, 980, 984, 988, 992, 996, 1000, 1004, 1008, 1012, 1016, 1020, 1024, 1028, 1032, 1036, 1040, 1044, 1048, 1052, 1056, 1060, 1064, 1068, 1072, 1076, 1080, 1084, 1088, 1092, 1096, 1100, 1104, 1108, 1112, 1116, 1120, 1124, 1128, 1132, 1136, 1140, 1144, 1148, 1152, 1156, 1160, 1164, 1168, 1172, 1176, 1180, 1184, 1188, 1192, 1196, 1200, 1204, 1208, 1212, 1216, 1220, 1224, 1228, 1232, 1236, 1240, 1244, 1248, 1252, 1256, 1260, 1264, 1268, 1272, 1276, 1280, 1284, 1288, 1292, 1296, 1300, 1304, 1308, 1312, 1316, 1320, 1324, 1328, 1332, 1336, 1340, 1344, 1348, 1352, 1356, 1360, 1364, 1368, 1372, 1376, 1380, 1384, 1388, 1392, 1396, 1400, 1404, 1408, 1412, 1416, 1420, 1424, 1428, 1432, 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2764, 2768, 2772, 2776, 2780, 2784, 2788, 2792, 2796, 2800, 2804, 2808, 2812, 2816, 2820, 2824, 2828, 2832, 2836, 2840, 2844, 2848, 2852, 2856, 2860, 2864, 2868, 2872, 2876, 2880, 2884, 2888, 2892, 2896, 2900, 2904, 2908, 2912, 2916, 2920, 2924, 2928, 2932, 2936, 2940, 2944, 2948, 2952, 2956, 2960, 2964, 2968, 2972, 2976, 2980, 2984, 2988, 2992, 2996, 3000, 3004, 3008, 3012, 3016, 3020, 3024, 3028, 3032, 3036, 3040, 3044, 3048, 3052, 3056, 3060, 3064, 3068, 3072, 3076, 3080, 3084, 3088, 3092, 3096, 3100, 3104, 3108, 3112, 3116, 3120, 3124, 3128, 3132, 3136, 3140, 3144, 3148, 3152, 3156, 3160, 3164, 3168, 3172, 3176, 3180, 3184, 3188, 3192, 3196, 3200, 3204, 3208, 3212, 3216, 3220, 3224, 3228, 3232, 3236, 3240, 3244, 3248, 3252, 3256, 3260, 3264, 3268, 3272, 3276, 3280, 3284, 3288, 3292, 3296, 3300, 3304, 3308, 3312, 3316, 3320, 3324, 3328, 3332, 3336, 3340, 3344, 3348, 3352, 3356, 3360, 3364, 3368, 3372, 3376, 3380, 3384, 3388, 3392, 3396, 3400, 3404, 3408, 3412, 3416, 3420, 3424, 3428, 3432, 3436, 3440, 3444, 3448, 3452, 3456, 3460, 3464, 3468, 3472, 3476, 3480, 3484, 3488, 3492, 3496, 3500, 3504, 3508, 3512, 3516, 3520, 3524, 3528, 3532, 3536, 3540, 3544, 3548, 3552, 3556, 3560, 3564, 3568, 3572, 3576, 3580, 3584, 3588, 3592, 3596, 3600, 3604, 3608, 3612, 3616, 3620, 3624, 3628, 3632, 3636, 3640, 3644, 3648, 3652, 3656, 3660, 3664, 3668, 3672, 3676, 3680, 3684, 3688, 3692, 3696, 3700, 3704, 3708, 3712, 3716, 3720, 3724, 3728, 3732, 3736, 3740, 3744, 3748, 3752, 3756, 3760, 3764, 3768, 3772, 3776, 3780, 3784, 3788, 3792, 3796, 3800, 3804, 3808, 3812, 3816, 3820, 3824, 3828, 3832, 3836, 3840, 3844, 3848, 3852, 3856, 3860, 3864, 3868, 3872, 3876, 3880, 3884, 3888, 3892, 3896, 3900, 3904, 3908, 3912, 3916, 3920, 3924, 3928, 3932, 3936, 3940, 3944, 3948, 3952, 3956, 3960, 3964, 3968, 3972, 3976, 3980, 3984, 3988, 3992, 3996, 4000, 4004, 4008, 4012, 4016, 4020, 4024, 4028, 4032, 4036, 4040, 4044, 4048, 4052, 4056, 4060, 4064, 4068, 4072, 4076, 4080, 4084, 4088, 4092, 4096, 4100, 4104, 4108, 4112, 4116, 4120, 4124, 4128, 4132, 4136, 4140, 4144, 4148, 4152, 4156, 4160, 4164, 4168, 4172, 4176, 4180, 4184, 4188, 4192, 4196, 4200, 4204, 4208, 4212, 4216, 4220, 4224, 4228, 4232, 4236, 4240, 4244, 4248, 4252, 4256, 4260, 4264, 4268, 4272, 4276, 4280, 4284, 4288, 4292, 4296, 4300, 4304, 4308, 4312, 4316, 4320, 4324, 4328, 4332, 4336, 4340, 4344, 4348, 4352, 4356, 4360, 4364, 4368, 4372, 4376, 4380, 4384, 4388, 4392, 4396, 4400, 4404, 4408, 4412, 4416, 4420, 4424, 4428, 4432, 4436, 4440, 4444, 4448, 4452, 4456, 4460, 4464, 4468, 4472, 4476, 4480, 4484, 4488, 4492, 4496, 4500, 4504, 4508, 4512, 4516, 4520, 4524, 4528, 4532, 4536, 4540, 4544, 4548, 4552, 4556, 4560, 4564, 4568, 4572, 4576, 4580, 4584, 4588, 4592, 4596, 4600, 4604, 4608, 4612, 4616, 4620, 4624, 4628, 4632, 4636, 4640, 4644, 4648, 4652, 4656, 4660, 4664, 4668, 4672, 4676, 4680, 4684, 4688, 4692, 4696, 4700, 4704, 4708, 4712, 4716, 4720, 4724, 4728, 4732, 4736, 4740, 4744, 4748, 4752, 4756, 4760, 4764, 4768, 4772, 4776, 4780, 4784, 4788, 4792, 4796, 4800, 4804, 4808, 4812, 4816, 4820, 4824, 4828, 4832, 4836, 4840, 4844, 4848, 4852, 4856, 4860, 4864, 4868, 4872, 4876, 4880, 4884, 4888, 4892, 4896, 4900, 4904, 4908, 4912, 4916, 4920, 4924, 4928, 4932, 4936, 4940, 4944, 4948, 4952, 4956, 4960, 4964, 4968, 4972, 4976, 4980, 4984, 4988, 4992, 4996, 5000, 5004, 5008, 5012, 5016, 5020, 5024, 5028, 5032, 5036, 5040, 5044, 5048, 5052, 5056, 5060, 5064, 5068, 5072, 5076, 5080, 5084, 5088, 5092, 5096, 5100, 5104, 5108, 5112, 5116, 5120, 5124, 5128, 5132, 5136, 5140, 5144, 5148, 5152, 5156, 5160, 5164, 5168, 5172, 5176, 5180, 5184, 5188, 5192, 5196, 5200, 5204, 5208, 5212, 5216, 5220, 5224, 5228, 5232, 5236, 5240, 5244, 5248, 5252, 5256, 5260, 5264, 5268, 5272, 5276, 5280, 5284, 5288, 5292, 5296, 5300, 5304, 5308, 5312, 5316, 5320, 5324, 5328, 5332, 5336, 5340, 5344, 5348, 5352, 5356, 5360, 5364, 5368, 5372, 5376, 5380, 5384, 5388, 5392, 5396, 5400, 5404, 5408, 5412, 5416, 5420, 5424, 5428, 5432, 5436, 5440, 5444, 5448, 5452, 5456, 5460, 5464, 5468, 5472, 5476, 5480, 5484, 5488, 5492, 5496, 5500, 5504, 5508, 5512, 5516, 5520, 5524, 5528, 5532, 5536, 5540, 5544, 5548, 5552, 5556, 5560, 5564, 5568, 5572, 5576, 5580, 5584, 5588, 5592, 5596, 5600, 5604, 5608, 5612, 5616, 5620, 5624, 5628, 5632, 5636, 5640, 5644, 5648, 5652, 5656, 5660, 5664, 5668, 5672, 5676, 5680, 5684, 5688, 5692, 5696, 5700, 5704, 5708, 5712, 5716, 5720, 5724, 5728, 5732, 5736, 5740, 5744, 5748, 5752, 5756, 5760, 5764, 5768, 5772, 5776, 5780, 5784, 5788, 5792, 5796, 5800, 5804, 5808, 5812, 5816, 5820, 5824, 5828, 5832, 5836, 5840, 5844, 5848, 5852, 5856, 5860, 5864, 5868, 5872, 5876, 5880, 5884, 5888, 5892, 5896, 5900, 5904, 5908, 5912, 5916, 5920, 5924, 5928, 5932, 5936, 5940, 5944, 5948, 5952, 5956, 5960, 5964, 5968, 5972, 5976, 5980, 5984, 5988, 5992, 5996, 6000, 6004, 6008, 6012, 6016, 6020, 6024, 6028, 6032, 6036, 6040, 6044, 6048, 6052, 6056, 6060, 6064, 6068, 6072, 6076, 6080, 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6748, 6752, 6756, 6760, 6764, 6768, 6772, 6776, 6780, 6784, 6788, 6792, 6796, 6800, 6804, 6808, 6812, 6816, 6820, 6824, 6828, 6832, 6836, 6840, 6844, 6848, 6852, 6856, 6860, 6864, 6868, 6872, 6876, 6880, 6884, 6888, 6892, 6896, 6900, 6904, 6908, 6912, 6916, 6920, 6924, 6928, 6932, 6936, 6940, 6944, 6948, 6952, 6956, 6960, 6964, 6968, 6972, 6976, 6980, 6984, 6988, 6992, 6996, 7000, 7004, 7008, 7012, 7016, 7020, 7024, 7028, 7032, 7036, 7040, 7044, 7048, 7052, 7056, 7060, 7064, 7068, 7072, 7076, 7080, 7084, 7088, 7092, 7096, 7100, 7104, 7108, 7112, 7116, 7120, 7124, 7128, 7132, 7136, 7140, 7144, 7148, 7152, 7156, 7160, 7164, 7168, 7172, 7176, 7180, 7184, 7188, 7192, 7196, 7200, 7204, 7208, 7212, 7216, 7220, 7224, 7228, 7232, 7236, 7240, 7244, 7248, 7252, 7256, 7260, 7264, 7268, 7272, 7276, 7280, 7284, 7288, 7292, 7296, 7300, 7304, 7308, 7312, 7316, 7320, 7324, 7328, 7332, 7336, 7340, 7344, 7348, 7352, 7356, 7360, 7364, 7368, 7372, 7376, 7380, 7384, 7388, 7392, 7396, 7400, 7404, 7408, 7412, 7416, 7420, 7424, 7428, 7432, 7436, 7440, 7444, 7448, 7452, 7456, 7460, 7464, 7468, 7472, 7476, 7480, 7484, 7488, 7492, 7496, 7500, 7504, 7508, 7512, 7516, 7520, 7524, 7528, 7532, 7536, 7540, 7544, 7548, 7552, 7556, 7560, 7564, 7568, 7572, 7576, 7580, 7584, 758

- Indian tribes, for the year ending June 30, 1889, and for other purposes.
- 20 St 477, Mar 3, 1879, C 182—An act making appropriations for sundry civil expenses of the government for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1880, and for other purposes.
- 20 St 410, Mar 4, 1879, C 183—An act making appropriations for sundry expenses in the appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1879, and for prior years, and for those heretofore treated as permanent, and for other purposes.
- 20 St 427, Mar 4, 1879, C 184—An act to establish post-offices.
- 20 St 471, Mar 8, 1879, C 190—An act to amend an act to provide for the sale of a portion of the reservation of the Confederated Otoe and Mishonni and the Sac and Fox of the Missouri tribes of Indians in the States of Kansas and Nebraska.
- 20 St 474, Mar 8, 1879, C 195—An act to provide for the taking the tenth and subsequent censuses.
- 20 St 487, Dec 21, 1878, J Res No 4—Joint resolution extending time for Joint Committee on transfer of Indian Bureau to report.
- 20 St 488, Mar 3, 1879, J Res No 12—Joint resolution in relation to the Attorney General of the United States to have suit in the name of the United States to quiet and settle the title to lands in the Black Rock band of Shawnee Indians.
- 20 St 513, Apr 20, 1878, C 61—An act to authorize the issue of a patent of certain lands in the Biethowen reservation, in the State of Wisconsin, to the persons elected by the Biethowen Indian.
- 20 St 515, May 29, 1878, C 139—An act to authorize the survey of the Catoowah Indian reservation in the State of New York.
- 20 St 541, June 10, 1878, C 179—An act to pay for clerical services, and contingent expenses, under the seventh section of the act of August 18, 1856, in the Pawnee land-district in Kansas.
- 20 St 542, June 14, 1878, C 200—An act to legalize certain patents issued to members of the Catoowah tribe of Indians.
- 20 St 543, June 14, 1878, C 201—An act for the relief of James McGregor.
- 20 St 560, Jan 18, 1879, C 13—An act for the relief of James W. Richard and J. B. Brown and Brothers, of Denver, Colorado.
- 20 St 583, Feb 7, 1879, C 51—An act for the relief of Jesse Turner and others, suitors upon the office bond of George W. Clarke, formerly Indian agent.
- 20 St 612, Mar 1, 1879, C 128—An act for the relief of Catherine and Sophia German.
- 20 St 638, Mar 3, 1879, C 309—An act for the relief of Henry P. Butler and others, suitors upon the official bond of William H. Waterman.
- 20 St 669, Jan 31, 1879, J Res No 4—Joint resolution providing for transportation by the military authorities, of John J. Manuel and two infant daughters from Camp Howard, Idaho Territory, to St. Charles, Missouri.
- 21 St 11, June 12, 1879, C 19—An act to extend the time for the payment of pre-emptors on certain public lands in the State of Minnesota and Territory of Dakota.
- 21 St 11, June 12, 1879, C 21—An act to establish post routes.
- 21 St 28, June 21, 1879, C 84—An act making appropriations for the legislative, executive, and judicial expenses of the government for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1880, and for other purposes.
- 21 St 30, June 28, 1879, C 85—An act making appropriations for the support of the Army for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1880, and for other purposes. Sec 7—25 U S C 273 (see 25 U S C 270).
- 21 St 40, June 28, 1879, C 145—An act making additional appropriations for the service of the Post Office Department for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1879, and June 30, 1880, and for other purposes.
- 21 St 47, Mar 10, 1880, C 30—An act making additional appropriations for the support of certain Indian tribes, for the year ending June 30, 1880.
- 21 St 68, Mar 16, 1880, C 39—An act for the relief of certain small settlers on the Kansas land and diminished reserve lands in the State of Kansas.
- 21 St 70, Apr 1, 1880, C 41—An act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to deposit certain lands in the United States Treasury in lieu of investment. Sec 1—24 U S C 161.
- 21 St 71, Mar 16, 1880, C 42—An act to amend an act to authorize appropriation provided for in the last clause of this section was repealed by Act June 26, 1881, § 2, 48 St 1,227, such act authorizing, in lieu thereof, an annual appropriation from the general fund of the Treasury. Sec 7—25 U S C (b) of 71.
- 21 St 81, Apr 23, 1880, C 61—An act to amend an act entitled 'An act for the removal of certain Indians in New Mexico', approved June 28, 1878.
- 21 St 81, Apr 30, 1880, C 71—An act for the establishment of a land-office in the Territory of Montana.
- 21 St 90, May 8, 1880, C 74—An act to establish post-offices.
- 21 St 111, May 4, 1880, C 81—An act making appropriations for the support of the Army in the last clause of this section, 1880, and for other purposes.
- 21 St 114, May 8, 1880, C 81—An act to authorize the sale of Fort Logan, Montana Territory, and to establish a new post office in Montana.
- 21 St 114, May 31, 1880, C 87—An act making appropriations for the current and contingent expenses of the Indian Department, and for fulfilling treaty stipulations with various tribes for the year ending June 30, 1881, and for other purposes. Sec 1—25 U S C 104, Sec 4—See Historical Note 25 U S C 174.
- 21 St 143, May 28, 1880, C 107—An act for the relief of settlers upon the Ojaga trust and diminished reserve lands in Kansas, and for other purposes.
- 21 St 154, June 8, 1880, C 110—An act providing for the reappointment of the members of the legislatures in the Territories of Montana, Idaho, and Wyoming.
- 21 St 159, June 15, 1880, C 228—An act to accept and ratify the agreement submitted by the confederated bands of Pie Indians in Colorado, for the sale of their reservation in said State, and for other purposes, and to make the necessary appropriations for carrying out the same.
- 21 St 200, June 15, 1880, C 225—An act to establish Post Roads.
- 21 St 210, June 15, 1880, C 225—An act making appropriations for the legislative, executive, and judicial expenses of the government for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1881, and for other purposes.
- 21 St 228, June 16, 1880, C 234—An act making appropriations to supply deficiencies in the appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1880, and for prior years, and for these reasons:

21 ST. 21. ST. 21.

- 21 St 11, June 12, 1879, C 19—An act to extend the time for the payment of pre-emptors on certain public lands in the State of Minnesota and Territory of Dakota.
- 21 St 11, June 12, 1879, C 21—An act to establish post routes.
- 21 St 28, June 21, 1879, C 84—An act making appropriations for the legislative, executive, and judicial expenses of the government for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1880, and for other purposes.
- 21 St 30, June 28, 1879, C 85—An act making appropriations for the support of the Army for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1880, and for other purposes.
- 21 St 40, June 28, 1879, C 145—An act making additional appropriations for the service of the Post Office Department for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1879, and June 30, 1880, and for other purposes.
- 21 St 47, Mar 10, 1880, C 30—An act making additional appropriations for the support of certain Indian tribes, for the year ending June 30, 1880.
- 21 St 68, Mar 16, 1880, C 39—An act for the relief of certain small settlers on the Kansas land and diminished reserve lands in the State of Kansas.
- 21 St 70, Apr 1, 1880, C 41—An act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to deposit certain lands in the United States Treasury in lieu of investment. Sec 1—24 U S C 161.
- 21 St 71, Mar 16, 1880, C 42—An act to amend an act to authorize appropriation provided for in the last clause of this section was repealed by Act June 26, 1881, § 2, 48 St 1,227, such act authorizing, in lieu thereof, an annual appropriation from the general fund of the Treasury. Sec 7—25 U S C (b) of 71.
- 21 St 81, Apr 23, 1880, C 61—An act to amend an act entitled 'An act for the removal of certain Indians in New Mexico', approved June 28, 1878.
- 21 St 81, Apr 30, 1880, C 71—An act for the establishment of a land-office in the Territory of Montana.
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- 21 St 111, May 4, 1880, C 81—An act making appropriations for the support of the Army in the last clause of this section, 1880, and for other purposes.
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- 21 St 114, May 31, 1880, C 87—An act making appropriations for the current and contingent expenses of the Indian Department, and for fulfilling treaty stipulations with various tribes for the year ending June 30, 1881, and for other purposes. Sec 1—25 U S C 104, Sec 4—See Historical Note 25 U S C 174.
- 21 St 143, May 28, 1880, C 107—An act for the relief of settlers upon the Ojaga trust and diminished reserve lands in Kansas, and for other purposes.
- 21 St 154, June 8, 1880, C 110—An act providing for the reappointment of the members of the legislatures in the Territories of Montana, Idaho, and Wyoming.
- 21 St 159, June 15, 1880, C 228—An act to accept and ratify the agreement submitted by the confederated bands of Pie Indians in Colorado, for the sale of their reservation in said State, and for other purposes, and to make the necessary appropriations for carrying out the same.
- 21 St 200, June 15, 1880, C 225—An act to establish Post Roads.
- 21 St 210, June 15, 1880, C 225—An act making appropriations for the legislative, executive, and judicial expenses of the government for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1881, and for other purposes.
- 21 St 228, June 16, 1880, C 234—An act making appropriations to supply deficiencies in the appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1880, and for prior years, and for these reasons:

"By 4 St 442, 7 St 18, 40 St 60, 83, 91, 99, 108, 114, 161, 174, 181, 191, 212, 213, 214, 237, 250, 317, 318, 320, 440, 522, 625, 664, 640, 643, 645, 690, 731, 821, 828, 842, 844, 904, 10 St 1039, 1014, 1016, 1074, 1075, 1076, 1187, 1188, 1189, 1190, 1191, 1192, 1193, 1194, 1195, 1196, 1197, 1198, 1199, 1200, 1201, 1202, 1203, 1204, 1205, 1206, 1207, 1208, 1209, 1210, 1211, 1212, 1213, 1214, 1215, 1216, 1217, 1218, 1219, 1220, 1221, 1222, 1223, 1224, 1225, 1226, 1227, 1228, 1229, 1230, 1231, 1232, 1233, 1234, 1235, 1236, 1237, 1238, 1239, 1240, 1241, 1242, 1243, 1244, 1245, 1246, 1247, 1248, 1249, 1250, 1251, 1252, 1253, 1254, 1255, 1256, 1257, 1258, 1259, 1260, 1261, 1262, 1263, 1264, 1265, 1266, 1267, 1268, 1269, 1270, 1271, 1272, 1273, 1274, 1275, 1276, 1277, 1278, 1279, 1280, 1281, 1282, 1283, 1284, 1285, 1286, 1287, 1288, 1289, 1290, 1291, 1292, 1293, 1294, 1295, 1296, 1297, 1298, 1299, 1300, 1301, 1302, 1303, 1304, 1305, 1306, 1307, 1308, 1309, 1310, 1311, 1312, 1313, 1314, 1315, 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- Historical Note** This provision superseded R S 3041, prescribing the duties of the commissioners, and authorizing them to supervise all expenditures of money appropriated for the benefit of Indians, as well as to inspect goods purchased, etc. An inquiry into conditions in the Indian service, with a view to ascertaining any and all facts relating to the conduct and management of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, and of recommending such changes in the administration of Indian Affairs as would promote the betterment of the service and the well-being of Indians, by commission to be known as the Joint Commission to Investigate Indian Affairs, to be composed of 3 Members of the Senate, and 3 Members of the House of Representatives, which was authorized to examine into the conduct and management of the Bureau of Indian Affairs and all its branches and agencies, their organization and administration, the findings, conclusions, and recommendations of such commission to be reported to Congress during the 63d Congress, was provided for by Act June 30, 1914, § 1, 48 St. 81. See 1-p 85, 25 U S C 75*, sec. 1-p 87, 11 St. 2034, 25 U S C 75. USCA Historical Note: R S 2539 as originally enacted in the Rev Stat was based on Act of Feb 27, 1851, sec 4, 9 St. 587, and Act Apr. 8, 1851, sec. 1, 12 St. 40, and did not contain the words at the end thereof "And until his successors in duty appointed and qualified." This clause was added by amendment by instant Act. Sec 4-25 U S C 46 (23 St. 97, sec 4)* USCA Historical Note: 23 St. 97, sec 6 also contains a provision substantially in the same terms as that of the Code section. 25 U S C 63 (23 St. 97, sec 6). See 2-25 U S C 46.
- 22 St. 111, June 27, 1882, C 241—An act to authorize the Secretary of the Treasury to examine and report to Congress the amount of all claims of the States of Texas, Colorado, Oregon, Nebraska, California, Kansas, and Nevada, and the Territories of Washington and Idaho, for money expended and indebtedness assumed by said States and Territories in repelling unjust and suppressing Indian hostilities, and for other purposes.
- 22 St. 116, June 27, 1882, C 248—An act to amend section two of an act entitled "An act to provide for the sale of the lands of the Miami Indians in Kansas," approved May 15, 1882.
- 22 St. 117, June 30, 1882, C 254—An act making appropriations for the support of the Army for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1883, and for other purposes.
- 22 St. 148, July 8, 1882, C 299—An act to accept and ratify an agreement with the Shoshone and Bannock Indians for the sale of a portion of their reservation in Idaho Territory, required for the use of the Utah and Northern Railroad, and to make the necessary appropriation for carrying out the same.
- 22 St. 157, July 10, 1882, C 284—An act to accept and ratify an agreement with the Crow Indians for the sale of a portion of their reservation in the Territory of Montana, required for the use of the Northern Pacific Railroad, and to make the necessary appropriations for carrying out the same.
- 22 St. 177, July 28, 1882, C 350—An act to provide for the sale of certain Kickapoo Indian lands in Kansas.
- 22 St. 178, July 28, 1882, C 357—An act relating to lands in Colorado lately occupied by the Uncompagne and White River Ute Indians.
- 22 St. 179, July 31, 1882, C 360—An act to amend sec 2138 of the Revised Statutes in relation to Indian traders. Sec 1—R S 2138, 25 U S C 264.
- 22 St. 181, July 31, 1882, C 368—An act to provide additional industrial training schools for Indian youth, and authorizing

- the use of unoccupied military barracks for such purpose.*
- Sec 1-26 U S C 276 (Superseded R S 2039)*
- 22 St. 181, Aug. 3, 1882, C 371—An act to grant a right of way for a railroad and telegraph line through the lands of the Choctaw and Chickasaw Nations of Indians to the St. Louis and St. Francisco Ry. Co. and for other purposes.*
- 22 St. 181, Aug. 2, 1882, C 375—An act making appropriations for the construction, repair, and preservation of certain works on rivers and harbors, and for other purposes.
- 22 St. 219, Aug. 5, 1882, C 389—An act making appropriations for the legislative, executive, and judicial expenses of the Government for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1883, and for other purposes.
- 22 St. 237, Aug. 5, 1882, U 390—An act making appropriations to supply deficiencies in the appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1882, and for prior years, and for those so provided for by the accounting officers of the Treasury in accordance with sec 4 of the act of June 14, 1878, hereinafter paid from permanent appropriations, and for other purposes.*
- 22 St. 297, Aug. 5, 1882, C 392—An act authorizing the Secretary of the Interior to dispose of certain lands adjacent to the town of Paulden, in the State of Oregon, belonging to the Umatilla Indian Reservation, and for other purposes.
- 22 St. 299, Aug. 5, 1882, C 393—An act granting the right of way to the Arizona Southern R. Co. through the Puerco Indian Reservation, in Arizona.
- 22 St. 301, Aug. 7, 1882, U 432—An act to reimburse the Creek orphan fund.*
- 22 St. 302, Aug. 7, 1882, C 430—An act making appropriations for sundry civil expenses of the government for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1883, and for other purposes.*
- 22 St. 341, Aug. 7, 1882, C 434—An act to provide for the sale of a part of the reservation of the Ojibwa tribe of Indians in the State of Nebraska, and for other purposes.*
- 22 St. 345, Aug. 7, 1882, C 439—An act to authorize the auditing of certain unpaid claims against the Indian Bureau by the accounting officers of the Treasury.*
- 22 St. 351, Aug. 7, 1882, C 442—An act to authorize the manufacture of salt in the Indian Territory.*
- 22 St. 360, Aug. 7, 1882, C 448—An act to establish post-offices.
- 22 St. 373, Aug. 8, 1882, C 469—An act to amend sec 4760, tit. 1, 37, of the Rev Stat of the U S.
- 22 St. 395, Jan. 4, 1883, C 12—An act to reimburse the State of Oregon and State of California and the citizens thereof for moneys paid by said States in the suppression of Indian hostilities during the Modoc war in the years 1872 and 1873.
- 22 St. 400, Jan. 6, 1883, C 15—An act to provide for holding a term of the District Court of the United States, at Wichita, Kansas, and for other purposes.*
- 22 St. 432, Mar. 1, 1883, C 59—An act to authorize the Seneca Nation of Indians of the State of New York, to grant title to lands for cemetery purposes.*
- 22 St. 433, Mar. 1, 1883, C 61—An act making appropriations for the current and contingent expenses of the Indian Department, and for fulfilling treaty stipulations with various Indian tribes, for the year ending June 30, 1884, and for other purposes.*

* See 1 St. 187
 1-26 U S C 276
 22 St. 181, Aug. 3, 1882, C 371—An act to grant a right of way for a railroad and telegraph line through the lands of the Choctaw and Chickasaw Nations of Indians to the St. Louis and St. Francisco Ry. Co. and for other purposes.*

22 St. 181, Aug. 2, 1882, C 375—An act making appropriations for the construction, repair, and preservation of certain works on rivers and harbors, and for other purposes.*

22 St. 219, Aug. 5, 1882, C 389—An act making appropriations for the legislative, executive, and judicial expenses of the Government for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1883, and for other purposes.*

22 St. 237, Aug. 5, 1882, U 390—An act making appropriations to supply deficiencies in the appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1882, and for prior years, and for those so provided for by the accounting officers of the Treasury in accordance with sec 4 of the act of June 14, 1878, hereinafter paid from permanent appropriations, and for other purposes.*

22 St. 297, Aug. 5, 1882, C 392—An act authorizing the Secretary of the Interior to dispose of certain lands adjacent to the town of Paulden, in the State of Oregon, belonging to the Umatilla Indian Reservation, and for other purposes.*

22 St. 299, Aug. 5, 1882, C 393—An act granting the right of way to the Arizona Southern R. Co. through the Puerco Indian Reservation, in Arizona.

22 St. 301, Aug. 7, 1882, U 432—An act to reimburse the Creek orphan fund.*

22 St. 302, Aug. 7, 1882, C 430—An act making appropriations for sundry civil expenses of the government for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1883, and for other purposes.*

22 St. 341, Aug. 7, 1882, C 434—An act to provide for the sale of a part of the reservation of the Ojibwa tribe of Indians in the State of Nebraska, and for other purposes.*

22 St. 345, Aug. 7, 1882, C 439—An act to authorize the auditing of certain unpaid claims against the Indian Bureau by the accounting officers of the Treasury.*

22 St. 351, Aug. 7, 1882, C 442—An act to authorize the manufacture of salt in the Indian Territory.*

22 St. 360, Aug. 7, 1882, C 448—An act to establish post-offices.

22 St. 373, Aug. 8, 1882, C 469—An act to amend sec 4760, tit. 1, 37, of the Rev Stat of the U S.

22 St. 395, Jan. 4, 1883, C 12—An act to reimburse the State of Oregon and State of California and the citizens thereof for moneys paid by said States in the suppression of Indian hostilities during the Modoc war in the years 1872 and 1873.

22 St. 400, Jan. 6, 1883, C 15—An act to provide for holding a term of the District Court of the United States, at Wichita, Kansas, and for other purposes.*

22 St. 432, Mar. 1, 1883, C 59—An act to authorize the Seneca Nation of Indians of the State of New York, to grant title to lands for cemetery purposes.*

22 St. 433, Mar. 1, 1883, C 61—An act making appropriations for the current and contingent expenses of the Indian Department, and for fulfilling treaty stipulations with various Indian tribes, for the year ending June 30, 1884, and for other purposes.*

- for other purposes." Sec 1—p 46d. See Historical Note 25 U S C 105, p 465, 25 U S C 264.
- 21 St 500, Mar 3, 1887, C 365—An act making appropriations for sundry civil expenses of the government for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1888, and for other purposes.
- 21 St 545, Mar 3, 1887, C 369—An act granting to the Rocky Fork and Cooke City Ry Co the right of way through a part of the Crow Indian Reservation, in Montana Territory.
- 24 St 348, Mar 3, 1887, C 403—An act granting the Utah Midland Railway Company the right of way through the Uncompahgre and Uinta Reservations, in the Territory of Utah, and for other purposes.
- 24 St 501, Mar 3, 1887, C 402—An act making appropriations for the legislative, executive, and judicial expenses of the government for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1888, and for other purposes.
- 24 St 685, Mar 3, 1887, C 397—An act to amend an act entitled 'An act to amend sec 5302 of the Revised Statutes of the United States, in reference to burglary, and for other purposes,' approved March 22, 1882." Sec 1—28 U S C 633, Sec 2—28 U S C 600, Sec 3—18 U S C 619, Sec 4—48 U S C 1180a.
- 24 St 694, May 7, 1886, C 104—An act granting a pension to David McKinney.
- 24 St 730, May 8, 1886, C 275—An act for the relief of George A. Roberts.
- 24 St 730, May 8, 1886, C 276—An act granting a pension to Frederick North.
- 24 St 803, June 1, 1886, C 477—An act granting an increase of pension to Thomas Alcock.
- 24 St 828, July 3, 1886, C 630—An act for the relief of James M. Bacon.
- 24 St 845, July 6, 1886, C 604—An act granting a pension to Solomon Moser.
- 24 St 851, July 14, 1886, C 700—An act for the relief of J. M. Hiall, only surviving partner of Hiall and Company.
- 24 St 868, Aug 3, 1886, C 823—An act for the relief of Jacob Max.
- 24 St 879, Aug 4, 1886, C 822—An act for the relief of Mary B. Casey.
- 24 St 926, Mar 2, 1887, C 821—An act for the relief of Alpheus B. Smith.
- 24 St 929, Mar 3, 1887, C 400—An act for the relief of J. M. Hobbs.
- 24 St 930, Mar 3, 1887, C 446—An act for the relief of William M. Morrison.
- 25 St 70, Apr 4, 1888, C 50—An act to enable the Secretary of the Interior to pay certain creditors of the Fortwallonnes Indian, out of the funds of said Indians.
- 25 St 99, Apr 24, 1888, C 105—An act granting the right of way to the Duluth, Remy Lake River and Southwestern Ry Co through certain Indian lands in the State of Minnesota.
- 25 St 84, Apr 30, 1888, C 206—An act to divide a portion of the reservation of the Absaroka band of Indians in Dakota into separate reservations and to secure the relinquishment of the Indian title to the remainder.
- 25 St 113, May 1, 1888, C 216—An act to ratify and confirm an agreement with the Gros Ventre, Piegan, Blood, Blackfeet, and River Crow Indians in Montana, and for other purposes.
- 25 St 140, May 14, 1888, C 248—An act to grant a right of way to the Kansas City and Pacific Ry Co through the Indian Territory, and for other purposes.
- 25 St 150, May 25, 1888, C 256—An act for the relief of the Omaha tribe of Indians in Nebraska, to extend time of payment to purchasers of land of said Indians, and for other purposes.
- 25 St 167, May 24, 1888, C 310—An act to cede to the public domain a part of the Uintah Valley Indian Reservation, in the Territory of Utah, and for other purposes.
- 25 St 100, May 30, 1888, C 330—An act granting to the Washington and Idaho Ry Co the right of way through the Cocum Valley Indian Reservation.
- 25 St 162, May 30, 1888, C 337—An act to grant to the Fort Smith and El Paso Ry Co a right of way through the Indian Territory, and for other purposes.
- 25 St 186, June 4, 1888, C 340—An act to amend sec 5388 of the Revised Statutes of the United States, in relation to timber depredations." 18 U S C 101.
- 25 St 107, June 4, 1888, C 848—An act to authorize the United States marshals to arrest offenders and fugitives from justice in the Indian Territory." Sec 1—See Historical Note 25 U S C A 226.
- 25 St 107, June 4, 1888, C 444—An act granting to the Billings, Clark's Fork and Cooke City Ry Co the right of way through the Crow Indian Reservation.
- 25 St 169, June 4, 1888, C 347—An act granting to the Milwaukee, Lake Shore and Western Ry Co the right of way through the Lac du Flambeau Indian Reservation, in the State of Wisconsin.
- 25 St 121, June 9, 1888, C 852—An act for the protection of the officials of the United States in the Indian Territory.
- 25 St 184, June 18, 1888, C 800—An act to authorize the Fort Smith and Choctaw Bridge Co to construct a bridge across the Potomac River in the Choctaw Nation, near Fort Smith, Arkansas.
- 25 St 205, June 20, 1888, C 404—An act to authorize the Paris, Choctaw and Little Rock Ry Co to construct and operate a railway, telegraph and telephone line through the Indian Territory, and for other purposes.
- 25 St 217, June 20, 1888, C 508—An act not making appropriations for the current and contingent expenses of the Indian Department, and for fulfilling treaty stipulations with various Indian tribes, for the year ending June 30, 1889, and for other purposes." Sec 5—See Historical Note 25 U S C A 272.

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- 25 St 4, Feb 1, 1884, C 4—An act making appropriations to supply deficiencies in the appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1887, and for prior years, and for other purposes.
- 25 St 33, Feb 15, 1888, C 10—An act to punish robbery, burglary, and larceny, in the Indian Territory.
- 25 St 35, Feb 15, 1888, C 15—An act to authorize the Choctaw Coal and Ry Co to construct and operate a railway through the Indian Territory, and for other purposes.
- 25 St 47, Mar 30, 1888, C 47—An act to provide for return of the most recent deficiencies in the appropriations for the service of the Government for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1888, and for other purposes.

- 25 St 181, 619, 4 St 442, 7 St 95, 46, 71, 92, 85, 91, 96, 106, 115, 131, 170, 183, 191, 212, 236, 242, 257, 280, 317, 320, 340, 353, 425, 446, 541, 549, 574, 598, 607, 615, 642, 654, 666, 664, 10 St 1050, 1044, 1063, 1074, 1082, 1083, 1084, 1085, 1086, 1087, 1088, 1089, 1090, 1091, 1092, 1093, 1094, 1095, 1096, 1097, 1098, 1099, 1100, 1101, 1102, 1103, 1104, 1105, 1106, 1107, 1108, 1109, 1110, 1111, 1112, 1113, 1114, 1115, 1116, 1117, 1118, 1119, 1120, 1121, 1122, 1123, 1124, 1125, 1126, 1127, 1128, 1129, 1130, 1131, 1132, 1133, 1134, 1135, 1136, 1137, 1138, 1139, 1140, 1141, 1142, 1143, 1144, 1145, 1146, 1147, 1148, 1149, 1150, 1151, 1152, 1153, 1154, 1155, 1156, 1157, 1158, 1159, 1160, 1161, 1162, 1163, 1164, 1165, 1166, 1167, 1168, 1169, 1170, 1171, 1172, 1173, 1174, 1175, 1176, 1177, 1178, 1179, 1180, 1181, 1182, 1183, 1184, 1185, 1186, 1187, 1188, 1189, 1190, 1191, 1192, 1193, 1194, 1195, 1196, 1197, 1198, 1199, 1200, 1201, 1202, 1203, 1204, 1205, 1206, 1207, 1208, 1209, 1210, 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- the proceeds of the public lands to the more complete endowment and support of the colleges for the benefit of agriculture and the mechanic arts. Established under the provisions of an act of Congress approved July 2, 1882." Sec. 1—7 U S C 322, 323, Sec 6—7 U S C 323.
- 26 St 465, Sept 26, 1890, C 915—An act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to procure and submit to Congress a proposal on the sale to the United States of the western part of the Crow Indian Reservation, in Montana.
- 26 St 485, Sept 26, 1890, C 947—An act granting the right of way to the Hutchinson and Southern R. Co. to construct and operate a telegraph, and telephone line from the city of Anthony, in the State of Kansas, through the Indian Territory, to some point in the county of Grayson, in the State of Texas."
- 26 St 504, Sept 30, 1890, C 1126—An act making appropriations to supply deficiencies in the appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1890, and for prior years, and for other purposes."
- 26 St 522, Sept 30, 1890, C 1127—An act to provide for the sale of certain New York Indian lands in Kansas."
- 26 St 558, Sept 30, 1890, C 1132—An act to authorize the Seneca Nation of New York Indians to lease lands within the Cattaraugus and Allegany Reservations, and to continue existing leases."
- 26 St 597, Oct 1, 1890, C 1244—An act to reduce the revenue and equalize duties on imports, and for other purposes."
- 26 St 622, Oct 1, 1890, C 1248—An act granting the right of way to the Shumaker and Rochester Ry. Co. through the Indian Territory, and for other purposes."
- 26 St 636, Oct 1, 1890, C 1249—An act to refer to the Court of Claims certain claims of the Shawnee and Delaware Indians and the freedmen of the Cherokee Nation, and for other purposes."
- 26 St 640, Oct 1, 1890, C 1253—An act giving, upon conditions and limitations therein contained, the assent of the United States to certain leases of rights in mine coal in the Choctaw Nation."
- 26 St 652, Oct 1, 1890, C 1264—An act to recover certain lands to the county of Olinby, State of Nevada."
- 26 St 652, Oct 1, 1890, C 1265—An act to authorize the conveyance of certain Absentee Shawnee Indian lands in Kansas."
- 26 St 655, Oct 1, 1890, C 1269—An act to provide for railroad crossings in the Indian Territory."
- 26 St 668, Oct 1, 1890, C 1271—An act to provide for the reduction of the Horned Valley Indian Reservation in the State of California, and for other purposes."
- 26 St 669, Oct 1, 1890, C 1272—An act authorizing the Secretary of the Interior to ascertain damages resulting to any person who had settled upon the Crow Creek and Winnebago Reservations in South Dakota between February 27, 1886, and April 17, 1886."
- 26 St 690, Oct 1, 1890, C 1278—An act granting right of way to the Red Lake and Western Railway and Navigation Co. across Red Lake Reservation, in Minnesota, and granting said company the right to take lands for terminal railroad and warehouse purposes."
- 26 St 691, Oct 1, 1890, C 1274—An act to extend and amend An act to authorize the Fort Worth and Denver City Ry. Co. to construct and operate a railway through the Indian Territory, and for other purposes."
- 26 St 661, Oct 1, 1890, C 1275—An act granting to the Northern Pacific and Yakima Irrigation Co. a light of way through the Yakima Indian Reservation in Washington."
- 26 St 693, Oct 1, 1890, C 1277—An act granting to the Now-
- port and King's Valley R. Co. the right of way through the Shoshone Indian Reservation."
- 26 St 694, Oct 1, 1890, C 1278—An act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to convey to the Rio Grande Junction Ry. Co. certain lands in the State of Colorado in lieu of certain other lands in and State conveyed by the said company to the United States."
- 26 St 699, Feb 11, 1890, J R 9 No 0—Joint resolution for the relief of certain Olipheo Indians of the La Poudre Agency, Wisconsin."
- 26 St 699, Sept 26, 1890, J Res No 62—Joint resolution authorizing the transfer of certain appropriations for the Indian Service, on the books of the Treasury."
- 26 St 712, Jan 12, 1891, C 65—An act for the relief of the Mission Indians in the State of California."
- 26 St 720, Jan 19, 1891, C 77—An act to enable the Secretary of the Interior to carry out, in part, the provisions of 'An act to divide a portion of the reservation of the Sioux Nation of Indians in Dakota into separate reservations, and to secure the relinquishment of the Indian title to the remainder, and for other purposes,' approved March 2, 1889, and making appropriations for the same and for other purposes."
- 26 St 745, Feb 10, 1891, C 120—An act granting to the Umatilla Irrigation Co. a right of way through the Umatilla Indian Reservation in the State of Oregon."
- 26 St 749, Feb 13, 1891, C 150—An act to ratify and confirm agreements with the Sac and Fox Nation of Indians, and the Iowa tribe of Indians, of Oklahoma Territory, and to make appropriations for carrying out the same."
- 26 St 764, Feb 16, 1891, C 240—An act for the construction and completion of suitable school buildings for Indian industrial schools in Wisconsin and other States."
- 26 St 765, Feb 27, 1891, C 240—An act to amend and authorize the Choctaw and Creek and Ry. Co. to construct road through Indian Territory."
- 26 St 770, Feb 24, 1891, C 281—An act making appropriations for the support of the Army for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1892, and for other purposes."
- 26 St 785, Feb 24, 1891, C 289—An act to authorize the Kansas and Arkansas Valley Railway to construct and operate additional lines of railway through the Indian Territory, and for other purposes."
- 26 St 794, Feb 25, 1891, C 383—An act to amend and further extend the benefits of the act approved February 5, 1887, entitled "An act to provide for the allotment of land in severalty to Indians on the various reservations, and to extend the protection of the laws of the United States over the Indians, and for other purposes." Sec 5—25 U S C 307, Sec 4—25 U S C 380 (38 St 880, sec 17), "Sec 5—
- "§ 27 St 61, 32 St 822, 46 St 1201, 44 St 1001, 46 St 1622, 48 St 1001, 49 St 890, 50 St 890, 51 St 890, 52 St 890, 53 St 890, 54 St 890, 55 St 890, 56 St 890, 57 St 890, 58 St 890, 59 St 890, 60 St 890, 61 St 890, 62 St 890, 63 St 890, 64 St 890, 65 St 890, 66 St 890, 67 St 890, 68 St 890, 69 St 890, 70 St 890, 71 St 890, 72 St 890, 73 St 890, 74 St 890, 75 St 890, 76 St 890, 77 St 890, 78 St 890, 79 St 890, 80 St 890, 81 St 890, 82 St 890, 83 St 890, 84 St 890, 85 St 890, 86 St 890, 87 St 890, 88 St 890, 89 St 890, 90 St 890, 91 St 890, 92 St 890, 93 St 890, 94 St 890, 95 St 890, 96 St 890, 97 St 890, 98 St 890, 99 St 890, 100 St 890, 101 St 890, 102 St 890, 103 St 890, 104 St 890, 105 St 890, 106 St 890, 107 St 890, 108 St 890, 109 St 890, 110 St 890, 111 St 890, 112 St 890, 113 St 890, 114 St 890, 115 St 890, 116 St 890, 117 St 890, 118 St 890, 119 St 890, 120 St 890, 121 St 890, 122 St 890, 123 St 890, 124 St 890, 125 St 890, 126 St 890, 127 St 890, 128 St 890, 129 St 890, 130 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- 26 St 1161, May 24, 1890, C 410—An act to pension Samuel Wyck for service in the Indian War
- 26 St 1163, May 24, 1890, C 411—An act to pension William J. Dunn for service in the Indian War
- 26 St 1163, May 24, 1890, C 412—An act to pension William B. Carter for service in the Indian War
- 26 St 1163, May 24, 1890, C 413—An act to pension Mary T. Mann, widow of John W. Mann, who served in the Indian War
- 26 St 1164, May 24, 1890, C 410—An act to pension Christina Nelson for meritorious services rendered the Government during the Indian wars in the Oregon Territory, now the State of Oregon
- 26 St 1164, May 24, 1890, C 415—An act to pension William G. Hill
- 26 St 1167, May 24, 1890, C 412—An act to pension Thomas K. Edwards for service in the Indian War
- 26 St 1166, May 24, 1890, C 413—An act to grant a pension to Faidah Buton
- 26 St 1166, May 24, 1890, C 414—An act to grant a pension to Samuel D. Cook
- 26 St 1166, May 24, 1890, C 415—An act to grant a pension to John Green Reed
- 26 St 1166, May 24, 1890, C 417—An act to increase the pension of Stephen Clemen
- 26 St 1171, May 24, 1890, C 413—An act granting a pension to Jonathan Hayes
- 26 St 1172, May 24, 1890, C 410—An act to pension Bartola Chehant, a soldier in the Florida Seminole Indian war of 1849 and 1850
- 26 St 1181, June 20, 1890, C 476—An act granting a pension to William Crawford
- 26 St 1182, June 20, 1890, C 468—An act granting a pension to William H. Chabney
- 26 St 1184, June 20, 1890, C 468—An act to increase the pension of George C. Quick
- 26 St 1187, June 21, 1890, C 536—An act for the relief of Isabel Hickey
- 26 St 1198, June 21, 1890, C 530—An act to grant a pension to Elizabeth T. Hunt
- 26 St 1207, June 24, 1890, C 577—An act granting a pension to Joseph Morris
- 26 St 1211, June 24, 1890, C 608—An act to pension James T. Fowler for service in the Indian war
- 26 St 1227, Aug. 13, 1890, C 731—An act granting a pension to Thompson N. Stratham
- 26 St 1227, Aug. 13, 1890, C 731—An act to pension George W. Scott for service in the Florida war
- 26 St 1228, Aug. 15, 1890, C 741—An act granting a pension to Mrs. Christina Frederika Zentmeyer, of Bushfield, Minnesota
- 26 St 1231, Aug. 15, 1890, C 774—An act granting a pension to A. B. Beeve
- 26 St 1231, Aug. 15, 1890, C 774—An act granting a pension to Mrs. M. M. Boyle
- 26 St 1232, Aug. 15, 1890, C 779—An act granting a pension to Mrs. Martha E. Grant
- 26 St 1233, Aug. 15, 1890, C 707—An act granting a pension to Oran M. Collinsworth
- 26 St 1248, Aug. 23, 1890, C 813—An act granting a pension to G. L. Dresser
- 26 St 1248, Sept. 2, 1890, C 859—An act granting a pension to John L. Russell
- 26 St 1249, Sept. 2, 1890, C 805—An act granting a pension to Mary E. Greening, widow of Orlando A. Greening, who served in the Indian war
- 26 St 1275, Sept. 27, 1890, C 1023—An act to pension Steve Keener, widow of Tillman B. Keener, deceased, who served in the Indian war
- 26 St 1275, Sept. 27, 1890, C 1023—An act to pension Mathew Lambert for service in the Indian war
- 26 St 1276, Sept. 27, 1890, C 1032—An act to grant a pension to James Kneisan
- 26 St 1286, Sept. 26, 1890, C 1093—An act to pension Gabriel Stephens
- 26 St 1297, Sept. 30, 1890, C 1163—An act granting a pension to Calvin Gunt
- 26 St 1298, Sept. 30, 1890, C 1168—An act granting a pension to Thompson Riley
- 26 St 1311, Sept. 30, 1890, C 1231—An act to increase of pension to Mrs. Mary B. Cushing
- 26 St 1316, Oct. 1, 1890, C 1304—An act granting a pension to Samuel S. Humphreys
- 26 St 1317, Oct. 1, 1890, C 1305—An act granting a pension to Asa Jones
- 26 St 1330, Dec. 16, 1890, C 21—An act to pension John D. Hickey
- 26 St 1332, Jan. 6, 1891, C 57—An act granting a pension to B. S. Bann
- 26 St 1333, Jan. 6, 1891, C 76—An act granting a pension to Robert A. England
- 26 St 1343, Jan. 6, 1891, C 57—An act to pension Carroll Reed
- 26 St 1343, Jan. 6, 1891, C 58—An act to pension Willis Brooks
- 26 St 1350, Jan. 21, 1891, C 90—An act granting a pension to Mrs. J. J. Baldy, widow of W. H. Baldy
- 26 St 1352, Feb. 12, 1891, C 142—An act granting a pension to Nancy Haxley
- 26 St 1353, Feb. 11, 1891, C 222—An act to pension Walker H. Fowley for service in the Indian war
- 26 St 1353, Feb. 14, 1891, C 225—An act to pension Thomas Gorman
- 26 St 1359, Feb. 14, 1891, C 226—An act to pension William A. Todd
- 26 St 1359, Feb. 14, 1891, C 227—An act to pension Sarah Thomson
- 26 St 1359, Feb. 23, 1891, C 267—An act granting a pension to Levi Danley
- 26 St 1371, Feb. 23, 1891, C 277—An act granting a pension to Nathan C. Moore
- 26 St 1377, Feb. 23, 1891, C 314—An act granting a pension to Mrs. J. W. Griffith
- 26 St 1378, Feb. 25, 1891, C 319—An act granting a pension to Mrs. Lydia N. Atkinson
- 26 St 1378, Feb. 25, 1891, C 320—An act granting a pension to Mrs. Matilda Kent
- 26 St 1379, Feb. 25, 1891, C 322—An act granting a pension to Mrs. Mary B. Floyd
- 26 St 1379, Feb. 25, 1891, C 323—An act granting a pension to William C. Williams
- 26 St 1383, Feb. 27, 1891, C 351—An act granting a pension to William C. Young
- 26 St 1387, Feb. 27, 1891, C 357—An act granting a pension to Joel Hendricks
- 26 St 1387, Feb. 27, 1891, C 358—An act granting a pension to Elizabeth P. Salterfield
- 26 St 1389, Feb. 27, 1891, C 368—An act granting a pension to Marcellus A. Stovall
- 26 St 1391, Feb. 27, 1891, C 380—An act to grant a pension to Margaret Hawken
- 26 St 1397, Feb. 28, 1891, C 412—An act granting a pension to Andrew I. Wallace
- 26 St 1398, Feb. 28, 1891, C 416—An act granting a pension to Lucien Francis Lambert
- 26 St 1400, Feb. 28, 1891, C 423—An act granting a pension to Catherine McRoberts
- 26 St 1401, Feb. 28, 1891, C 423—An act granting a pension to Elizabeth Scott
- 26 St 1401, Feb. 28, 1891, C 430—An act granting a pension to Mrs. Nancy Springue
- 26 St 1407, Feb. 28, 1891, C 461—An act to grant a pension to Mrs. B. D. Dudge
- 26 St 1408, Feb. 28, 1891, C 462—An act to grant a pension to Martha Tenney, widow of James H. Tenney, of Captain Griffin's company, First Illinois, Black Hawk war
- 26 St 1409, Feb. 28, 1891, C 467—An act to grant a pension to Nancy P. Green
- 26 St 1411, Feb. 28, 1891, C 490—An act granting a pension to Henry Alborn
- 26 St 1414, Feb. 28, 1891, C 489—An act for the relief of A. J. McCreary, administrator of the estate of J. M. Hunt, deceased, and for other purposes
- 26 St 1415, Mar. 2, 1891, C 504—An act granting a pension to Cynthia M. West
- 26 St 1417, Mar. 2, 1891, C 514—An act to grant a pension to Mary C. Hoffman, widow of General William Hoffman
- 26 St 1417, Mar. 2, 1891, C 515—An act to grant a pension to Nancy Jane Kneisan, of Moline, Illinois
- 26 St 1430, Mar. 5, 1891, C 579—An act granting a pension to Nancy H. Ellis

for sundry civil expenses of the Government for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1894, and for other purposes.

27 St 404, Apr 6, 1892, C 165, No 6—Joint resolution carrying article ten of the agreement with the Citizen Band of Potawatamie Indians in Oklahoma Territory and elsewhere.

27 St 417, Jan 12, 1893, C 32—An act granting to the Blue Mountain Irrigation and Improvement Co a right of way for its reservoir and canal through the Umatilla Indian Reservation in the State of Oregon.

27 St 420, Jan 20, 1894, C 7—An act granting to the Yuma Pumping Irrigation Co the right of way for two ditches across that part of the Yuma Indian Reservation lying in Arizona.

27 St 425, Jan 28, 1893, C 52—An act to authorize the Court of Claims to hear and determine the claims of certain New York Indians against the United States.

27 St 429, Feb 3, 1893, C 78—An act relating to proof of citizenship of applicant for Indian-war pensions under the act of Congress approved July 27, 1892.

27 St 450, Feb 15, 1893, C 120—An act granting right of way to the Colorado River Irrigation Co through the Yuma Indian Reservation in California.

27 St 466, Feb 20, 1893, C 144—An act to grant to the Gainesville, Oklahoma and Gulf Ry Co a right of way through the Indian Territory, and for other purposes.

27 St 480, Feb 20, 1893, C 145—An act to ratify and confirm agreement between the Puyallup Indians and the Northern Pacific R Co for right of way through the Puyallup Indian Reservation.

27 St 460, Feb 20, 1893, C 147—An act to restore to the public domain a portion of the White Mountain Apache Indian Reservation, in the Territory of Arizona, and for other purposes.

27 St 470, Feb 20, 1893, C 148—An act to ratify and confirm an agreement made by the Seneca Nation of Indians and William B Baker.

27 St 473, Feb 28, 1893, C 164—An act to provide for the publication of the Eleventh Census.

27 St 478, Feb 27, 1893, C 168—An act making appropriations for the support of the Army for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1894, and for other purposes.

27 St 487, Feb 27, 1893, C 168—An act to authorize the Kansas City, Pittsburg and Gulf R Co to construct and operate a railroad, telegraph, and telephone line through the Indian Territory, and for other purposes.

27 St 492, Feb 27, 1893, C 171—An act to grant to the Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific Ry Co a right of way through the Indian Territory, and for other purposes.

27 St 495, Feb 28, 1893, C 176—An act granting to the Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific Ry Co the use of certain lands at Chickasha Station, and for a "Y" in the Chickasha Nation, Indian Territory.

27 St 523, Mar 1, 1893, C 187—An act making appropriations for the payment of invalid and other pensions of the United States for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1894, and for other purposes.

27 St 524, Mar 1, 1893, C 188—An act to grant to the Gainesville, McCallister and St Louis Ry Co a right of way through the Indian Territory, and for other purposes.

27 St 530, Mar 1, 1893, C 192—An act extending the time for the construction of the Big Horn Southern Railroad through the Crow Indian Reservation.

27 St 557, Mar 3, 1893, C 203—An act to ratify and confirm an agreement with the Kickapoo Indians in Oklahoma Territory, and to make appropriations for carrying the same into effect.

27 St 587, Mar 3, 1893, C 203—An act to ratify and confirm an agreement with the Kickapoo Indians in Oklahoma Territory, and to make appropriations for carrying the same into effect.

27 St 587, Mar 3, 1893, C 203—An act to ratify and confirm an agreement with the Kickapoo Indians in Oklahoma Territory, and to make appropriations for carrying the same into effect.

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27 St 587, Mar 3, 1893, C 203—An act to ratify and confirm an agreement with the Kickapoo Indians in Oklahoma Territory, and to make appropriations for carrying the same into effect.

27 St 587, Mar 3, 1893, C 203—An act to ratify and confirm an agreement with the Kickapoo Indians in Oklahoma Territory, and to make appropriations for carrying the same into effect.

27 St 587, Mar 3, 1893, C 203—An act to ratify and confirm an agreement with the Kickapoo Indians in Oklahoma Territory, and to make appropriations for carrying the same into effect.

27 St 587, Mar 3, 1893, C 203—An act to ratify and confirm an agreement with the Kickapoo Indians in Oklahoma Territory, and to make appropriations for carrying the same into effect.

27 St 608, Mar 3, 1893, C 205—An act to provide for the adjustment of certain sales of lands in the late reclamation of the undivided Osee and Moxon tribes of Indians in the States of Nebraska and Kansas.

27 St 672, Mar 8, 1893, C 208—An act making appropriations for sundry civil expenses of the Government for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1894, and for other purposes.

27 St 672, Mar 8, 1893, C 209—An act making appropriations for current and contingent expenses, and fulfilling treaty stipulations with Indian tribes, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1894.

27 St 672, Mar 8, 1893, C 210—An act making appropriations to supply deficiencies in the appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1893, and for other purposes.

27 St 672, Mar 8, 1893, C 211—An act making appropriations for the legislative, executive, and judicial expenses of the Government for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1894, and for other purposes.

27 St 744, Mar 8, 1893, C 219—An act for the relief of the Stockbridge and Muncie tribe of Indians, in the State of Wisconsin.

27 St 747, Mar 8, 1893, C 224—An act to authorize the Inter-Oceanic Ry Co to construct and operate railway, telegraph, and telephone line through the Indian Territory.

27 St 753, Jan 18, 1893, J Res No 7—Joint resolution to authorize the Secretary of the Treasury to cover back into the Treasury \$48,000 of the appropriation to Chocoma and Chickawa Indians.

27 St 768, June 9, 1892, C 111—An act for the relief of the estate of John W Whitfield, land register of the land office in the Delaware land district of Kansas.

27 St 769, June 17, 1892, C 121—An act to pension Elizabeth B. Crawford, widow of O A Crawford, soldier in Creek war of 1836.

27 St 772, July 13, 1892, C 167—An act granting a pension to Eliza M Bottigert, the surviving widow of Alexander M Bottigert, who was a soldier in the Black Hawk war.

27 St 778, July 14, 1892, C 178—An act to pension Andrew J Jones, for services in the Indian wars.

27 St 778, July 14, 1892, C 180—An act granting a pension to William S Woodward.

27 St 774, July 14, 1892, C 182—An act granting a pension to Noah Staley.

27 St 774, July 14, 1892, C 182—An act granting a pension to Noah Staley.

27 St 774, July 14, 1892, C 182—An act granting a pension to Noah Staley.

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27 St 774, July 14, 1892, C 182—An act granting a pension to Noah Staley.

27 St 774, July 14, 1892, C 182—An act granting a pension to Noah Staley.

- 27 St 774; July 14, 1892, C 193—An act granting a pension to James A. Davis
- 27 St 774, July 14, 1892, C 194—An act granting a pension to Harrison H. McElvery
- 27 St 775, July 14, 1892, C 195—An act granting a pension to David C. Barrow
- 27 St 775, July 14, 1892, C 196—An act granting a pension to Mary Collins
- 27 St 776, July 14, 1892, C 197—An act for the relief of Frederick Meredith, late a soldier in the Indian war of 1842
- 27 St 779; July 29, 1892, C 201—An act for the relief of Mrs. Sarah J. Weaver
- 27 St 783; July 23, 1892, C 245—An act granting a pension to Joseph J. Camberly
- 27 St 788, July 27, 1892, C 287—An act to increase the pension of John D. Frator
- 27 St 788; July 27, 1892, C 288—An act to pension Remond Ruck
- 27 St 788, July 27, 1892, C 290—An act to pension Nancy Campbell
- 27 St 791, July 27, 1892, C 292—An act granting relief to Jeremiah White, of Osage Co., Kansas
- 27 St 791, July 27, 1892, C 293—An act granting a pension to James Smith
- 27 St 791, July 30, 1892, C 295—An act granting a pension to John Messer
- 27 St 791, July 30, 1892, C 297—An act granting a pension to Stark Frazer
- 27 St 793, July 30, 1892, C 312—An act granting a pension to James W. Kistley
- 27 St 797, July 30, 1892, C 340—An act granting a pension to Susannah Davis
- 27 St 797, July 30, 1892, C 347—An act granting a pension to Henry J. Alvis
- 27 St 802; Aug. 5, 1892, C 377—An act granting a pension to Ellen Carpenter
- 27 St 804; Aug. 5, 1892, C 378—An act granting a pension to W. W. Hallise
- 27 St 804; Aug. 5, 1892, C 384—An act granting a pension to John A. Dean
- 27 St 810, Dec. 19, 1892, C 5—An act granting a pension to Toddy, chief of the Bannocks, Shoshones, and Shierpeters tribe of Indians
- 27 St 817; Feb. 11, 1893, C 87—An act granting a pension to Abraham B. Summons, of Captain Thomas Tripp's company, in Colonel Brisbane's regiment, South Carolina Volunteers, in the Florida Indian war
- 27 St 817; Feb. 11, 1893, C 88—An act to pension Susan S. Murphy
- 27 St 824; Feb. 27, 1893, C 174—An act granting a pension to Jesse Cleveland
- 27 St 831; Mar. 3, 1893, C 293—An act for the relief of Lemie G. Sanderson, of Craighead County, Arkansas
- 27 St 952; Apr. 18, 1892—Convention—Great Britain,

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- 28 St. 3, Oct. 20, 1893, C 5—An Act Granting settlers on certain lands in Oklahoma Territory the right to commute their homestead entries, and for other purposes
- 28 St. 4, Nov. 1, 1893, C 7—An Act To amend section six of the act approved March 8, 1891, entitled "An Act to repeal timber culture laws, and for other purposes"
- 28 St. 4, Nov. 4, 1893, C 10—An Act To provide for the time and place of holding the terms of the United States circuit and district courts in the State of South Dakota
- 28 St. 6, Nov. 3, 1893, C 16—An Act To regulate the fees of the clerk of the United States Court for the Indian Territory
- 28 St. 12; Oct. 14, 1893, J. Res. No. 9—Joint Resolution Authorizing the State of Wisconsin to place in Statutory Hall in the Capitol the statue of Pere Marquette
- 28 St. 16; Dec. 21, 1893, C 3—An Act Making appropriations to supply further urgent deficiencies in the appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1894, and for prior years, and for other purposes
- 28 St. 22, Dec. 21, 1893, C. 9—An Act To grant the right of way to the Kansas, Oklahoma Central and Southwestern Ry. Co. through the Indian Territory and Oklahoma Territory, and for other purposes
- 28 St. 27, Jan. 22, 1894, C 14—An Act To extend the time for the construction of the railway of the Choctaw Coal and Ry. Co.
- 28 St. 37, Feb. 9, 1894, C 26—An Act Extending the time allowed the Umatilla Irrigation Co. for the construction of its ditch across the Umatilla Indian Reservation, in the State of Oregon
- 28 St. 41, Mar. 12, 1894; C 37—An Act Making appropriations to supply further urgent deficiencies in the appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1894, and for prior years, and for other purposes
- 28 St. 47, Mar. 29, 1894, C 40—An Act To regulate the making of property returns by officers of the Government. Sec. 1-31 U. S. C. 89, Sec. 2-31 U. S. C. 90, Sec. 3-31 U. S. C. 91, Sec. 4-31 U. S. C. 92
- 28 St. 53, Apr. 21, 1894, C 61—An Act To provide for further urgent deficiencies in the appropriations for the service of the Government for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1894, and for other purposes
- 28 St. 71; May 4, 1894; C 69—An Act To ratify the reservation of certain lands made for the benefit of Oklahoma Territory, and for other purposes
- 28 St. 72, May 7, 1894, C 69—An Act To authorize the reconstruction of a bridge across the Niobrara River near the village of Niobrara, Nebraska, and making an appropriation therefor
- 28 St. 84, May 30, 1894, C 80—An Act To amend an Act entitled "An Act to provide for the sale of the remainder of the reservation of the Confederate Oite and Missouri Indians in the States of Nebraska and Kansas, and for other purposes," approved March 3, 1881
- 28 St. 86; June 6, 1894, C 68—An Act Defining and permanently fixing the northern boundary line of the Warm Springs Indian Reservation, in the State of Oregon
- 28 St. 90, June 6, 1894; C 94—An Act To extend and amend an Act entitled "An Act to authorize the Kansas and Arkansas Valley Railway to construct and operate additional lines of railway through the Indian Territory, and for other purposes," approved February 24, 1891
- 28 St. 97; June 6, 1894, C 95—An Act Granting the right of way to the Albany and Astoria R. Co. through the Grand Ronde Indian Reservation, in the State of Oregon
- 28 St. 97, June 27, 1894, C 117—An Act Granting to the Eastern Nebraska and Gulf Ry. Co. right of way through the Omaha and Winnebago Indian reservations, in the State of Nebraska
- 28 St. 99; July 6, 1894, C 125—An Act Granting to the Brainerd and Northern Minnesota Ry. Co. a right of way through the Levee Lake Indian Reservation in the State of Minnesota
- 28 St. 103, July 16, 1894; C 130—An Act To authorize the construction of a wagon and foot bridge across the South, or Main, Canadian River at or near the town of Noble, in Oklahoma Territory
- 28 St. 107; July 16, 1894; C 138—An Act To enable the people of Utah to form a constitution and State government, and to be admitted into the Union on an equal footing with the original States
- 28 St. 112; July 13, 1894, C 140—An Act Granting to the Saint Paul, Minneapolis and Manitoba Ry. Co. the right of way through the White Earth, Levee Lake, Chippewa, and Fond du Lac Indian reservations in the State of Minnesota
- 28 St. 113, July 18, 1894, C 141—An Act Making appropriations for the payment of unpaid and other pensions of the United States for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1895, and for other purposes
- 28 St. 118; July 23, 1894; C 152—An Act Granting to the Columbia Irrigation Company a right of way through the Yakima Indian Reservation, in Washington
- 28 St. 132; July 31, 1894; C 174—An Act Making appropriations for the legislative, executive, and judicial expenses of the Government for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1895, and for other purposes. Sec. 8, p. 205-25 U. S. C. 95 (15 St. 400,

¹ *Re. 26 St. 699* & *28 St. 870*

² *Id. 26 St. 1096*

³ *Re. 1 St. 157*, A. 20 St. 520; 30 St. 844

⁴ *Re. 1 St. 137*; 25 St. 38; 26 St. 968. *Id. 28 St. 705*. *Id. Choctaw & Ind. T. 515*, Choctaw, A. & G. R. R., 266 U. S. 551; U. S. ex rel. *South. P. Ore.*

⁵ *Re. 28 St. 340*. *Id. 26 St. 745*

⁶ *Id. 21 St. 880*

⁷ *Re. 15 St. 988*; 28 St. 355 & 48 St. 1033

⁸ *Re. 1 St. 157*, *Id. 26 St. 788*

⁹ *Id. 20 St. 613*

¹⁰ *Id. 47 St. 1418*

¹¹ *Id. 50 St. 821*, 30 St. 571

- see 7, 42 St 21 sec 304. See Historical Note 26 U S C A 96. See 4, p 200-22 U S C 17 131, 132, sec 3, 34 St 326, 42 St 24, sec 401. See 7, p 206-25 U S C 96 (See sec 110 above.)
- 28 St 215, Aug 1, 1894. C 170—An Act to regulate enlistment, in the Army of the United States.
- 28 St 220, Aug 4, 1894. C 215—An Act To grant to the Arkansas, Texas and Mexican Central Ry Co a right of way through the Indian Territory, and for other purposes.
- 28 St 234, Aug 6, 1894. C 228—An Act Making appropriations for the support of the Army for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1895, and for other purposes.
- 28 St 235, Aug 8, 1894. C 236—An Act To require railroad companies operating railroads in the Territories over a right of way granted by the Government to establish stations and depots at all towns and on the line of said roads established by the Indian Department.
- 28 St 270, Aug 11, 1894. C 235—An Act Extending the time of payment to purchasers of lands of the Omaha tribe of Indians in Nebraska, and for other purposes.
- 28 St 289, Aug 15, 1894. C 290—An Act Making appropriations for current and contingent expenses of the Indian Department and fulfilling treaty stipulations with various Indian tribes for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1895, and for other purposes. See 1, p 205-25 U S C 945 (35 St 700, sec 1, 84 St 1107, sec 201). USIA Historical Note This section (345) was derived from sec 1041, as amended by U S 81 700, sec 1, entitled, "An Act Amending the Act of August 15, 1894, entitled 'An Act' etc." The derivative section, as originally enacted, did not contain the provision in parentheses, now found in the code section, the amendment consisting in inserting this provision. In the Code section the word "district" was substituted wherever the word "country" was found in the original derivative section because of the abolition of the circuit courts and the transfer of their jurisdiction to the district courts by 38 St 1167, and the words in the code section "held Aug 15, 1894" just before the words "the Five Civilized Tribes" were substituted for the words "now held" in the original derivative section. See 1, p 805-25 U S C 402. See 1, p 311-25 U S C 251, Sec 4—25 U S C 99, Sec 10—25 U S C 104 (See 23 U S C 472). See 11-25 U S C 238 (28 St 60, sec 1).
- 28 St 372, Aug 18, 1894. C 301—An Act Making appropriations for sundry civil expenses of the Government for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1895, and for other purposes.
- 28 St 423, Aug 24, 1894. C 307—An Act Making appropriations to supply deficiencies in the appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1894, and for prior years, and for other purposes.
- 28 St 489, Aug 28, 1894. C 311—An Act Granting to the Northern Mississippi Ry Co right of way through certain Indian reservations in Minnesota.
- 28 St 532, Aug 24, 1894. C 330—An Act To authorize purchasers of the property and franchises of the Choctaw Coal and Ry Co to organize a corporation and to confer upon the same all the powers, privileges, and franchises vested in that company.
- 28 St 504, Aug 27, 1894. C 342—An Act Granting to the Duluth and Winnipeg R Co a right of way through the Chippewa and White Earth Indian reservations in the State of Minnesota.
- 28 St 505, Aug 27, 1894. C 343—An Act To amend an Act entitled "An Act to amend an Act entitled 'An Act granting the right of way to the Hutchinson and Southern R Co through the Indian Territory'."
- 28 St 507, Aug 27, 1894. C 348—An Act Authorizing the issue of a patent to the Presbyterian Board of Home Missions for certain lands on the Omaha Indian reservation for school purposes.
- 28 St 509, Aug 27, 1894. C 349—An Act To reduce taxation, to provide revenue for the Government, and for other purposes.
- 28 St 576, Dec 18, 1895. J Res No 3—Joint Resolution in the protection of those States who have been or hereafter may be made entitled to lands within the former Little Rock Indian Reservation in Minnesota.
- 28 St 679, Mar 31, 1894. J Res No 10—Joint Resolution Authorizing and directing the Secretary of the Treasury to procure at the sub-treasury in the city of New York from R T. Wilson and Company, as assign, the money amounting to \$6,740,000, to be paid to the Choctaw Nation, and to place the same to the credit of the Choctaw Nation.
- 28 St 520, Apr 2, 1894. J Res No 11—Joint Resolution Authorizing the Secretary of the Interior to cause the settlement of the accounts of Special Agents Moore and Woodson, under the treaty of 1864, with the Delaware Indians, and so forth.
- 28 St 680, Aug 8, 1894. J Res No 42—Joint Resolution Authorizing proper officers of the Treasury Department to examine and certify claims in favor of certain counties in Arizona.
- 28 St 682, Aug 28, 1894. J Res No 63—Joint Resolution To change the initials of a name in the Indian appropriation bill.
- 28 St 564, Dec 13, 1894. C 8—An Act To provide for the location and satisfaction of outstanding military bounty land warrants and certificates of location under section three of the Act approved June 2, 1893.
- 28 St 635, Jan 21, 1895. C 87—An Act To permit the use of the right of way through the public lands for trails, roads, and other purposes, and for other purposes. 43 U S C 969.
- 28 St 641, Jan 20, 1895. C 50—An Act Authorizing the Secretary of the Interior to correct errors where double allotments of land have erroneously been made to an Indian, to cancel entries in patents, and for other purposes. 23 U S C 943 (33 St 297). U S C A Historical Note The derivative act originally contained the provisions set forth in the Code section down to and including the words "ought to be cancelled" and error in the issue thereof," followed by a clause, "or for the best interests of the Indian," and the further clause set forth here, "and, if possession of the original patent cannot be obtained, such cancellation shall be effective if made upon the records of the General Land

28 St 41 St 1077

28 St 41 St 1077

28 St 41 St 1077

28 St 41 St 1077

28 St 41 St 1077

28 St 41 St 1077

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28 St 41 St 1077

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28 St 41 St 1077

28 St 41 St 1077

28 St 41 St 1077

28 St 41 St 1077

28 St 41 St 1077

- Office," ending with a provision, "and no proclamation shall be necessary to open the lands so allotted to settlement." The amendment by said act of 1904 consisted in striking said clause, "for the best interests of the Indian," in changing said last clause to read, "and no proclamation shall be necessary to open to settlement the lands to which such an erroneous allotment patent has been cancelled, provided such lands would otherwise be subject to entry," and in adding the two provisions, to read substantially as set forth here.
- 28 St. 653; Feb. 12, 1895; C 81—An Act Granting right of way to the Forest City and Sioux City R. Co. through the Sioux Indian Reservation.
- 28 St. 654; Feb. 12, 1895; C 88—An Act Making appropriations for the support of the Army for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1896, and for other purposes.
- 28 St. 655; Feb. 18, 1895; C 145—An Act Granting to the Glac Valley, Globe and Northern R. Co. a right of way through the San Carlos Indian Reservation in the Territory of Arizona.
- 28 St. 677; Feb. 20, 1895; C 113—An Act To disapprove the treaty heretofore made with the Southern Ute Indians to be removed to the Territory of Utah, and providing for setting them down in severalty where they may so elect and are qualified, and to settle all those not choosing to take lands in severalty on the west, forty miles of present reservation and in portions of New Mexico, and for other purposes, and to carry out the provisions of the treaty with said Indians June 30, 1890.
- 28 St. 679; Feb. 20, 1895; C 114—An Act For the relief of certain Winnebago Indians in Minnesota.
- 28 St. 683; Mar. 1, 1895; C 146—An Act To provide for the appointment of additional judges of the United States court in the Indian Territory, and for other purposes. Sec. 8.—25 U. S. C. 244a.
- 28 St. 703; Mar. 2, 1895; C 181—An Act Making appropriations for the payment of invalid and other pensions of the United States for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1896, and for other purposes.
- 28 St. 744; Mar. 2, 1895; C 175—An Act To amend sec. 9 of an Act entitled "An Act to authorize the Kansas City, Pittsburg and Gulf R. Co. to construct and operate a railroad, telegraph, and telephone line through the Indian Territory, and for other purposes."
- 28 St. 764; Mar. 2, 1895; C 177—An Act Making appropriations for the legislative, executive, and judicial expenses of the Government for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1896, and for other purposes.
- 28 St. 848; Mar. 2, 1895; C 187—An Act Making appropriations to supply deficiencies in the appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1895, and for prior years, and for other purposes.
- 28 St. 870; Mar. 2, 1895; C 188—An Act Making appropriations for current and contingent expenses of the Indian Department and fulfilling treaty stipulations with various Indian tribes for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1896, and for other purposes. Sec. 1, p. 906—25 U. S. C. 286 (25 St. 313, sec. 17), 43 U. S. C. 836. Also see Historical Note 25 U. S. C. A. 805, 28 St. 910, Mar. 2, 1895; C 189—An Act Making appropriations for sundry civil expenses of the Government for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1896, and for other purposes.
- 28 St. 894; Mar. 2, 1895; C 195—An Act To provide for the salaries of the judges and other officers of the United States court in the Indian Territory.
- 28 St. 970; Feb. 20, 1895; J. Res. No. 16—Joint Resolution To conduct the enlargement of the Red Cliff Indian Reservation in the State of Wisconsin, made in 1893, and for the allotment of same.
- 28 St. 974; Mar. 2, 1895; J. Res. No. 27—Joint Resolution Continuing the present officers of the courts in the Indian Territory until the bill for the reorganization of the judiciary of that Territory which has passed both Houses of Congress and awaits the signature of the President of the United States becomes a law.
- 28 St. 987; June 20, 1894; C 112—An Act For the relief of the heirs of Edward Morrison and Nellie Morrison, now deceased.
- 28 St. 998; Aug. 4, 1894; C 223—An Act For the relief of Benjamin F. Foster.
- 28 St. 1007; Aug. 11, 1894; C 278—An Act For the relief of Walter S. McLeod.
- 28 St. 1009; Aug. 15, 1894; C 207—An Act To enable the Secretary of the Interior to pay John T. Hendry for professional services rendered the "Old Settlers" or Western Cherokee Indians out of the funds of said Indians.
- 28 St. 1013; Aug. 23, 1894; C 828—An Act For the relief of Henry W. Lee.
- 28 St. 1019; Aug. 24, 1894; C 851—An Act Granting a pension to Jesse Davenport, of Company A, Second Regiment, Oregon Mounted Volunteers, in Oregon Indian wars of 1855 and 1856.
- 28 St. 1015; Aug. 24, 1894; C 887—An Act Granting a pension to Adolph J. Prop.
- 28 St. 1018; Aug. 4, 1894; J. Res. No. 41—Joint Resolution Authorizing the Secretary of the Interior to approve a certain lease made in Polk County, Minnesota.
- 28 St. 1025; Jan. 22, 1895; C 41—An Act To pension Willis Mancos.
- 28 St. 1029; Feb. 8, 1895; C 60—An Act For the relief of John J. Patman.
- 28 St. 1030; Feb. 8, 1895; C 72—An Act To increase the pension of Pickens T. Reynolds, of Hall County, Georgia.
- 28 St. 1080; Feb. 8, 1895; C 74—An Act Granting a pension to Rosanna Cobb, widow of Edmund Cobb, deceased, late of Sac and Fox war.
- 28 St. 1081; Feb. 12, 1895; C. 85—An Act For the relief of William T. Holman.
- 28 St. 1084; Feb. 21, 1895; C 122—An Act To pension Mary T. Williams.
- * 28 St. 18 St. 482.
* 28 St. 20 St. 221.
* 28 St. 21 St. 100; 26 St. 188. C. 28 St. 21 St. 90; 10 St. 45; 8 St. 200.
* 28 St. 12 St. 88.
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- 28 St 1041, Mar 2, 1895, C 200—An Act To pension David H. Section for services in Oregon Indian wars.
 28 St 1042, Mar 2, 1895, C 211—An Act to pension Mary B. Hamilton, widow of David Hamilton, soldier in Indian war of 1818.
 28 St 1044, Mar 2, 1895, C 220—An Act Granting a pension to James Jones.
 28 St 1044, Mar 2, 1895, C 221—An Act Granting a pension to Alexander M. Luehlin.
 28 St 1046, Mar 2, 1895, C 227—An Act To grant a pension to Mrs. Mary Burton, of Arkansas, widow of Asa Burton, deceased.
 28 St 1047, Mar 2, 1895, C 234—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Thomas M. Chell.

29 STAT.

- 29 St 6, Feb 8, 1896, C 14—An Act To extend the jurisdiction of the United States circuit court of appeals, eighth circuit, over certain suits now pending therein on appeal and writ of error from the United States court in the Indian Territory.
 29 St 9, Feb 13, 1896, C 19—An Act To amend an Act entitled "An Act to authorize the Kansas City, Pittsburg and Gulf Railroad Company to construct and operate a railroad, telegraph, and telephone line through the Indian Territory, and for other purposes," approved February 27, 1895.
 29 St 9, Feb 24, 1896, C 24—An Act To extend the mineral-law laws of the United States to lands embraced in the north half of the Colville Indian Reservation.
 29 St 10, Feb 20, 1896, C 25—An Act To amend section twenty-one of an Act entitled "An Act to divide a portion of the reservation of the Sioux Nation of Indians in Dakota into separate reservations, and to secure the relinquishment of the Indian title to the remainder, and for other purposes," approved March 2, 1889.
 29 St 12, Feb 24, 1896, C 29—An Act Granting to the Brainerd and Northern Minnesota Ry Co a right of way through the Leech Lake Indian Reservation and Chippewa Indian Reservation, in Minnesota.
 29 St 13, Feb 24, 1896, C 30—An Act To authorize the Arkansas and Choctaw Ry Co to construct and operate a railway through the Choctaw Nation, in the Indian Territory, and for other purposes.
 29 St 16, Feb 26, 1896, C 31—An Act Granting leave of absence for one year to homesteaded settlers upon the Yankton Indian Reservation, in the State of South Dakota, and for other purposes.
 29 St 17, Feb 26, 1896, C 32—An Act To amend an Act entitled "An Act for the relief and civilization of the Chippewa Indians in the State of Minnesota."
 29 St 17, Feb 26, 1896, C 33—An Act Making appropriations to supply urgent deficiencies in the appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1896, and for prior years, and for other purposes.
 29 St 40, Mar 2, 1896, C 38—An Act To grant the Fort Smith and Western Coal Ry Co a right of way through the Indian Territory, and for other purposes.
 29 St 44, Mar 4, 1896, C 41—An Act To amend an Act entitled "An Act to grant to the Gainesville, McAlester and St. Louis R Co a right of way through the Indian Territory."
 29 St 44, Mar 6, 1896, C 42—An Act Granting to the Columbia and Red Mountain Ry Co a right of way through the Colville Indian Reservation, in the State of Washington, and for other purposes.
 29 St 45, Mar 6, 1896, C 43—An Act Making appropriations for the payment of invalid and other pensions of the United States for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1897, and for other purposes. 88 U S C 623.
 29 St 60, Mar 18, 1896, C 69—An Act Making appropriations for the support of the Army for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1897.

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for other purposes." See 1, p 79-25 U S C 278, (38 St 988, sec 21). USCA Historical Note A purpose following the derivative provision in sec 1, 30 St 62, which authorized the Secretary of the Interior to make contracts with schools of various denominations for the education of Indian pupils during the fiscal year 1898, but only at places where nonsectarian schools could not be provided, was omitted as temporary merely. A provision of Act June 20, 1898, s 10, 25 Stat 280, that at certain schools, at which "church organizations are assisting in the educational work, the Christian Bible may be taught in the native language of the Indians," etc., may be regarded as amended by a provision that the Government should, as early as practicable, make provision for the education of Indian children in Government schools, made by Act Mar 2, 1906, s 1, 28 St 901, and by said derivative provision. Similar provisions to the Code section were made by the Indian Appropriation Act of June 10, 1896, s 1, 29 Stat 315 Sec 1, p 38-27 U S C 474 (Sec 25 U S C 472) Sec 1, p 30-25 U S C 68 (sec 10, 37 St 88, sec 1, 37 St 621 sec 17, 40 St 678, 45 St 1307) See Historical Note US S C A 38 Sec 1, p 30-25 U S C 184 USCA Historical Note The derivative section used the word "heretofore" instead of the words of the Code section "prior to June 7, 1897." See 1, p 30-25 U S C 197 (32 St 404, sec 4) USCA Historical Note Sec 1, 30 St 90 originally provided with reference to the Chippewa Indians of Minnesota, that the Secretary of the Interior might authorize them to "fell, cut, sell, or otherwise dispose of the dead timber, etc., and the amendment by said sec 4 of 32 St 404, consisted in regarding so much of the quoted phrase as authorized the sale of dead timber, standing or fallen under regulations prescribed by the Secretary of the Interior. USCA Code Supplement 25 U S C 197 was repealed except as to then existing contracts by 32 St 404 Sec 11-25 USCA 134 Historical Note A provision made by Act June 7, 1897, sec 11, 30 St 93, "That heretofore, where funds appropriated in specific terms for particular objects are not sufficient for the object named, any other appropriation, general in its terms, which otherwise would be available may, in the discretion of the Secretary of the Interior, be used to accomplish the object for which the specific appropriation was made," was repealed by Act Mar 4, 1924, sec 1, 80 St 1062

80 St 105, July 10, 1897, U 9-An Act Making appropriations

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- crimes in the District of Alaska and to provide a code of criminal procedure for said district."
- 30 St. 1350, Mar. 3, 1890, C. 456—An Act To amend an Act entitled "An Act to suspend the operation of certain provisions of law relating to the War Department, and for other purposes."
- 30 St. 1366, Mar. 3, 1890, C. 459—An Act To ratify agreements with the Indians of the Lower Brule and Hascloud reservations in South Dakota, and making an appropriation to carry the same into effect."
- 30 St. 1368, Mar. 3, 1890, C. 463—An Act To authorize the Post Smith and Wagon Co. to construct and operate a railway through the Choctaw and Creek nations, in the Indian Territory, and for other purposes."
- 30 St. 1368, Mar. 3, 1890, C. 458—An Act Granting a pension to Mrs. Martha Frank.
- 30 St. 1368, Mar. 3, 1890, Ch. 41—An Act Granting a pension to John F. Hathaway.
- 30 St. 1400, Mar. 5, 1890, C. 50—An Act Directing the issue of a duplicate of lost check, drawn by Charles R. McChesney, United States Indian agent, in favor of C. J. Holman and Brother."
- 30 St. 1401, Mar. 14, 1890, C. 64—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Esther Williams.
- 30 St. 1404, Mar. 23, 1890, C. 98—An Act To increase the pension of Martha S. Harlike, widow of W. W. Harlike, a soldier in the Florida war.
- 30 St. 1410, Apr. 11, 1890, C. 124—An Act Granting a pension to Sarah M. Spyker.
- 30 St. 1410, Apr. 11, 1890, C. 153—An Act Granting a pension to Thomas Lane."
- 30 St. 1416, Apr. 11, 1890, C. 137—An Act Granting pension to R. G. English.
- 30 St. 1420, Apr. 17, 1890, C. 179—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Daniel J. Smith.
- 30 St. 1427, Apr. 27, 1890, C. 214—An Act To increase the pension of John C. Whigener.
- 30 St. 1427, Apr. 27, 1890, C. 210—An Act Granting a pension to Matthew B. Nale.
- 30 St. 1432, May 7, 1890, C. 251—An Act Granting a pension to Francis Shetels, alias Frank Stay.
- 30 St. 1433, May 7, 1890, C. 203—An Act To grant a pension to Sarah A. Blazer.
- 30 St. 1437, May 7, 1890, C. 281—An Act Granting a pension to Daniel J. Melvin.
- 30 St. 1438, May 7, 1890, C. 285—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Elizabeth Rogers.
- 30 St. 1441, May 14, 1890, C. 300—An Act Granting a pension to "Itawnyaka," or "One-armed Jim."
- 30 St. 1456, June 8, 1890, C. 412—An Act Granting a pension to Bettie Gresham.
- 30 St. 1457, June 8, 1890, C. 422—An Act Granting a pension to Mary B. Taylor.
- 30 St. 1459, June 10, 1890, C. 434—An Act Granting a pension to Philip F. Castleman, of Oregon.
- 30 St. 1476, July 1, 1890, C. 600—An Act Granting an increase of pension to William C. Christiansberry.
- 30 St. 1484, July 7, 1890, C. 611—An Act Granting a pension to Henrietta Fowler.
- 30 St. 1486, July 7, 1890, C. 622—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Warren W. Morgan.
- 30 St. 1496, Dec. 20, 1890, C. 12—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Theodore W. Coburn.
- 30 St. 1501, Dec. 20, 1890, C. 20—An Act Granting a pension to A. A. Pinkston.
- 30 St. 1512, Feb. 4, 1890, C. 100—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Alexander Koen.
- 30 St. 1517, Feb. 9, 1890, C. 131—An Act Granting a pension to Henry Farmer.
- 30 St. 1518, Feb. 9, 1890, C. 132—An Act Granting an increase of pension to William W. Tumbler, of Bradford County, Florida.
- 30 St. 1519, Feb. 9, 1890, C. 140—An Act Granting a pension to Martha E. Huddleston.
- 30 St. 1519, Feb. 9, 1890, C. 141—An Act To pension William Russell for services in Oregon Indian war.
- 30 St. 1521, Feb. 14, 1890, C. 156—An Act For the relief of Joseph Townsend, alias Touzin.
- 30 St. 1525, Feb. 23, 1890, C. 157—An Act Granting a pension to Isom Gibson.
- 30 St. 1546, Feb. 28, 1890, C. 311—An Act Granting a pension to Emily McLain.
- 30 St. 1546, Feb. 28, 1890, C. 312—An Act Granting a pension to Judith Doherty.
- 30 St. 1563, Mar. 3, 1890, C. 520—An Act Granting a pension to James B. Preston.
- 30 St. 1773, Mar. 3, 1890, C. 569—An Act For the relief of Eudora Hill.
- 30 St. 1586, Mar. 3, 1890, C. 620—An Act Granting an increase of pension to John E. Gullett.
- 30 St. 1587, Mar. 3, 1890, C. 632—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Andrew J. Taylor.
- 30 St. 1805, Feb. 4, 1890—Hon. Ros. Hooper Superintendent of Indian Schools.

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- 31 St. 7, Feb. 9, 1900, C. 14—An Act Making appropriations to supply urgent deficiencies in the appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1900, and not prior years, and for other purposes."
- 31 St. 22, Feb. 24, 1900, C. 24—An Act To amend an Act entitled "An Act to amend an Act to suspend the operation of certain provisions of law relating to the War Department, and for other purposes."
- 31 St. 52, Mar. 28, 1900, C. 111—An Act Enlarging the powers of the Choctaw, Oklahoma and Gulf R. Co."
- 31 St. 69, Apr. 4, 1900, C. 150—An Act Approving a revision and adjustment of certain sales of Otco and Missouri lands in the States of Nebraska and Kansas."
- 31 St. 72, Apr. 9, 1900, C. 182—An Act To settle the title to real estate in the city of Santa Fe, New Mexico.
- 31 St. 89, Apr. 17, 1900, C. 192—An Act Making appropriations for the legislative, executive and judicial expenses of the Government for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1901, and for other purposes."
- 31 St. 134, Apr. 17, 1900, C. 193—An Act Granting the right of way to the Minnesota and Manitoba R. Co. across the ceded portion of the Chippewa (Red Lake) Indian Reservation in Minnesota."
- 31 St. 170, May 7, 1900, C. 384—An Act For the appointment of an additional United States commissioner of the northern judicial district of the Indian Territory.
- 31 St. 179, May 17, 1900, C. 479—An Act Providing for tree homesteads on the public lands for actual and bona fide settlers, and reserving the public lands for that purpose."
- 31 St. 182, May 18, 1900, C. 481—(See USCA Historical Note)
- 31 St. 182, May 24, 1900, C. 546—An Act To amend section eight of the Act of Congress entitled "An Act to authorize the Fort Smith and Western R. Co. to construct and operate a railway through the Choctaw and Creek nations, in the Indian Territory, and for other purposes."
- 31 St. 208, May 28, 1900, C. 590—An Act Making appropriation for the support of the Regular and Volunteer Army for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1901.
- 31 St. 221, May 31, 1900, C. 698—An Act Making appropriations for the current and contingent expenses of the Indian Department and for fulfilling treaty stipulations with various Indian tribes for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1901, and for other purposes." Sec. 1—25 U. S. C. 896 (See USCA Historical Note) (Also see 25 U. S. C. 891)

31 St. 221, May 31, 1900, C. 698—An Act Making appropriations for the current and contingent expenses of the Indian Department and for fulfilling treaty stipulations with various Indian tribes for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1901, and for other purposes." Sec. 1—25 U. S. C. 896 (See USCA Historical Note) (Also see 25 U. S. C. 891)

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- lands in the Territory of Oklahoma generally are applicable to the cessionation of homesteads in Great country, Okla by Act Jun 18, 1897, c. 7, see 1131 of Tit 43, Public Lands. Homestead settlers on certain ceded Indian lands in South Dakota are subject to the provisions of the above-cited act. See Act May 22, 1902, c. 1, 32 St 803.
- SI 760, Feb 6, 1881, C 217—An Act Amending the Act of August 16, 1884, entitled "An Act making appropriations for certain contingent expenses of the Indian Department, and inflicting penalties and punishments with various Indian tribes for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1885," and for other purposes. Sec 1—23 U S C 145 (Sec 1, 28 St 806). See Historical Note 26 U S C 845. Sec 2—26 U S C 843.
- SI 761, Feb 23, 1881, C 218—An Act providing for allotments of lands in severally to the Indians of the LaPonte or Bad River Reservation, in the State of Wisconsin.
- SI 765, Feb 12, 1881, C 330—An Act Granting permission to the Indians of the Grand and Badger Indian Reservation, in the State of Minnesota, to cut and dispose of the timber on their several allotments on said reservation.
- SI 766, Feb 12, 1901, C 361—An Act to authorize Arizona Territory company to construct power plant on Pima Indian Reservation, in Arizona.
- SI 767, Feb 13, 1901, C 370—An Act to provide for the cuto of lands jointly in the Lower Brule Indian Reservation, South Dakota.
- SI 768, Feb 13, 1901, C 372—An Act Relating to right of way through certain parks, reservations, and other public lands. 49 U S C 859.
- SI 769, Feb 18, 1901, C 370—An Act to put in force in the Territory of Arizona the provisions of the laws of Arkansas relating to corporations and to make said provisions applicable to said Territory.
- SI 769, Feb 18, 1901, C 380—An Act to confirm in trust to the city of Albuquerque, in the Territory of New Mexico, certain lands of the United States.
- SI 801, Feb 23, 1901, C 467—An Act (confirming two locations of Chippewa half-breed scrip in the State (Iowa Territory) of Utah.
- SI 802, Feb 23, 1901, C 474—An Act For the relief of the Medavallation band of Sioux Indians, residing in Redwood County, Minnesota.
- SI 816, Feb 27, 1901, C 616—An Act to confirm a lease with the Seneca Nation of Indians.
- SI 817, Feb 27, 1901, C 617—An Act To regulate the collection and disbursement of moneys arising from leases made by the Seneca Nation, of New York Indians, and for other purposes.
- SI 818, Feb 27, 1901, C 695—An Act To ratify and confirm an agreement with the Cheyenne tribe of Indians, and for other purposes.
- SI 861, Mar 1, 1901, C 678—An Act To ratify and confirm an agreement with the Mescalero or Creek tribe of Indians, and for other purposes.

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- ment of the Choctaw and Chickasaw town-site land, and for other purposes.
- 33 St 573, Apr. 28, 1904, C 1824—An Act To provide for additional United States judges in the Indian Territory, and for other purposes.
- 33 St 583, Mar. 17, 1904, J Res No 10—Joint Resolution Authorizing the Secretary of the Interior to use five thousand dollars of the amount appropriated by the Act approved February 18, 1904, (Public Numbered 22), for clerical work and labor connected with the sale and leasing of Creek lands and the leasing of Choctaw lands in Indian Territory.
- 33 St 591, Apr. 28, 1904, J Res No 35—Joint Resolution Providing for the transfer of certain military rolls and records from the Interior and other Departments to the War Department.
- 33 St 595, Dec. 21, 1904, C 22—An Act To authorize the sale and disposition of surplus or unallotted lands of the Yakima Indian Reservation, in the State of Washington.
- 33 St 616, Jan. 27, 1906, C 277—An Act To provide for the construction and maintenance of roads, the establishment and maintenance of schools, and the care and support of insane persons in the district of Alaska, and for other purposes.
- 33 St 621, Feb. 8, 1905, C 297—An Act Making appropriations for the legislative, executive, and judicial expenses of the Government for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1906, and for other purposes.
- 33 St 700, Feb. 7, 1905, C 545—An Act To provide for the extension of time within which homestead settlers may establish their residence upon certain lands which were heretofore a part of the Rosebud Indian Reservation within the limits of Gregory County, South Dakota, and upon certain lands which heretofore a part of the Devils Lake Indian Reservation, in the State of North Dakota.
- 33 St 708, Feb. 8, 1905, C 563—An Act To open to homestead settlement and entry the relinquished and undisposed of portions of the Round Valley Indian Reservation, in the State of California, and for other purposes.
- 33 St 708, Feb. 8, 1905, C 566—An Act To allow the Minneapolis, Red Lake and Manitoba Ry. Co. to acquire certain lands in the Red Lake Indian Reservation, Minnesota.
- 33 St 714, Feb. 10, 1905, C 571—An Act To extend the western boundary line of the State of Arkansas.
- 33 St 724, Feb. 20, 1905, C 592—An Act To authorize the registration of trade-marks used in commerce with foreign nations or among the several States or with Indian tribes, and to protect the same. Sec 1—15 U S C 31; Sec 2—15 U S C 32, Sec. 16—15 U S C 96; Sec 30—15 U S C 109.
- 33 St 743, Feb. 24, 1905, C 777—An Act For the allowance of certain claims reported by the Court of Claims, and for other purposes.
- 33 St 816, Feb. 27, 1905, C 1159—An Act Confirming the title of the Saint Paul, Minneapolis and Manitoba Ry Co. to certain lands in the State of Montana, and for other purposes.
- 33 St 821, Mar. 1, 1905, C 1253—An Act Legalizing a certain ordinance of the city of Purcell, Indian Territory.
- 33 St 824, Mar. 2, 1905, C 1305—An Act To divide Washington into two judicial districts. 28 U S C 133.
- 33 St 827, Mar. 2, 1905, C 1307—An Act Making appropriation for the support of the Army for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1906.
- 33 St 889, Mar. 3, 1906, C 1420—An Act To enable independent school districts, numbered 12, Rowan County, Minnesota, to purchase certain land.
- 33 St 901, Mar. 8, 1905, C 1429—An Act Granting to the Choctaw, Oklahoma and Gulf Railroad Company the power to sell and convey to the Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific Ry. Co. all the railway property, rights, franchises, and privileges of the Choctaw, Oklahoma and Gulf Ry. Co., and for other purposes.
- 33 St 1005, Mar. 8, 1905, C 1489—An Act Extending the provisions of sec 5221 of the Revised Statutes of the United States to homestead settlers on lands in the State of Minnesota ceded under the Act of Congress entitled "An Act for the relief and civilization of the Chippewa Indians in the State of Minnesota," approved January 14, 1889.
- 33 St 1006, Mar. 8, 1905, C 1490—An Act Providing for the acquisition of water rights in the Spokane River along the southern boundary of the Spokane Indian Reservation, in the State of Washington, for the acquisition of lands on said reservation for sites for power purposes and the beneficial use of said water, and for other purposes.
- 33 St 1016, Mar. 8, 1905, C 1492—An Act To ratify and amend an agreement with the Indians residing on the Shoshone or Wind River Indian Reservation in the State of Wyoming and to make appropriations for carrying the same into effect.
- 33 St 1038, Mar. 8, 1905, C 1490—An Act To and in quieting title to certain lands within the Klamath Indian Reservation, in the State of Oregon.
- 33 St 1049, Mar. 8, 1905, C 1470—An Act Making appropriations for the current and contingent expenses of the Indian Department and for fulfilling treaty stipulations with various Indian tribes for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1906, and for other purposes. Sec. 1, p 1040—25 U S C 872a.
- 33 St 1117, Mar. 8, 1905, C 1492—An Act Making appropriations for the construction, repair, and preservation of certain public works on rivers and harbors, and for other purposes.
- 33 St 1126, Mar. 8, 1905, C 1493—An Act Making appropriations for sundry civil expenses of the Government for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1906, and for other purposes. P 1200—31 U S C 615.
- 33 St 1214, Mar. 8, 1905, C 1494—An Act Making appropriations to supply deficiencies in the appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1906, and for prior years, and for other purposes.
- 33 St 1232, Feb. 20, 1904, C 162—An Act Granting a pension to Cynthia Thomas.
- 33 St 1353, Feb. 28, 1904, C 204—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Louiza Phillips.
- 33 St 243 St 389, 32 St 261.
33 St 12 St 383, sec 8, 20 St 642.
33 St 80 St 901. *Osage* Op. Sol. M. 10098, Feb. 10, 1907.
33 St 12 St 383, sec 8, 20 St 642.
33 St 205, 226, 246, 1015, 95 St 70, 781, 93 St 268, 97 St 871, 99 St 364, 516, 67 St 88, 77 St 38, 78 St 38, 79 St 38, 80 St 38, 81 St 38, 82 St 38, 83 St 38, 84 St 38, 85 St 38, 86 St 38, 87 St 38, 88 St 38, 89 St 38, 90 St 38, 91 St 38, 92 St 38, 93 St 38, 94 St 38, 95 St 38, 96 St 38, 97 St 38, 98 St 38, 99 St 38, 100 St 38, 101 St 38, 102 St 38, 103 St 38, 104 St 38, 105 St 38, 106 St 38, 107 St 38, 108 St 38, 109 St 38, 110 St 38, 111 St 38, 112 St 38, 113 St 38, 114 St 38, 115 St 38, 116 St 38, 117 St 38, 118 St 38, 119 St 38, 120 St 38, 121 St 38, 122 St 38, 123 St 38, 124 St 38, 125 St 38, 126 St 38, 127 St 38, 128 St 38, 129 St 38, 130 St 38, 131 St 38, 132 St 38, 133 St 38, 134 St 38, 135 St 38, 136 St 38, 137 St 38, 138 St 38, 139 St 38, 140 St 38, 141 St 38, 142 St 38, 143 St 38, 144 St 38, 145 St 38, 146 St 38, 147 St 38, 148 St 38, 149 St 38, 150 St 38, 151 St 38, 152 St 38, 153 St 38, 154 St 38, 155 St 38, 156 St 38, 157 St 38, 158 St 38, 159 St 38, 160 St 38, 161 St 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1149 St 38, 1150 St 38, 1151 St 38, 1152 St 38, 1153 St 38, 1154 St 38, 1155 St 38, 1156 St 38, 1157 St 38, 1158 St 38, 1159 St 38, 1160 St 38, 1161 St 38, 1162 St 38, 1163 St 38, 1164 St 38, 1165 St 38, 1166 St 38, 1167 St 38, 1168 St 38, 1169 St 38, 1170 St 38, 1171 St 38, 1172 St 38, 1173 St 38, 1174 St 38, 1175 St 38, 1176 St 38, 1177 St 38, 1178 St 38, 1179 St 38,

- 33 St. 1353, Feb. 20, 1904, C. 265—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Elizabeth A. Jones.
- 33 St. 1358, Feb. 20, 1904, C. 273—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Adeline Shaw Lovejoy.
- 33 St. 1369, Feb. 20, 1904, C. 286—An Act Granting an increase of pension to William M. Herford.
- 33 St. 1374, Mar. 3, 1904, C. 362—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Jesse J. Finley.
- 33 St. 1376, Mar. 5, 1904, C. 403—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Thomas Joyce.
- 33 St. 1388, Mar. 8, 1904, C. 461—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Charles B. Wainwright.
- 33 St. 1389, Mar. 8, 1904, C. 462—An Act Granting an increase of pension to James E. Harrison.
- 33 St. 1393, Mar. 11, 1904, C. 504—An Act For the relief of David S. Hall.
- 33 St. 1398, Mar. 11, 1904, C. 510—An Act Granting a pension to Caroline S. Winn.
- 33 St. 1402, Mar. 11, 1904, C. 530—An Act Granting a pension to Martin E. Nolen.
- 33 St. 1407, Mar. 15, 1904, C. 557—An Act Granting a pension to Ann M. Drugan.
- 33 St. 1411, Mar. 16, 1904, C. 578—An Act Granting a pension to Mary Keith.
- 33 St. 1415, Mar. 16, 1904, C. 594—An Act Granting a pension to Henry H. Barrett.
- 33 St. 1423, Mar. 16, 1904, C. 610—An Act Granting a pension to Randolph A. Fennell.
- 33 St. 1442, Mar. 16, 1904, C. 731—An Act Granting a pension to James S. Lundale.
- 33 St. 1452, Mar. 22, 1904, C. 770—An Act Granting a pension to Ann A. Devore.
- 33 St. 1472, Apr. 6, 1904, C. 980—An Act Granting an increase of pension to James H. Martin.
- 33 St. 1480, Apr. 8, 1904, C. 1001—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Samuel Hamley.
- 33 St. 1498, Apr. 8, 1904, C. 1098—An Act Granting a pension to Mary Siders.
- 33 St. 1497, Apr. 8, 1904, C. 1092—An Act Granting a pension to Anna E. Tatum.
- 33 St. 1498, Apr. 8, 1904, C. 1090—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Margaret F. Hartz.
- 33 St. 1504, Apr. 8, 1904, C. 1095—An Act Granting a pension to Effendi C. Miller.
- 33 St. 1510, Apr. 8, 1904, C. 1088—An Act Granting a pension to Louisa DeWitt.
- 33 St. 1521, Apr. 8, 1904, C. 1100—An Act Granting a pension to Frances M. Good.
- 33 St. 1528, Apr. 8, 1904, C. 1105—An Act Granting a pension to Julia A. Allison.
- 33 St. 1530, Apr. 8, 1904, C. 1127—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Leola Cherry.
- 33 St. 1531, Apr. 11, 1904, C. 1169—An Act Granting a pension to John McDermid.
- 33 St. 1539, Apr. 11, 1904, C. 1178—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Anna M. Hard.
- 33 St. 1585, Apr. 11, 1904, C. 1170—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Jesse N. Jones.
- 33 St. 1585, Apr. 11, 1904, C. 1180—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Julia C. Yarnall.
- 33 St. 1585, Apr. 11, 1904, C. 1181—An Act Granting an increase of pension to William Vermaes.
- 33 St. 1588, Apr. 11, 1904, C. 1108—An Act Granting an increase of pension to William C. Griffin.
- 33 St. 1547, Apr. 11, 1904, C. 1284—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Bertha J. Reynolds.
- 33 St. 1548, Apr. 11, 1904, C. 1240—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Jane Allen.
- 33 St. 1590, Apr. 19, 1904, C. 1359—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Sarah N. Maddox.
- 33 St. 1590, Apr. 22, 1904, C. 1425—An Act Granting a pension to Mary A. V. Cook.
- 33 St. 1592, Apr. 22, 1904, C. 1485—An Act Granting a pension to Rachel Dyer.
- 33 St. 1619, Apr. 27, 1904, C. 1640—An Act Granting a pension to Mathilda Witt.
- 33 St. 1693, Apr. 27, 1904, C. 1702—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Silas L. Overstreet.
- 33 St. 1697, Apr. 27, 1904, C. 1720—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Mary L. Johnson.
- 33 St. 1940, Apr. 27, 1904, C. 1738—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Michael Hill, alias Michael O. Hill.
- 33 St. 1676, Apr. 28, 1904, C. 1870—An Act Granting an increase of pension to William M. Lang.
- 33 St. 1678, Apr. 28, 1904, C. 1881—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Jeremiah Gill.
- 33 St. 1682, Apr. 28, 1904, C. 1908—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Lotiminda M. Thompson.
- 33 St. 1691, Apr. 28, 1904, C. 1939—An Act To pay certain Choctaw Indian war claims held by James M. Shackelford.
- 33 St. 1678, Apr. 28, 1904, C. 1882—An Act Granting a pension to Thomas Smith.
- 33 St. 1713, Apr. 28, 1904, C. 2130—An Act Granting an increase of pension to James B. Fletcher.
- 33 St. 1760, Jan. 25, 1905, C. 248—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Alafair Clunstant.
- 33 St. 1708, Jan. 25, 1905, C. 240—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Clifton Thomas.
- 33 St. 1748, Feb. 20, 1905, C. 650—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Susan A. Reynolds.
- 33 St. 1800, Feb. 20, 1905, C. 710—An Act Granting a pension to Jane Johns.
- 33 St. 1811, Feb. 20, 1905, C. 715—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Stephen Dampier.
- 33 St. 1804, Feb. 21, 1905, C. 730—An Act Granting a pension to Philip Lawotte.
- 33 St. 1870, Feb. 25, 1905, C. 800—An Act Granting a pension to Madeline Alexander.
- 33 St. 1882, Feb. 25, 1905, C. 831—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Henry S. Rice.
- 33 St. 1882, Feb. 25, 1905, C. 870—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Joel T. Addison.
- 33 St. 1897, Feb. 25, 1905, C. 900—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Nahrvia G. Heard.
- 33 St. 1898, Feb. 25, 1905, C. 1000—An Act Granting an increase of pension to John A. Garlick.
- 33 St. 1897, Feb. 25, 1905, C. 1070—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Mary L. Walker.
- 33 St. 1942, Feb. 25, 1905, C. 1008—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Caroline Jennings.
- 33 St. 1949, Feb. 25, 1905, C. 1102—An Act Granting a pension to Attery Dalton.
- 33 St. 1958, Feb. 28, 1905, C. 1207—An Act Granting a pension to Collin A. Wallace.
- 33 St. 1981, Feb. 28, 1905, C. 1270—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Martha Hindcock.
- 33 St. 2001, Mar. 2, 1905, C. 1387—An Act Granting an increase of pension to William G. Taylor.
- 33 St. 2006, Mar. 3, 1905, C. 1313—An Act For the relief of the Mission of Saint Joseph, in the State of Washington.
- 33 St. 2000, Mar. 3, 1905, C. 1325—An Act Granting an honorable discharge to Eugene H. Ely.
- 33 St. 2018, Mar. 3, 1905, C. 1569—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Sarah Kearney.
- 33 St. 2024, Mar. 3, 1905, C. 1592—An Act Granting a pension to Cole B. Eugene.
- 33 St. 2048, Mar. 3, 1905, C. 1608—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Michael Daniel Kernan.
- 33 St. 2048, Mar. 3, 1905, C. 1700—An Act Granting a pension to James T. Thomas.
- 33 St. 2052, Mar. 3, 1905, C. 1714—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Matilda Peak.
- 33 St. 2058, Mar. 3, 1905, C. 1748—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Jacob Palmer.
- 33 St. 2058, Mar. 3, 1905, C. 1744—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Nancy Ann Smith.
- 33 St. 2077, Jan. 28, 1904, Concurrent Res.—Indian Treaties.
- 33 St. 2078, Mar. 1, 1904, Concurrent Res.—Fort Hall Indian Reservation.
- 33 St. 2078, Mar. 4, 1904, Concurrent Res.—Fort Hall Indian Reservation.
- 33 St. 2079, Mar. 15, 1904, Concurrent Res.—Fort Hall Indian Reservation.
- 33 St. 2079, Mar. 22, 1904, Concurrent Res.—Fort Hall Indian Reservation.

34 STAT.

34 St. 9, Jan. 27, 1906, C. 7—An Act To provide for the extension of time within which homestead settlers may estab-

* 33 St. 823, 10 St. 172.

* 33 St. 185.

* 33 St. 185.

* 33 St. 185.

- lish their residence upon certain lands which were heretofore a part of the United Indian Reservation within the counties of Uinta and Wenchah, in the State of Utah."
- 81 St 27, Feb 27, 1900, C 510—An Act Making appropriations to supply urgent deficiencies in the appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1900, and for prior years, and for other purposes. See Historical Note 25 U S C 349, 344, 348 U S C 4th
- 84 St 53, Mar 6, 1900, C 518—An Act Authorizing the disposition of surplus and allotted lands on the Yukona Indian Reservation, in the State of Washington, which can be irrigated under the Act Congress approved June 17, 1892, known as the reclamation Act, and for other purposes."
- 84 St 55, Mar 8, 1900, C 529—An Act Providing for the issuance of patents for lands allotted to Indians under the Mowee agreement of July 7, 1898."
- 84 St 78, Mar 19, 1900, C 591—An Act Extending the public land laws to certain lands in Wyoming."
- 84 St 78, Mar 19, 1900, C 592—An Act Authorizing and directing the Secretary of the Interior to sell and convey to the State of Minnesota a certain tract of land situated in the county of Dakota, State of Minnesota."
- 84 St 80, Mar 20, 1900, C 1125—An Act For the establishment of towns sites, and for the sale of lots within the common lands of the Kiowa, Comanche, and Apache Indians in Oklahoma."
- 84 St 80, Mar 22, 1900, C 1126—An Act To authorize the sale and disposition of surplus or unallotted lands of the diminished Colville Indian Reservation, in the State of Washington, and for other purposes."
- 84 St 88, Mar 27, 1900, C 1349—An Act Leasing and demising certain lands in La Plata County, Colorado, to the F F U Rubber Co."
- 84 St 91, Mar 28, 1900, C 1350—An Act Authorizing the sale of timber on the Jicarilla Apache Indian Reservation for the benefit of the Indians belonging thereto."
- 84 St 91, Mar 28, 1900, C 1351—An Act To consolidate the city of South McAlester and the town of McAlester, in the Indian Territory."
- 84 St 124, Apr 21, 1900, C 1045—An Act To authorize the sale of a portion of the Lower Brule Indian Reservation in South Dakota, and for other purposes."
- 84 St 187, Apr 28, 1900, C 1370—An Act To provide for the final disposition of the affairs of the Five Civilized Tribes in the Indian Territory, and for other purposes."

189 22 St 234, 238
89 20 St 853, 88 St 204, 87 St 1049, 1000
89 28 St 538 Oiled 60 St 104, M 2624, June 7, 1929, Tydings,
28 C 260 and Com 742
89 28 St 78, 80 St 1398, 80 St 77, Oiled 40 L D 212,
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89 80 St 62
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89 17 St 388, sec 1, 32 St 388, 48 St 672, 34 St 321, 322,
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- 34 St. 617, June 28, 1908; C 3878—An Act To authorize the cutting, sawing into lumber, and sale of timber on certain lands reserved for the use of the Aconecense tribe of Indians, in the State of Washington.
- 34 St. 650, June 18, 1908; C 3881—An Act Giving preference right to actual settlers on pasture reserve numbered three to purchase land leased to them for agricultural purposes.
- 34 St. 608, June 20, 1908; C 3892—An Act To establish a Bureau of Immigration and Naturalization, and to provide for the uniform rules the naturalization of aliens throughout the United States.
- 34 St. 617, June 20, 1908; C 3890—An Act Granting lands in the former United Indian Reservation to the corporation known as the Oregon Cattle Company.
- 34 St. 684, June 30, 1906; C 3912—An Act Making appropriate

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- ending June 30, 1908* 25 U S C 99, 25 U S C 66, 23 U S C 184, 25 U S C 139, 25 U S C 140, 25 U S C 198, 25 U S C 245, 25 U S C 288, 25 U S C 291, 25 U S C 403, 25 U S C 412*
 34 St 1065, Mar 1, 1907, C 2290—An Act To authorize the Court of Claims to hear, determine, and adjudicate the claims of the Sec and Fox Indians of the Mississippi in Iowa against the Sec and Fox Indians of the Mississippi in Oklahoma, and the United States, and for other purposes.
 34 St 1068, Mar 1, 1907, C 2292—An Act Providing for the granting and patenting to the State of Colorado, desert lands formerly in the Southern Ute Indian Reservation in Colorado.
 34 St 1073, Mar 2, 1907, C 2606—An Act Making appropriations for the construction, repair, and preservation of certain public works on rivers and harbors, and for other purposes.
 34 St 1158, Mar 2, 1907, C 2511—An Act Making appropriation for the support of the Army for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1908
 34 St 1217, Mar 2, 1907, C 2514—An Act To amend the Act of Congress approved February 11, 1901, entitled "An Act providing for allotments of lands in severalty to the Indians of the La Pointe or Bad River Reservation, in the State of Wisconsin."
 34 St 1220, Mar 2, 1907, C 2521—An Act For the relief of certain white persons who intermarried with Cherokee citizens
 34 St 1221, Mar 2, 1907, C 2522—An Act Providing for the allotment and distribution of Indian tribal funds* Sec 1—25 U S C 310, 25 U S C 321—25 U S C 321
 34 St 1229, Mar 2, 1907, C 2636—An Act To fix the boundaries of lands of certain landowners and entries adjoining the Cœur d'Alene Indian Reservation.
 34 St 1230, Mar 2, 1907, C 2636—An Act To authorize the sale and disposition of a portion of the surplus or unallotted lands in the Fort Belknap Indian Reservation, in the State of Montana, and making appropriation and provision to carry the same into effect.
 34 St 1251, Mar 2, 1907, C 2673—An Act To amend sections five and six of an Act entitled "An Act to authorize the regulation of trade with Indians in commerce with foreign nations or among the several States or with Indian tribes, and to protect the same."* Sec 1—25 U S C 85; Sec 2—25 U S C 86.
 * 29 St 442, 7 St 40, 11 St 85, 99, 114, 135, 218, 238, 240, 299, 317, 420, 422, 541, 549, 9 St 38, 85, 85, 85, 85, 10 St 1071, 1070, 11 St 611, 614, 702, 726, 744, 767, 12 St 113, sec 2, 1250, sec 10, 894, sec 3, 441, sec 1, 704, sec 2, 251, 1175, 11 St 20, 672, 14 St 401, sec 10, 15 St 111, sec 1, 16 St 622, 637, 602, 670, 20 St 40, 720, 27 St 838, sec 1, 122, 3, 16 St 117, sec 2, 265, 267, 26 St 85, 87, 87 St 545, 558, 588, 594, 596, 710, 744, 1029, 27 St 82, 136, 604, 80 St 50, 504, 32 St 838, 603, 710, 545, 32 St 48, 211, 204, 226, 235, 321, 391, 1017, 1060, 34 St 1419, 89 St 106, 90 St 106, 91 St 106, 92 St 106, 93 St 106, 94 St 106, 95 St 106, 96 St 106, 97 St 106, 98 St 106, 99 St 106, 100 St 106, 101 St 106, 102 St 106, 103 St 106, 104 St 106, 105 St 106, 106 St 106, 107 St 106, 108 St 106, 109 St 106, 110 St 106, 111 St 106, 112 St 106, 113 St 106, 114 St 106, 115 St 106, 116 St 106, 117 St 106, 118 St 106, 119 St 106, 120 St 106, 121 St 106, 122 St 106, 123 St 106, 124 St 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1038 St 106, 1039 St 106, 1040 St 106, 1041 St 106, 1042 St 106, 1043 St 106, 1044 St 106, 1045 St 106, 1046 St 106, 1047 St 106, 1048 St 106, 1049 St 106, 1050 St 106, 1051 St 106, 1052 St 106, 1053 St 106, 1054 St 106, 1055 St 106, 1056 St 106, 1057 St 106, 1058 St 106, 1059 St 106, 1060 St 106, 1061 St 106, 1062 St 106, 1063 St 106, 1064 St 106, 1065 St 106, 1066 St 106, 1067 St 106, 1068 St 106, 1069 St 106, 1070 St 106, 1071 St 106, 1072 St 106, 1073 St 106, 1074 St 106, 1075 St 106, 1076 St 106, 1077 St 106, 1078 St 106, 1079 St 106, 1080 St 106, 1081 St 106, 1082 St 106, 1083 St 106, 1084 St 106, 1085 St 106, 1086 St 106, 1087 St 106, 1088 St 106, 1089 St 106, 1090 St 106, 1091 St 106, 1092 St 106, 1093 St 106, 1094 St 106, 1095 St 106, 1096 St 106, 1097 St 106, 1098 St 106, 1099 St 106, 1100 St 106, 1101 St 106, 1102 St 106, 1103 St 106, 1104 St 106, 1105 St 106, 1106 St 106, 1107 St 106, 1108 St 106, 1109 St 106, 1110 St 106, 1111 St 106, 1112 St 106, 1113 St 106, 1114 St 106, 1115 St 106, 1116 St 106, 1117 St 106, 1118 St 106, 1119 St 106, 1120 St 106, 1121 St 106, 1122 St 106, 1123 St 106, 1124 St 106, 1125 St 106, 1126 St 106, 1127 St 106, 1128 St 106, 1129 St 106, 1130 St 106, 1131 St 106, 1132 St 106, 1133 St 106, 1134 St 106, 1135 St 106, 1136 St 106, 1137 St 106, 1138 St 106, 1139 St 106, 1140 St 106, 1141 St 106, 1142 St 106, 1143 St 106, 1144 St 106, 1145 St 106, 1146 St 106, 1147 St 106, 1148 St 106, 1149 St 106, 1150 St 106, 1151 St 106, 1152 St 106, 1153 St 106, 1154 St 106, 1155 St 106, 1156 St 106, 1157 St 106, 1158 St 106, 1159 St 106, 1160 St 106, 1161 St 106, 1162 St

- 34 SL 1601, Mar 26, 1906, C 1244—An Act Granting a pension to Henry R. Ehl.
- 34 SL 1636, Mar 26, 1906, C 1256—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Arthur Haife.
- 34 SL 1697, Mar 26, 1906, C 1274—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Elizabeth Morgan.
- 34 SL 1704, Mar 26, 1906, C 1302—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Robert Chandler, alias Thomas Cooper.
- 34 SL 1719, Apr 11, 1906, C 1397—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Rufus G. Childers.
- 34 SL 1740, Apr 11, 1906, C 1492—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Thomas J. Chambers.
- 34 SL 1741, Apr 11, 1906, C 1496—An Act Granting a pension to Thomas J. Chambers.
- 34 SL 1760, Apr 11, 1906, C 1601—An Act Granting an increase of pension to John Cook.
- 34 SL 1768, Apr 12, 1906, C 1618—An Act Granting relief to the estate of James Stanley, deceased.
- 34 SL 1787, Apr 23, 1906, C 1732—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Nathan Coward.
- 34 SL 1803, Apr 23, 1906, C 1801—An Act Granting an increase of pension to William J. Hays.
- 34 SL 1812, Apr 23, 1906, C 1846—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Ann Wall.
- 34 SL 1819, Apr 23, 1906, C 1847—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Mary C. Moore.
- 34 SL 1814, Apr 23, 1906, C 1850—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Nancy N. Allen.
- 34 SL 1828, Apr 26, 1906, C 1929—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Jesse H. Brown.
- 34 SL 1836, Apr 26, 1906, C 1960—An Act Granting an increase of pension to James H. Gardner.
- 34 SL 1841, Apr 26, 1906, C 1984—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Martha E. Wardlaw.
- 34 SL 1842, Apr 26, 1906, C 1990—An Act Granting a pension to Margaret Lewis.
- 34 SL 1843, Apr 26, 1906, C 1901—An Act Granting an increase of pension to William H. Houston.
- 34 SL 1844, Apr 27, 1906, C 1938—An Act Granting a pension to Elizabeth B. Bean.
- 34 SL 1877, May 7, 1906, C 2105—An Act Granting an increase of pension to William O. Herridge.
- 34 SL 1910, May 7, 1906, C 2371—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Sheldon D. Fargo.
- 34 SL 1908, May 10, 1906, C 2446—An Act Granting an increase of pension to William F. M. Rice.
- 34 SL 1938, May 27, 1906, C 2531—An Act Granting a pension to William O. Clark.
- 34 SL 1968, Mar 26, 1906, C 2602—An Act Granting a pension to Henry Sistrunk.
- 34 SL 1968, May 26, 1906, C 2603—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Leah Dugan.
- 34 SL 1982, June 6, 1906, C 2684—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Lawyer Sigs.
- 34 SL 1987, June 6, 1906, C 2708—An Act Granting an increase of pension to William Wiley.
- 34 SL 1988, June 6, 1906, C 2738—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Thomas Crowley.
- 34 SL 2007, June 6, 1906, C 2739—An Act Granting a pension to Delilah Moore.
- 34 SL 2012, June 6, 1906, C 2818—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Mahela Jones.
- 34 SL 2015, June 6, 1906, C 2839—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Virginia J. D. Holmes.
- 34 SL 2027, June 6, 1906, C 2858—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Asa C. Wood.
- 34 SL 2030, June 6, 1906, C 2920—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Georgia A. Hughes.
- 34 SL 2037, June 6, 1906, C 2931—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Sherman P. Culbertson.
- 34 SL 2040, June 6, 1906, C 2944—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Josephine L. Jordan.
- 34 SL 2048, June 6, 1906, C 2961—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Rachel Allen.
- 34 SL 2047, June 6, 1906, C 2978—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Isaiah H. Haslitz.
- 34 SL 2050, June 6, 1906, C 2980—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Susan B. Nash.
- 34 SL 2061, June 6, 1906, C 3007—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Hannah J. K. Thomas.
- 34 SL 2067, June 6, 1906, C 3028—An Act Granting an increase of pension to James G. Wells.
- 34 SL 2063, June 11, 1906, C 3210—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Andrew C. Woodard.
- 34 SL 2069, June 11, 1906, C 3219—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Mary McFarlane.
- 34 SL 2066, June 11, 1906, C 3222—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Mary B. Patterson.
- 34 SL 2068, June 11, 1906, C 3237—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Martha A. Dunlap.
- 34 SL 2103, June 11, 1906, C 3276—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Eliza Jane Witherspoon.
- 34 SL 2108, June 11, 1906, C 3276—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Sophie S. Parker.
- 34 SL 2121, June 18, 1906, C 3354—An Act Granting an increase of pension to David B. Johnson.
- 34 SL 2138, June 18, 1906, C 3408—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Mary J. Ives.
- 34 SL 2184, June 18, 1906, C 3410—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Margaret Simpson.
- 34 SL 2138, June 18, 1906, C 3427—An Act Granting an increase of pension to George Gardner.
- 34 SL 2143, June 29, 1906, C 3446—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Martha Jane Boli.
- 34 SL 2147, June 29, 1906, C 3487—An Act Granting an increase of pension to David McCrellish.
- 34 SL 2188, June 29, 1906, C 3739—An Act Granting an increase of pension to James D. Tynlor.
- 34 SL 2191, June 29, 1906, C 3818—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Joel Gay.
- 34 SL 2198, June 29, 1906, C 3891—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Eliza Rebecca Sims.
- 34 SL 2202, June 29, 1906, C 3849—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Julia A. Abney.
- 34 SL 2204, June 29, 1906, C 3890—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Mary Mary.
- 34 SL 2203, June 29, 1906, C 3894—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Mary B. Mundy.
- 34 SL 2207, June 29, 1906, C 3872—An Act Granting a pension to Alexander McCallister.
- 34 SL 2211, June 29, 1906, C 3888—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Ann W. Whitaker.
- 34 SL 2216, June 30, 1906, C 3900—An Act For the relief of James W. Watson.
- 34 SL 2220, June 30, 1906, C 3978—An Act For the relief of Thomas E. Kent.
- 34 SL 2222, June 30, 1906, C 3862—An Act Granting a pension to Josephine V. Sparks.
- 34 SL 2243, Jan. 12, 1907, C 96—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Louisa M. Sess.
- 34 SL 2246, Jan. 12, 1907, C 108—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Susan M. Osborn.
- 34 SL 2248, Jan. 12, 1907, C 119—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Louisa J. Farn.
- 34 SL 2249, Jan. 12, 1907, C 121—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Mary Isabella Rykard.
- 34 SL 2249, Jan. 12, 1907, C 123—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Susan M. Long.
- 34 SL 2250, Jan. 12, 1907, C 125—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Margaret R. Vandiver.
- 34 SL 2250, Jan. 12, 1907, C 126—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Anna Lamar Walker.
- 34 SL 2251, Jan. 12, 1907, C 131—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Emma L. Patterson.
- 34 SL 2283, Jan. 18, 1907, C 191—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Aaron Daniels.
- 34 SL 2293, Jan. 18, 1907, C 200—An Act Granting a pension to John Watts.
- 34 SL 2299, Jan. 18, 1907, C 220—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Emily Kilian.
- 34 SL 2274, Jan. 18, 1907, C 240—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Joseph Johnston.
- 34 SL 2274, Jan. 18, 1907, C 241—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Sherrod Hamilton.
- 34 SL 2275, Jan. 18, 1907, C 250—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Betsey A. Holmes.
- 34 SL 2276, Jan. 21, 1907, C 374—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Emily Fox.
- 34 SL 2311, Jan. 26, 1907, C 421—An Act For the relief of Augustus Trubing.
- 34 SL 2314, Feb. 1, 1907, C 450—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Mary Mickler.
- 34 SL 2377, Feb. 6, 1907, C 761—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Susan M. Brannon.

- 34 St 2378, Feb 6, 1907, C 732—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Mary F. Johnson
- 34 St 2379, Feb 6, 1907, C 733—An Act Granting an increase of pension to William F. Chalkley
- 34 St 2380, Feb 6, 1907, C 735—An Act Granting an increase of pension to James Butler
- 34 St 2382, Feb 6, 1907, C 732—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Eunice Cook
- 34 St 2383, Feb 6, 1907, C 773—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Cassen C. Tyler
- 34 St 2384, Feb 6, 1907, C 773—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Mary J. Thummond
- 34 St 2386, Feb 6, 1907, C 758—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Ellen Downing
- 34 St 2390, Feb 6, 1907, C 762—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Sarah A. Galloway
- 34 St 2408, Feb 7, 1907, C 861—An Act For the relief of Esther Rousseau
- 34 St 2411, Feb 9, 1907, C 915—An Act For the relief of John C. Lynch
- 34 St 2411, Feb 9, 1907, C 916—An Act For the relief of John B. Brown
- 34 St 2416, Feb 13, 1907, C 912—An Act Refecting the claim of S. W. Peet for land surveyed, ceded the Choctaw Nation of Indians, to the Court of Claims for adjudication
- 34 St 2422, Feb 18, 1907, C 977—An Act Granting an increase of pension to William H. Kimball
- 34 St 2442, Feb 19, 1907, C 1049—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Mary J. Thummond
- 34 St 2457, Feb 19, 1907, C 1127—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Elvina Adams
- 34 St 2459, Feb 19, 1907, C 1128—An Act Granting an increase of pension to William W. Jordan
- 34 St 2459, Feb 25, 1907, C 1215—An Act Granting a pension to Mary Schocke
- 34 St 2482, Feb 25, 1907, C 1278—An Act Granting a pension to Jesse Huiatt
- 34 St 2489, Feb 25, 1907, C 1294—An Act Granting a pension to Rollin S. Belknap
- 34 St 2483, Feb 25, 1907, C 1295—An Act Granting a pension to Celeste B. Outlaw
- 34 St 2498, Feb 25, 1907, C 1354—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Martin Heiler
- 34 St 2522, Feb 25, 1907, C 1407—An Act Granting an increase of pension to John Bryant
- 34 St 2523, Feb 25, 1907, C 1469—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Andrew Canova
- 34 St 2536, Feb 25, 1907, C 1515—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Sibby Barnhill
- 34 St 2544, Feb 25, 1907, C 1559—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Charlotte R. O'Neal
- 34 St 2554, Feb 25, 1907, C 1591—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Thomas L. Williams
- 34 St 2558, Feb 25, 1907, C 1811—An Act Granting an increase of pension to James L. Colding
- 34 St 2559, Feb 25, 1907, C 1824—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Mary Loomis
- 34 St 2567, Feb 25, 1907, C 1858—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Joseph J. Brannan
- 34 St 2577, Feb 26, 1907, C 1712—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Emma F. Buchanan
- 34 St 2583, Feb 26, 1907, C 1787—An Act Granting an increase of pension to David C. Jones
- 34 St 2593, Feb 26, 1907, C 1788—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Timothy Hanton
- 34 St 2597, Feb 26, 1907, C 1787—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Elizabeth Hodge
- 34 St 2599, Feb 26, 1907, C 1781—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Shadrach H. J. Alley
- 34 St 2598, Feb 26, 1907, C 1782—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Laura G. Hight
- 34 St 2598, Feb 26, 1907, C 1784—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Simson D. Pope
- 34 St 2594, Feb 26, 1907, C 1787—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Elizabeth Bailey
- 34 St 2650, Feb 26, 1907, C 2062—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Joseph B. Knighten

* *Cited*: Rousseau, 48 C. Cl. 1.

- 34 St 2658, Feb 26, 1907, C 2130—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Betty Hladice
- 34 St 2721, Feb 28, 1907, C 2141—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Mary O. Foster
- 34 St 2724, Mar 1, 1907, C 2309—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Henderson Stanley
- 34 St 2726, Mar 1, 1907, C 2407—An Act Granting an increase of pension to William H. Long
- 34 St 2747, Mar 1, 1907, C 2601—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Ann Hudson
- 34 St 2752, Mar 2, 1907, C 2603—An Act Granting a pension to John P. Walker
- 34 St 2763, Mar 2, 1907, C 2610—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Benjamin James
- 34 St 2767, Mar 2, 1907, C 2625—An Act Granting a pension to Edward Miller
- 34 St 2763, Mar 2, 1907, C 2633—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Samuel Boyd
- 34 St 2783, Mar 2, 1907, C 2744—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Mary Ann Ford
- 34 St 2822, Mar 2, 1907, C 2840—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Nancy A. Meredith
- 34 St 2860, Mar 2, 1907, C 2869—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Polly Ann Bowman
- 34 St 2820, Mar 2, 1907, C 2602—An Act authorizing and directing the Secretary of the Treasury to enter on the roll of Captain Orlando Humason's Company D, First Oregon Mounted Volunteers, the name of Ezekiah Davis
- 34 St 2822, Mar 8, 1906—Concurrent Res. Colville Indian Reservation
- 34 St 2830, Mar 26, 1906—Concurrent Res. Kiowa, Comanche, and Apache Indian Reservations, Okla.
- 34 St 2832, Apr 10, 1906—Concurrent Res. Five Civilized Tribes
- 34 St 2833, June 25, 1906—Concurrent Res. Columbia Indian Reservation, Wash.
- 34 St 2833, June 25, 1906—Concurrent Res. Five Civilized Tribes

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- 35 St 8, Feb 15, 1908, C 27—An Act Making appropriations to supply urgent deficiencies in the appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1908, and for prior years, and for other purposes
- 35 St 41, Mar 11, 1908, C 78—An Act To extend the time of payments on certain homestead entries in Oklahoma
- 35 St 43, Mar 16, 1908, C 87—An Act To provide additional station grounds and terminal facilities for the Arizona and California Ry. Co. in the Colorado River Indian Reservation, Arizona Territory
- 35 St 49, Mar 27, 1908, C 109—An Act Providing for the platting and selling of the south half of section thirty, township two north, range eleven west of the Indian meridian, in the State of Oklahoma, for town-site purposes
- 35 St 49, Mar 27, 1908, C 107—An Act Providing for the disposal of the interests of Indian miners in real estate in Yakima Indian Reservation, Washington
- 35 St 50, Mar 27, 1908, C 100—An Act Authorizing the Woodlawn Cemetery Association, of Saint Maies, Idaho, to purchase not to exceed 40 acres of land in the Coeur d'Alene Indian Reservation in Idaho
- 35 St 51, Mar 28, 1908, C 111—An Act To authorize the cutting of timber, the manufacture and sale of lumber, and the preservation of the forests on the Menominee Indian Reservation in the State of Wisconsin
- 35 St 53, Mar 31, 1908, C 114—An Act To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to issue patent in fee simple for certain lands of the State Reservation, in Nebraska, to school district numbered 98, in Kearney County, Nebraska
- 35 St 70, Apr. 30, 1908, C 158—An Act Making appropriations

* *Ap* 34 St 80
 * *Id* 34 St 218
 * *Id* 34 St 187
 * *Id* 34 St 888, 28 St 695, 32 St 280, 34 St 126; 34 St 812
 * *Ap* 34 St 8
 * *Id* 34 St 218, 650.
 * *Id* 34 St 980
 * *Id* 13 St 764, sec 2, 3, 35 St 77 *Cited* U S v Bowell,
 244 U S 46 St 703, 48 Ct 684, 30 St 1058, 39 St 123, 980, 40 St 501, 41 St 1226, 42 St 1774, 43 St 708, 1813, 44 St 483,
 45 St 1082, 46 St 208 *Cited* U S ex rel Brown, 9 F 2d, 984,
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for the current and contingent expense, of the Indian Department, for fulfilling treaty stipulations with various Indian tribes, and for other purposes, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1909. 25 U. S. C. 47 (sec. 23, 36 St. 61). 25 U. S. C. 52. 25 U. S. C. 54. 25 U. S. C. 205. See USCA Historical Note 25 U. S. C. 12; 25 U. S. C. 103. USCA Historical Note Recent Indian appropriation acts make appropriations for the purchase of goods, etc., for the Indian Service, with provision that no part of the sum so appropriated shall be used for the maintenance of not to exceed three permanent warehouses in the Indian Service. The provision of the fiscal year 1917, was by Act May 13, 1916, sec. 1, 39 St. 123, and limited the appropriation there made to the maintenance of not exceeding two permanent warehouses. 25 U. S. C. 151. USCA Historical Note: A provision identical with the Code Section, except that the banks which may be selected as depositories are not confined to National Banks, is contained in sec. 1, of Act June 25, 1910, 36 St. 895, and set out in 25 U. S. C. 372. See Historical Note 25 U. S. C. A. 20. 45 U. S. C. 93, 95 U. S. C. 392.

- 35 St. 102; May 11, 1908; C. 163—An Act to amend an Act entitled "An Act for the protection of game in Alaska, and for other purposes," approved June 7, 1902.
- 35 St. 103; May 11, 1908; C. 164—An Act Making appropriation for the support of the Army for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1909.
- 35 St. 160; May 19, 1909; C. 177—An Act Authorizing the Secretary of the Interior to issue patents in fee to the Board of Missions of the Protestant Episcopal Church for certain lands in the State of Idaho.
- 35 St. 160; May 20, 1909; C. 181—An Act To authorize the drainage of certain lands in the State of Minnesota.
- 35 St. 194; May 22, 1909; C. 199—An Act Making appropriations for the legislative, executive, and judicial expenses of the Government for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1910, and for other purposes.
- 35 St. 201; May 22, 1909; C. 192—An Act Making appropriations for the Department of Agriculture for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1910. 16 U. S. C. 871.
- 35 St. 208; May 23, 1909; C. 193—An Act Amending the Act of January 14, 1889, and Acts amendatory thereof, and for other purposes.
- 35 St. 312; May 27, 1909; C. 199—An Act For the removal of restrictions from part of the lands of allottees of the Five Civilized Tribes, and for other purposes.

35 St. 442; 7 St. 61, 85, 99, 114, 135, 215, 230, 296, 317, 320, 321, 420, 541, 545; 9 St. 55, 89, 91, 111, 114, 702, 744; 12 St. 781, 782, 783, 784, 785, 786, 787, 788, 789, 790, 791, 792, 793, 794, 795, 796, 797, 798, 799, 800, 801, 802, 803, 804, 805, 806, 807, 808, 809, 810, 811, 812, 813, 814, 815, 816, 817, 818, 819, 820, 821, 822, 823, 824, 825, 826, 827, 828, 829, 830, 831, 832, 833, 834, 835, 836, 837, 838, 839, 840, 841, 842, 843, 844, 845, 846, 847, 848, 849, 850, 851, 852, 853, 854, 855, 856, 857, 858, 859, 860, 861, 862, 863, 864, 865, 866, 867, 868, 869, 870, 871, 872, 873, 874, 875, 876, 877, 878, 879, 880, 881, 882, 883, 884, 885, 886, 887, 888, 889, 890, 891, 892, 893, 894, 895, 896, 897, 898, 899, 900, 901, 902, 903, 904, 905, 906, 907, 908, 909, 910, 911, 912, 913, 914, 915, 916, 917, 918, 919, 920, 921, 922, 923, 924, 925, 926, 927, 928, 929, 930, 931, 932, 933, 934, 935, 936, 937, 938, 939, 940, 941, 942, 943, 944, 945, 946, 947, 948, 949, 950, 951, 952, 953, 954, 955, 956, 957, 958, 959, 960, 961, 962, 963, 964, 965, 966, 967, 968, 969, 970, 971, 972, 973, 974, 975, 976, 977, 978, 979, 980, 981, 982, 983, 984, 985, 986, 987, 988, 989, 990, 991, 992, 993, 994, 995, 996, 997, 998, 999, 1000.

- 35 St. 317; May 27, 1909; C. 200—An Act Making appropriations for sanitary civil expenses of the Government for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1910, and for other purposes.
- 35 St. 444; May 29, 1909; C. 216—An Act To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to issue patents in fee to purchasers of Indian lands under any law now existing or hereafter enacted, and for other purposes. See 1-25 U. S. C. 234. (See U. S. C. A. Historical Note.)
- 35 St. 458; May 29, 1909; C. 217—An Act To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to sell and dispose of the surplus unallotted agricultural lands of the Spokane Indian Reservation, in Washington, and for other purposes.
- 35 St. 460; May 29, 1909; C. 218—An Act To authorize the sale and disposition of a portion of the surplus and unallotted lands in the Cheyenne River and Standing Rock Indian Reservations in the States of South Dakota and North Dakota, and making appropriation and provision to carry the same into effect.
- 35 St. 465; May 29, 1909; C. 220—An Act Authorizing a survey of certain townships in the State of Wyoming, and for other purposes.
- 35 St. 478; May 30, 1909; C. 227—An Act Making appropriations

Sol. Sept. 17, 1898; Jan. 18, 1897; Jan. 28, 1897; Feb. 5, 1897; Apr. 8, 1897; Apr. 14, 1908; 40 U. S. C. 348; 50 U. S. C. 491; 51 U. S. C. 48; 63 U. S. C. 471, 482, 483, 484, 485, 486, 487, 488, 489, 490, 491, 492, 493, 494, 495, 496, 497, 498, 499, 500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510, 511, 512, 513, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 533, 534, 535, 536, 537, 538, 539, 540, 541, 542, 543, 544, 545, 546, 547, 548, 549, 550, 551, 552, 553, 554, 555, 556, 557, 558, 559, 560, 561, 562, 563, 564, 565, 566, 567, 568, 569, 570, 571, 572, 573, 574, 575, 576, 577, 578, 579, 580, 581, 582, 583, 584, 585, 586, 587, 588, 589, 590, 591, 592, 593, 594, 595, 596, 597, 598, 599, 600, 601, 602, 603, 604, 605, 606, 607, 608, 609, 610, 611, 612, 613, 614, 615, 616, 617, 618, 619, 620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627, 628, 629, 630, 631, 632, 633, 634, 635, 636, 637, 638, 639, 640, 641, 642, 643, 644, 645, 646, 647, 648, 649, 650, 651, 652, 653, 654, 655, 656, 657, 658, 659, 660, 661, 662, 663, 664, 665, 666, 667, 668, 669, 670, 671, 672, 673, 674, 675, 676, 677, 678, 679, 680, 681, 682, 683, 684, 685, 686, 687, 688, 689, 690, 691, 692, 693, 694, 695, 696, 697, 698, 699, 700, 701, 702, 703, 704, 705, 706, 707, 708, 709, 710, 711, 712, 713, 714, 715, 716, 717, 718, 719, 720, 721, 722, 723, 724, 725, 726, 727, 728, 729, 730, 731, 732, 733, 734, 735, 736, 737, 738, 739, 740, 741, 742, 743, 744, 745, 746, 747, 748, 749, 750, 751, 752, 753, 754, 755, 756, 757, 758, 759, 760, 761, 762, 763, 764, 765, 766, 767, 768, 769, 770, 771, 772, 773, 774, 775, 776, 777, 778, 779, 780, 781, 782, 783, 784, 785, 786, 787, 788, 789, 790, 791, 792, 793, 794, 795, 796, 797, 798, 799, 800, 801, 802, 803, 804, 805, 806, 807, 808, 809, 810, 811, 812, 813, 814, 815, 816, 817, 818, 819, 820, 821, 822, 823, 824, 825, 826, 827, 828, 829, 830, 831, 832, 833, 834, 835, 836, 837, 838, 839, 840, 841, 842, 843, 844, 845, 846, 847, 848, 849, 850, 851, 852, 853, 854, 855, 856, 857, 858, 859, 860, 861, 862, 863, 864, 865, 866, 867, 868, 869, 870, 871, 872, 873, 874, 875, 876, 877, 878, 879, 880, 881, 882, 883, 884, 885, 886, 887, 888, 889, 890, 891, 892, 893, 894, 895, 896, 897, 898, 899, 900, 901, 902, 903, 904, 905, 906, 907, 908, 909, 910, 911, 912, 913, 914, 915, 916, 917, 918, 919, 920, 921, 922, 923, 924, 925, 926, 927, 928, 929, 930, 931, 932, 933, 934, 935, 936, 937, 938, 939, 940, 941, 942, 943, 944, 945, 946, 947, 948, 949, 950, 951, 952, 953, 954, 955, 956, 957, 958, 959, 960, 961, 962, 963, 964, 965, 966, 967, 968, 969, 970, 971, 972, 973, 974, 975, 976, 977, 978, 979, 980, 981, 982, 983, 984, 985, 986, 987, 988, 989, 990, 991, 992, 993, 994, 995, 996, 997, 998, 999, 1000.

- 35 St. 1107, Feb. 27, 1900; J Res No 19—Joint Resolution Relative to homestead designations, made and to be made, of members of the Cheyenne Tribe of Indians.
- 35 St. 1170; Mar. 4, 1901, J Res No 24—Joint Resolution Concerning and relating to the treaty between the United States and Russia.
- 35 St. 1177, Feb. 25, 1900, C 39—An Act Granting an increase of pension to John S. Hyatt.
- 35 St. 1177, Feb. 25, 1900, C 40—An Act Granting an increase of pension to John Lowder.
- 35 St. 1178, Feb. 25, 1900, C 41—An Act Granting an increase of pension to John Lourey.
- 35 St. 1178, Feb. 25, 1900, C 42—An Act Granting an increase of pension to William C. O'Neal.
- 35 St. 1179, Feb. 25, 1900, C 47—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Lester Nile.
- 35 St. 1179, Feb. 25, 1900, C 48—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Elizabeth Street.
- 35 St. 1179, Feb. 25, 1900, C 49—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Nancy Motow.
- 35 St. 1179, Feb. 25, 1900, C 50—An Act Granting an increase of pension to Jane C. Smiley.
- 35 St. 1204, Mar. 3, 1900, C 14—An Act Granting pensions and increase of pensions to certain soldiers and sailors of the Regular Army and Navy, and certain soldiers and sailors of wars other than the civil war, and to widows and dependent relatives of such soldiers and sailors.
- 35 St. 1210, Mar. 3, 1900, C 38—An Act Granting pensions and increase of pensions to certain soldiers and sailors of the war with Spain and other wars, and to the widows of such soldiers and sailors.
- 35 St. 1215, May 28, 1900, C 107—An Act Granting pensions and increase of pensions to certain soldiers and sailors of the civil war and other wars, and to certain widows and dependent relatives of such soldiers and sailors.
- 35 St. 1280, May 27, 1900, C 207—An Act Granting pension and increase of pension to certain soldiers and sailors of the war with Spain and other wars, and to the widows of such soldiers and sailors.
- 35 St. 1404, Jan. 22, 1900, C 90—An Act To reimburse Ulysses S. Grant for money erroneously paid into the Treasury of the United States.
- 35 St. 1404, Jan. 22, 1900, C 88—An Act For the relief of D. J. Holmes.
- 35 St. 1405, Jan. 22, 1900, C 43—An Act Granting pensions and increase of pensions to certain soldiers and sailors of the Regular Army and Navy, and certain soldiers and sailors of wars other than the civil war, and to widows and dependent relatives of such soldiers and sailors.
- 35 St. 1407, Jan. 22, 1900, C 44—An Act For the relief of Charles H. Dickson.
- 35 St. 1431, Jan. 22, 1900, C 50—An Act Granting pensions and increase of pensions to certain soldiers and sailors of the Regular Army and Navy, and certain soldiers and sailors of wars other than the civil war, and to widows and dependent relatives of such soldiers and sailors.
- 35 St. 1432, Feb. 1, 1901, C 37—An Act To provide for the payment of certain volunteers who rendered service in the Territory of Oregon to the Cayuse Indians war of 1847 and 1848.
- 35 St. 1437, Feb. 6, 1900, C 06—An Act For the relief of the heirs of Thomas J. Miller.
- 35 St. 1440, Feb. 7, 1900, C 141—An Act Granting pensions and increase of pensions to certain soldiers and sailors of the Regular Army and Navy, and certain soldiers and sailors of wars other than the civil war, and to widows and dependent relatives of such soldiers and sailors.
- 35 St. 1402, Feb. 13, 1900, C 154—An Act Granting pensions and increase of pensions to certain soldiers and sailors of wars other than the civil war, and to certain widows and dependent relatives of such soldiers and sailors.
- 35 St. 1530, Feb. 27, 1900, C 299—An Act Granting pensions and increase of pensions to certain soldiers and sailors of the Regular Army and Navy, and certain soldiers of wars other than the civil war, and to widows and dependent relatives of such soldiers and sailors.
- 35 St. 1573, Mar. 3, 1900, C 255—An Act Granting pensions and increase of pensions to certain soldiers and sailors of the Regular Army and Navy, and certain soldiers and sailors

of wars other than the civil war, and to widows and dependant relatives of such soldiers and sailors.

- 35 St. 1610, Mar. 3, 1900, C 230—An Act Granting pensions and increase of pensions to certain soldiers and sailors of the Regular Army and Navy, and certain soldiers and sailors of wars other than the civil war, and to widows and dependant relatives of such soldiers and sailors.
- 35 St. 1616, Mar. 3, 1900, C 201—An Act Granting pensions and increase of pensions to soldiers and sailors of wars other than the civil war and to certain widows and dependant relatives of such soldiers and sailors.
- 35 St. 1617, Mar. 3, 1900, C 232—An Act Granting pensions and increase of pensions to certain soldiers and sailors of wars other than the civil war and to certain dependant relatives of such soldiers and sailors.
- 35 St. 1617, Mar. 3, 1900, C 233—An Act Granting pensions and increase of pensions to certain soldiers and sailors of wars other than the civil war and to certain widows and dependant and helpless relatives of such soldiers and sailors.
- 35 St. 1618, Mar. 3, 1900, C 230—An Act For the relief of the Herman Andrus Electrical Co., of Milwaukee, Wisconsin.
- 35 St. 1620, Mar. 4, 1900, C 327—An Act Authorizing the Secretary of the Interior to ascertain the amount due O. H. Baum, and pay the same out of the fund known as "For the relief and exoneration of the Cheyenne Indians."
- 35 St. 1623, Mar. 4, 1900, C 339—An Act For the relief of Mrs M. B. West.

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- 36 St. 1, July 2, 1900, C 2—An Act To provide for the Thirteenth and subsequent decennial censuses.
- 36 St. 118, Aug. 6, 1900, C 7—An Act Making appropriations to supply urgent deficiencies in appropriations for the fiscal year 1900, and for other purposes.
- 36 St. 120, Jan. 31, 1900, C 21—An Act To amend section twelve of an Act entitled "An Act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to issue patents in fee to purchasers of Indian lands under any law now existing or hereafter enacted, and for other purposes," approved May 29, 1900, and for other purposes.
- 36 St. 17, Feb. 17, 1900, C 40—An Act To amend sections 7 and 8 of the Act of May 20, 1893, entitled "An Act to authorize the sale and disposition of a portion of the surplus and unallotted lands in the Cheyenne River and Standing Rock Indian reservations, in the States of South Dakota and North Dakota, and making appropriation and provision to carry the same into effect."
- 36 St. 202, Feb. 25, 1901, C 62—An Act Making appropriations to supply urgent deficiencies in appropriations for the fiscal year 1901, and for other purposes.
- 36 St. 227, Feb. 25, 1901, C 65—An Act To amend section eight of an Act to provide for the Thirteenth and subsequent decennial censuses, approved July 2, 1900.
- 36 St. 243, Mar. 23, 1901, C 115—An Act Making appropriation for the support of the army for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1911.
- 36 St. 265, Mar. 26, 1901, C 120—An Act For the relief of homestead settlers under the Act of February 20, 1904; June 6 and 2, 1905; March 2, 1907; and May 29, 1908.
- 36 St. 269, Apr. 4, 1900, C 140—An Act Making appropriations for the current and contingent expenses of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, for fulfilling treaty stipulations with various Indian tribes, and for other purposes, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1911.

Sec. 1—25 U. S. C. 145 (42 St. 24, 25 St. 642, 26 St. 652, 27 St. 1231, 28 St. 708, 29 St. 444, 30 St. 490, 31 St. 441, 32 St. 858, 33 St. 596, 34 St. 886, 1376, 35 St. 804, 36 St. 410, 37 St. 414, 38 St. 518, 1280, 39 St. 21, 40. Chippewa, 41 St. 410, 42 St. 48, 43 St. 218, 288, 425, 44 St. 614, 45 St. 981, 1172, 46 St. 324, 1087, 47 St. 662, 358, 978, 48 St. 415, 730, 19 St. 644, 20 St. 823, 21 St. 38, 22 St. 683, 23 St. 384, 24 St. 384, 25 St. 684, 26 St. 384, 27 St. 384, 28 St. 384, 29 St. 384, 30 St. 384, 31 St. 384, 32 St. 384, 33 St. 384, 34 St. 384, 35 St. 384, 36 St. 384, 37 St. 384, 38 St. 384, 39 St. 384, 40 St. 384, 41 St. 384, 42 St. 384, 43 St. 384, 44 St. 384, 45 St. 384, 46 St. 384, 47 St. 384, 48 St. 384, 49 St. 384, 50 St. 384, 51 St. 384, 52 St. 384, 53 St. 384, 54 St. 384, 55 St. 384, 56 St. 384, 57 St. 384, 58 St. 384, 59 St. 384, 60 St. 384, 61 St. 384, 62 St. 384, 63 St. 384, 64 St. 384, 65 St. 384, 66 St. 384, 67 St. 384, 68 St. 384, 69 St. 384, 70 St. 384, 71 St. 384, 72 St. 384, 73 St. 384, 74 St. 384, 75 St. 384, 76 St. 384, 77 St. 384, 78 St. 384, 79 St. 384, 80 St. 384, 81 St. 384, 82 St. 384, 83 St. 384, 84 St. 384, 85 St. 384, 86 St. 384, 87 St. 384, 88 St. 384, 89 St. 384, 90 St. 384, 91 St. 384, 92 St. 384, 93 St. 384, 94 St. 384, 95 St. 384, 96 St. 384, 97 St. 384, 98 St. 384, 99 St. 384, 100 St. 384, 101 St. 384, 102 St. 384, 103 St. 384, 104 St. 384, 105 St. 384, 106 St. 384, 107 St. 384, 108 St. 384, 109 St. 384, 110 St. 384, 111 St. 384, 112 St. 384, 113 St. 384, 114 St. 384, 115 St. 384, 116 St. 384, 117 St. 384, 118 St. 384, 119 St. 384, 120 St. 384, 121 St. 384, 122 St. 384, 123 St. 384, 124 St. 384, 125 St. 384, 126 St. 384, 127 St. 384, 128 St. 384, 129 St. 384, 130 St. 384, 131 St. 384, 132 St. 384, 133 St. 384, 134 St. 384, 135 St. 384, 136 St. 384, 137 St. 384, 138 St. 384, 139 St. 384, 140 St. 384, 141 St. 384, 142 St. 384, 143 St. 384, 144 St. 384, 145 St. 384, 146 St. 384, 147 St. 384, 148 St. 384, 149 St. 384, 150 St. 384, 151 St. 384, 152 St. 384, 153 St. 384, 154 St. 384, 155 St. 384, 156 St. 384, 157 St. 384, 158 St. 384, 159 St. 384, 160 St. 384, 161 St. 384, 162 St. 384, 163 St. 384, 164 St. 384, 165 St. 384, 166 St. 384, 167 St. 384, 168 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see 804), USCA Historical Note. This section (115), with the exception of the phrase "by the General Accounting Office," was derived from sec 1, 36 St. 270. The above-quoted phrase was substituted in the Code section for the words in the derivative section "by the proper auditors of the Treasury Department" by reason of sec 301, 42 St. 24, vesting in and imposing upon the General Accounting Office, powers and duties, theretofore exercised and discharged by the Comptroller of the Treasury, the Auditors of the Treasury, as, explained in the historical note under section 8 of this title. 25 U S C 384; 26 U S C 883, 28 U S C 385 (sec 58 St. 680); 28 U S C 964. Sec 2-25 U S C 48, 25 U S C 885 (sec 1, 38 St. 683).

36 St. 262, Apr. 8, 1910, C 146.—An Act Authorizing the Secretary of the Interior to appropriate certain lands in the State of Minnesota for the purpose of granting the same to the Minnesota and Montana R. Co. for a ballast pit.

36 St. 296, Apr. 12, 1910, C 160.—An Act To amend the Act of April 23, 1904 (38 St. 302), entitled "An Act for the survey and allotment of lands now embraced within the limits of the Flathead Indian Reservation, in the State of Montana, and the sale and disposal of all surplus lands after allotment," and all amendments thereto.

36 St. 323, Apr. 21, 1910, C 183.—An Act To protect the seal fisheries of Alaska, and for other purposes. Sec 1—10 U S C 950, Sec 3-16 U S C 952, Sec 9-10 U S C 947; Sec 9-16 U S C 663, 663.

36 St. 380, Apr. 22, 1910, C 197.—An Act Authorizing the Secretary of the Interior to ascertain the amount due Tay-cum-ge-shig, otherwise known as William G. Johnson, and pay the same to him in full out of the fund known as "For the relief and civilization of the Chippewa Indians, in the State of Minnesota (reimbursable)."

36 St. 348, May 6, 1910, C 202.—An Act Providing for the taxation of the lands of the Omaha Indians in Nebraska.

36 St. 348, May 6, 1910, C 203.—An Act To amend the Act approved December 21, 1904, entitled "An Act to authorize the sale and disposition of surplus or unallotted lands of the Yakima Indian Reservation in the State of Washington."

36 St. 349, May 6, 1910, C 204.—An Act Granting lands to the Nez Percés, and so forth. Sec 1—25 U S C 820, (36 St. 732).

36 St. 367, May 13, 1910, C 238.—An Act To authorize the sale of certain lands belonging to the Indians on the Siletz Indian Reservation, in the State of Oregon.

36 St. 383, May 13, 1910, C 234.—An Act To amend sections 1, 2, and 3 of chapter 3298, Thirty-fourth United States Statutes at Large, with reference to the drainage of certain Indian lands in Richardson County, Nebraska.

36 St. 440, May 13, 1910, C 267.—An Act To authorize the sale and disposition of the surplus and unallotted lands in Bennett County, in the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation, in the State of South Dakota, and making appropriation to carry the same into effect.

36 St. 448; May 30, 1910, C 260.—An Act To authorize the sale and disposition of a portion of the surplus and unallotted lands in Mellette and Washabaugh counties in the Rosebud Indian Reservation in the State of South Dakota, and mak-

ing appropriation and provision to carry the same into effect.

36 St. 465, June 1, 1910, C 261.—An Act To authorize the survey and allotment of lands embraced within the limits of the Fort Beathold Indian Reservation, in the State of North Dakota, and the sale and disposition of a portion of the surplus lands after allotment, and making appropriation and provision to carry the same into effect.

36 St. 468, June 17, 1910, C 267.—An Act Making appropriations for the legislative, executive, and judicial expenses of the Government for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1911, and for other purposes.

36 St. 533, June 17, 1910, C 290.—An Act To open to settlement and entry under the general provisions of the homestead laws of the United States certain lands in the State of Oklahoma, and for other purposes.

36 St. 567, June 20, 1910, C 310.—An Act To enable the people of New Mexico to form a constitution and state government and to be admitted into the Union on an equal footing with the original States, and to enable the people of Arizona to form a constitution and state government and to be admitted into the Union on an equal footing with the original States.

36 St. 580, June 22, 1910, C 318.—An Act Authorizing the Omaha line of Indians to submit claims to the Court of Claims.

36 St. 582, June 22, 1910, C 319.—An Act To pay funeral and transportation expenses of certain Bos Fort Indians.

36 St. 582, June 22, 1910, C 310.—An Act Granting to the Bilets Power and Manufacturing Company a right of way for a water ditch or canal through the Siletz Indian Reservation, in Oregon.

36 St. 583, June 22, 1910, C 327.—An Act To authorize the Lawton and Fort Bill Electric Ry. Co. to construct and operate a railway through the public lands reserved for Indian school purposes, of township one north, range eleven west, Indian merididian, Comanche County, Oklahoma, and for other purposes.

36 St. 602, June 23, 1910, C 360.—An Act To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to sell a portion of the unallotted lands in the Cheyenne Indian Reservation, in South Dakota, to the Milwaukee Land Co. for town-site purposes.

36 St. 708, June 25, 1910, C 384.—An Act Making appropriations for sundry civil expenses of the Government for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1911, and for other purposes.

36 St. 774, June 25, 1910, C 385.—An Act Making appropriations to supply deficiencies in appropriations for the fiscal year 1910, and for other purposes.

36 St. 823, June 25, 1910, C 400.—An Act For the relief of the Sagaway, Swen Creek, and Black River band of Chippewa Indians in the State of Michigan, and for other purposes.

36 St. 832, June 25, 1910, C 408.—An Act Granting to Savannah Coal Company right to acquire additional acreage to its existing coal lease in the Choctaw Nation, Pittsburg County, Oklahoma, and for other purposes.

36 St. 833, June 25, 1910, C 405.—An Act To authorize the cancellation of trust patents in certain cases.

36 St. 836, June 25, 1910, C 409.—An Act To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to issue a patent to the city of Anadarko, State of Oklahoma, for a tract of land, and for other purposes.

36 St. 855, June 25, 1910, C 431.—An Act To provide for determining the heirs of deceased Indians, for the disposition and sale of allotments of deceased Indians, for the leasing of allotments, and for other purposes. Sec 1—25 U S C

1632, 46 St. 273, 1115, 47 St. 15, 91, 620, 48 St. 362, 49 St. 179, 1737, 50 St. 213, 652, 62 St. 301, *Oited* 410 St. 886, June 10, 1963, *Memo*, 47 St. 2167, *Oited* 410 St. 886, June 10, 1963, *Comm'n*, Jan 9, 1961, 53 U S 124, *Medavakation*, 87 C Civ 307, U S v *Almon*, 173 1309, U S v *Widow*, 233 U S 228, U S v *Ona Ford*, 289 Fed 218, U S v *Bowell*, 243 U S 464, U S v *Rowland*, 281 U S 28, *Yankton*, 272 U S 351, *Yankton*, 61 C Civ 40.

U S Sec 1, 45 St. 980, 991.

U S Sec 18, 1910, 36 St. 798.

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U S Sec 18, 1910, 36 St. 798.

- for sundry civil expenses of the Government for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1912, and for other purposes
- 30 St. 1800, Mar. 23, 1910, C. 121—An Act Granting pensions and increase of pension to certain soldiers and sailors of the Regular Army and Navy, and certain soldiers and sailors of wars other than the civil war, and to widows and dependent relatives of such soldiers and sailors
- 30 St. 1807, Apr. 15, 1910, C. 171—An Act For the relief of Horace C. Dale, administrator of the estate of Antoine Janis, senor, deceased, of Pine Ridge, South Dakota
- 30 St. 1808, Apr. 22, 1910, C. 180—An Act Authorizing the Secretary of the Interior to allotment to Frank E. Penquette
- 30 St. 1700, May 6, 1910, C. 214—An Act For the relief of Samuel W. Campbell
- 30 St. 1751, June 7, 1910, C. 206—An Act Granting pensions to certain soldiers and sailors of wars other than the civil war and to certain widows and dependent relatives of such soldiers and sailors
- 30 St. 1752, June 7, 1910, C. 209—An Act Granting pensions and increase of pensions to certain soldiers and sailors of the Regular Army and Navy and wars other than the civil war and to certain widows of such soldiers and sailors
- 30 St. 1753, June 7, 1910, C. 270—An Act Granting pensions and increase of pensions to certain soldiers and sailors of the Regular Army and Navy and wars other than the civil war, and to certain widows and dependent relatives of such soldiers and sailors
- 30 St. 1758, June 7, 1910, C. 273—An Act Granting pensions and increase of pensions to certain soldiers and sailors of the Regular Army and Navy, and certain soldiers and sailors of wars other than the civil war, and to widows and dependent relatives of such soldiers and sailors
- 30 St. 1760, June 7, 1910, C. 274—An Act Granting pensions and increase of pensions to certain soldiers and sailors of the Regular Army and Navy, and certain soldiers and sailors of wars other than the civil war, and to widows and dependent relatives of such soldiers and sailors
- 30 St. 1762, June 7, 1910, C. 275—An Act Granting pensions and increase of pensions to certain soldiers and sailors of the Regular Army and Navy, and certain soldiers and sailors of wars other than the civil war, and to widows and dependent relatives of such soldiers and sailors
- 30 St. 1769, June 9, 1910, C. 279—An Act Granting pensions and increase of pensions to certain soldiers and sailors of the Regular Army and Navy and wars other than the civil war and certain widows and dependent relatives of such soldiers and sailors
- 30 St. 1806, June 17, 1910, C. 808—An Act Granting pensions and increase of pensions to certain soldiers and sailors of the Regular Army and Navy, and certain soldiers and sailors of wars other than the civil war, and to certain widows and dependent relatives of such soldiers and sailors
- 30 St. 1809, June 17, 1910, C. 804—An Act Granting pensions and increase of pensions to certain soldiers and sailors of the Regular Army and Navy, and certain soldiers and sailors of wars other than the civil war, and to widows and dependent relatives of such soldiers and sailors
- 30 St. 1807, June 17, 1910, C. 805—An Act Granting pensions and increase of pensions to certain soldiers and sailors of the Regular Army and Navy, and certain soldiers and sailors of wars other than the civil war, and to widows and dependent relatives of such soldiers and sailors
- 30 St. 1809, June 22, 1910, C. 853—An Act For the relief of Rasmus K. Haefes
- 30 St. 1810, June 22, 1910, C. 835—An Act Granting pensions and increase of pensions to certain soldiers and sailors of the Regular Army and Navy and wars other than the civil war, and certain widows and dependent relatives of such soldiers and sailors
- 30 St. 1811, June 22, 1910, C. 836—An Act For the relief of Garland and Bergh
- 30 St. 1813, June 22, 1910, C. 844—An Act Granting pensions and increase of pensions to certain soldiers and sailors of the Regular Army and Navy, and certain soldiers and sailors of wars other than the civil war, and to widows and dependent relatives of such soldiers and sailors
- 30 St. 1815, June 22, 1910, C. 845—An Act Granting pensions and increase of pensions to certain soldiers and sailors of the Regular Army and Navy, and certain soldiers and sailors

- of wars other than the civil war, and to the widows and dependent relatives of such soldiers and sailors
- 30 St. 1816, June 22, 1910, C. 846—An Act Granting pensions and increase of pensions to certain soldiers and sailors of the Regular Army and Navy, and certain soldiers and sailors of wars other than the civil war, and to widows and dependent relatives of such soldiers and sailors
- 30 St. 1818, June 22, 1910, C. 848—An Act Granting pensions and increase of pensions to certain soldiers and sailors of the Regular Army and Navy, and certain soldiers and sailors of wars other than the civil war, and to widows and dependent relatives of such soldiers and sailors
- 30 St. 1843, June 22, 1910, C. 852—An Act Granting pensions and increase of pensions to certain soldiers and sailors of the Regular Army and Navy, and certain soldiers and sailors of wars other than the civil war, and to widows and dependent relatives of such soldiers and sailors
- 30 St. 1843, June 22, 1910, C. 853—An Act Granting pensions and increase of pensions to certain soldiers and sailors of the Regular Army and Navy, and certain soldiers and sailors of wars other than the civil war, and to widows and dependent relatives of such soldiers and sailors
- 30 St. 1843, June 22, 1910, C. 853—An Act Granting pensions and increase of pensions to certain soldiers and sailors of the Regular Army and Navy, and certain soldiers and sailors of wars other than the civil war, and to widows and dependent relatives of such soldiers and sailors
- 30 St. 1850, June 23, 1910, C. 375—An Act Granting pensions and increase of pensions to certain soldiers and sailors of the Regular Army and Navy, and wars other than the civil war, and certain widows and dependent relatives of such soldiers and sailors
- 30 St. 1860, June 23, 1910, C. 376—An Act Granting pensions and increase of pensions to certain soldiers and sailors of the Regular Army and Navy, and wars other than the civil war, and to widows and dependent relatives of such soldiers and sailors
- 30 St. 1863, June 26, 1910, C. 459—An Act To reimburse G. H. Kison for money advanced to the Menominee tribe of Indians of Wisconsin
- 30 St. 1862, Feb. 17, 1911, C. 107—An Act Granting pensions and increase of pensions to certain soldiers and sailors of the Regular Army and Navy, and certain soldiers and sailors of wars other than the Civil War, and to widows and dependent relatives of such soldiers and sailors
- 30 St. 1864, Feb. 17, 1911, C. 108—An Act Granting pensions and increase of pensions to certain soldiers and sailors of the Regular Army and Navy, and soldiers and sailors of wars other than the Civil War, and to widows and dependent relatives of such soldiers and sailors
- 30 St. 2000, Feb. 28, 1911, C. 182—An Act Granting pensions and increase of pensions to certain soldiers and sailors of the Regular Army and Navy, and certain soldiers and sailors of wars other than the Civil War, and to widows and dependent relatives of such soldiers and sailors
- 30 St. 2064, Mar. 4, 1911, C. 808—An Act For the relief of Frances Coburn, Charles Coburn, and the heirs of Mary Westcott, deceased
- 30 St. 2090, Mar. 4, 1911, C. 811—An Act Granting pensions and increase of pensions to certain soldiers and sailors of the Regular Army and Navy, and certain soldiers and sailors of wars other than the Civil War, and to widows and dependent relatives of such soldiers and sailors

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- 37 St. 21, Aug. 17, 1911, C. 22—An Act Extending the time of payment to certain homesteaders in the Rosebud Indian Reservation, in the State of South Dakota
- 37 St. 23, Aug. 18, 1911, C. 28—An Act Granting leave of absence of certain homesteaders
- 37 St. 39, Aug. 22, 1911, C. 44—An Act To extend time of payment of balance due for lands sold under Act of Congress approved June 17, 1910
- 37 St. 38, Aug. 22, 1911, C. 45—An Act To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to withdraw from the Treasury of the United States the funds of the Kiowa, Comanche, and Apache Indians, and for other purposes
- 37 St. 39, Aug. 21, 1911, J. Res. No. 8—Joint Resolution To admit the Territories of New Mexico and Arizona as States into the Union upon an equal footing with the original States

30 St. 9 St. 722, sec. 1: 86 St. 102
 30 St. 9 St. 722, sec. 1: 86 St. 102
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 30 St. 9 St. 722, sec. 1: 86 St. 102
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- ing June 30, 1914." Sec. 1—25 U. S. C. 101, 25 U. S. C. 83 See *Historical Note* 45 U. S. C. 877. Sec. 18—25 U. S. C. 285, 25 U. S. C. 85
- 38 St. 111, Sept. 17, 1913, U. 12—An Act To provide for the acquiring of station grounds by the Great Northern Ry Co in the Colville Indian Reservation in the State of Washington."
- 38 St. 248; Oct. 22, 1913, C. 32—An Act Making appropriations to supply urgent deficiencies in appropriations for the fiscal year 1913, and for other purposes." Sec. 1—6 U. S. C. 680
- 38 St. 284; Oct. 24, 1913, C. 35—An Act To enable the Commissioner of Indian Affairs to employ additional clerks on health work in the Indian Office."
- 38 St. 288, Sept. 11, 1913; J. Res. No. 9—Joint Resolution Authorizing the Secretary of the Senate and the Clerk of the House of Representatives to advance to the chairman of the Commission appointed under the Act approved June 30, 1913, such sums of money as may be necessary for the carrying on of the Commission, and so forth."
- 38 St. 240, Nov. 15, 1913, J. Res. No. 15—Joint Resolution To relieve disputation among the native people and residents of Alaska."
- 38 St. 310, Mar. 27, 1914; C. 40—An Act To provide for drainage of Indian allotments of the Five Civilized Tribes."
- 38 St. 312, Apr. 9, 1914, C. 62—An Act Making appropriations to supply urgent deficiencies in appropriations for the fiscal year 1914 and for prior years, and for other purposes." Sec. 5—6 U. S. C. 65
- 38 St. 351; Apr. 27, 1914, C. 73—An Act Making appropriations for the support of the Army for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1915. 31 U. S. C. 603
- 38 St. 379; May 25, 1914; C. 90—An Act Making appropriations to supply further urgent deficiencies in appropriations for the fiscal year 1914 and for other purposes."
- 38 St. 388; May 25, 1914, C. 102—An Act For the relief of settlers on the Fort Berthold, Cheyenne River, Standing Rock, Rosebud, and Pine Ridge Indian Reservations, in the States of North and South Dakota."
- 38 St. 454, July 10, 1914; C. 141—An Act Making appropriations for the legislative, executive, and judicial expenses of the Government for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1915, and for other purposes. Sec. 5—6 U. S. C. 73. Sec. 6—6 U. S. C. 298.
- 38 St. 510, July 17, 1914, C. 143—An Act To extend the provisions of the Act of June 28, 1910 (36 St. 532), authorizing assignment of redemption homestead entries, and of the Act of August 9, 1912 (37 St. 265), authorizing the issuance of patents on reclamation homestead entries, to lands in the Flathead irrigation project, Montana." 43 U. S. C. 693.
- 38 St. 603; July 21, 1914; C. 192—An Act For the approving and payment of the drainage assessments on Indian lands in Salt Creek drainage district numbered 2, in Pottawatomie County, Oklahoma."
- 38 St. 669; July 29, 1914, C. 215—An Act Making appropriations to supply deficiencies in appropriations for the fiscal year 1914 and for prior years, and for other purposes."
- 38 St. 682; Aug. 4, 1914; C. 222—An Act Making appropriations for the current and contingent expenses of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, for fulfilling treaty stipulations with various Indian tribes, and for other purposes, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1915."
- 38 St. 442; 7 St. 46, 99, 218, 228, 286, 425; 10 St. 1168; 11 St. 614, 674, 780; 12 St. 1172; 13 St. 610, 622, 688, 940, 962, 988, 990, 992, 994, 996, 998, 1000; 14 St. 610, 612, 614, 616, 618, 620, 622, 624, 626, 628, 630, 632, 634, 636, 638, 640, 642, 644, 646, 648, 650, 652, 654, 656, 658, 660, 662, 664, 666, 668, 670, 672, 674, 676, 678, 680, 682, 684, 686, 688, 690, 692, 694, 696, 698, 700, 702, 704, 706, 708, 710, 712, 714, 716, 718, 720, 722, 724, 726, 728, 730, 732, 734, 736, 738, 740, 742, 744, 746, 748, 750, 752, 754, 756, 758, 760, 762, 764, 766, 768, 770, 772, 774, 776, 778, 780, 782, 784, 786, 788, 790, 792, 794, 796, 798, 800, 802, 804, 806, 808, 810, 812, 814, 816, 818, 820, 822, 824, 826, 828, 830, 832, 834, 836, 838, 840, 842, 844, 846, 848, 850, 852, 854, 856, 858, 860, 862, 864, 866, 868, 870, 872, 874, 876, 878, 880, 882, 884, 886, 888, 890, 892, 894, 896, 898, 900, 902, 904, 906, 908, 910, 912, 914, 916, 918, 920, 922, 924, 926, 928, 930, 932, 934, 936, 938, 940, 942, 944, 946, 948, 950, 952, 954, 956, 958, 960, 962, 964, 966, 968, 970, 972, 974, 976, 978, 980, 982, 984, 986, 988, 990, 992, 994, 996, 998, 1000; 15 St. 610, 612, 614, 616, 618, 620, 622, 624, 626, 628, 630, 632, 634, 636, 638, 640, 642, 644, 646, 648, 650, 652, 654, 656, 658, 660, 662, 664, 666, 668, 670, 672, 674, 676, 678, 680, 682, 684, 686, 688, 690, 692, 694, 696, 698, 700, 702, 704, 706, 708, 710, 712, 714, 716, 718, 720, 722, 724, 726, 728, 730, 732, 734, 736, 738, 740, 742, 744, 746, 748, 750, 752, 754, 756, 758, 760, 762, 764, 766, 768, 770, 772, 774, 776, 778, 780, 782, 784, 786, 788, 790, 792, 794, 796, 798, 800, 802, 804, 806, 808, 810, 812, 814, 816, 818, 820, 822, 824, 826, 828, 830, 832, 834, 836, 838, 840, 842, 844, 846, 848, 850, 852, 854, 856, 858, 860, 862, 864, 866, 868, 870, 872, 874, 876, 878, 880, 882, 884, 886, 888, 890, 892, 894, 896, 898, 900, 902, 904, 906, 908, 910, 912, 914, 916, 918, 920, 922, 924, 926, 928, 930, 932, 934, 936, 938, 940, 942, 944, 946, 948, 950, 952, 954, 956, 958, 960, 962, 964, 966, 968, 970, 972, 974, 976, 978, 980, 982, 984, 986, 988, 990, 992, 994, 996, 998, 1000; 16 St. 610, 612, 614, 616, 618, 620, 622, 624, 626, 628, 630, 632, 634, 636, 638, 640, 642, 644, 646, 648, 650, 652, 654, 656, 658, 660, 662, 664, 666, 668, 670, 672, 674, 676, 678, 680, 682, 684, 686, 688, 690, 692, 694, 696, 698, 700, 702, 704, 706, 708, 710, 712, 714, 716, 718, 720, 722, 724, 726, 728, 730, 732, 734, 736, 738, 740, 742, 744, 746, 748, 750, 752, 754, 756, 758, 760, 762, 764, 766, 768, 770, 772, 774, 776, 778, 780, 782, 784, 786, 788, 790, 792, 794, 796, 798, 800, 802, 804, 806, 808, 810, 812, 814, 816, 818, 820, 822, 824, 826, 828, 830, 832, 834, 836, 838, 840, 842, 844, 846, 848, 850, 852, 854, 856, 858, 860, 862, 864, 866, 868, 870, 872, 874, 876, 878, 880, 882, 884, 886, 888, 890, 892, 894, 896, 898, 900, 902, 904, 906, 908, 910, 912, 914, 916, 918, 920, 922, 924, 926, 928, 930, 932, 934, 936, 938, 940, 942, 944, 946, 948, 950, 952, 954, 956, 958, 960, 962, 964, 966, 968, 970, 972, 974, 976, 978, 980, 982, 984, 986, 988, 990, 992, 994, 996, 998, 1000; 17 St. 610, 612, 614, 616, 618, 620, 622, 624, 626, 628, 630, 632, 634, 636, 638, 640, 642, 644, 646, 648, 650, 652, 654, 656, 658, 660, 662, 664, 666, 668, 670, 672, 674, 676, 678, 680, 682, 684, 686, 688, 690, 692, 694, 696, 698, 700, 702, 704, 706, 708, 710, 712, 714, 716, 718, 720, 722, 724, 726, 728, 730, 732, 734, 736, 738, 740, 742, 744, 746, 748, 750, 752, 754, 756, 758, 760, 762, 764, 766, 768, 770, 772, 774, 776, 778, 780, 782, 784, 786, 788, 790, 792, 794, 796, 798, 800, 802, 804, 806, 808, 810, 812, 814, 816, 818, 820, 822, 824, 826, 828, 830, 832, 834, 836, 838, 840, 842, 844, 846, 848, 850, 852, 854, 856, 858, 860, 862, 864, 866, 868, 870, 872, 874, 876, 878, 880, 882, 884, 886, 888, 890, 892, 894, 896, 898, 900, 902, 904, 906, 908, 910, 912, 914, 916, 918, 920, 922, 924, 926, 928, 930, 932, 934, 936, 938, 940, 942, 944, 946, 948, 950, 952, 954, 956, 958, 960, 962, 964, 966, 968, 970, 972, 974, 976, 978, 980, 982, 984, 986, 988, 990, 992, 994, 996, 998, 1000; 18 St. 610, 612, 614, 616, 618, 620, 622, 624, 626, 628, 630, 632, 634, 636, 638, 640, 642, 644, 646, 648, 650, 652, 654, 656, 658, 660, 662, 664, 666, 668, 670, 672, 674, 676, 678, 680, 682, 684, 686, 688, 690, 692, 694, 696, 698, 700, 702, 704, 706, 708, 710, 712, 714, 716, 718, 720, 722, 724, 726, 728, 730, 732, 734, 736, 738, 740, 742, 744, 746, 748, 750, 752, 754, 756, 758, 760, 762, 764, 766, 768, 770, 772, 774, 776, 778, 780, 782, 784, 786, 788, 790, 792, 794, 796, 798, 800, 802, 804, 806, 808, 810, 812, 814, 816, 818, 820, 822, 824, 826, 828, 830, 832, 834, 836, 838, 840, 842, 844, 846, 848, 850, 852, 854, 856, 858, 860, 862, 864, 866, 868, 870, 872, 874, 876, 878, 880, 882, 884, 886, 888, 890, 892, 894, 896, 898, 900, 902, 904, 906, 908, 910, 912, 914, 916, 918, 920, 922, 924, 926, 928, 930, 932, 934, 936, 938, 940, 942, 944, 946, 948, 950, 952, 954, 956, 958, 960, 962, 964, 966, 968, 970, 972, 974, 976, 978, 980, 982, 984, 986, 988, 990, 992, 994, 996, 998, 1000; 19 St. 610, 612, 614, 616, 618, 620, 622, 624, 626, 628, 630, 632, 634, 636, 638, 640, 642, 644, 646, 648, 650, 652, 654, 656, 658, 660, 662, 664, 666, 668, 670, 672, 674, 676, 678, 680, 682, 684, 686, 688, 690, 692, 694, 696, 698, 700, 702, 704, 706, 708, 710, 712, 714, 716, 718, 720, 722, 724, 726, 728, 730, 732, 734, 736, 738, 740, 742, 744, 746, 748, 750, 752, 754, 756, 758, 760, 762, 764, 766, 768, 770, 772, 774, 776, 778, 780, 782, 784, 786, 788, 790, 792, 794, 796, 798, 800, 802, 804, 806, 808, 810, 812, 814, 816, 818, 820, 822, 824, 826, 828, 830, 832, 834, 836, 838, 840, 842, 844, 846, 848, 850, 852, 854, 856, 858, 860, 862, 864, 866, 868, 870, 872, 874, 876, 878, 880, 882, 884, 886, 888, 890, 892, 894, 896, 898, 900, 902, 904, 906, 908, 910, 912, 914, 916, 918, 920, 922, 924, 926, 928, 930, 932, 934, 936, 938, 940, 942, 944, 946, 948, 950, 952, 954, 956, 958, 960, 962, 964, 966, 968, 970, 972, 974, 976, 978, 980, 982, 984, 986, 988, 990, 992, 994, 996, 998, 1000; 20 St. 610, 612, 614, 616, 618, 620, 622, 624, 626, 628, 630, 632, 634, 636, 638, 640, 642, 644, 646, 648, 650, 652, 654, 656, 658, 660, 662, 664, 666, 668, 670, 672, 674, 676, 678, 680, 682, 684, 686, 688, 690, 692, 694, 696, 698, 700, 702, 704, 706, 708, 710, 712, 714, 716, 718, 720, 722, 724, 726, 728, 730, 732, 734, 736, 738, 740, 742, 744, 746, 748, 750, 752, 754, 756, 758, 760, 762, 764, 766, 768, 770, 772, 774, 776, 778, 780, 782, 784, 786, 788, 790, 792, 794, 796, 798, 800, 802, 804, 806, 808, 810, 812, 814, 816, 818, 820, 822, 824, 826, 828, 830, 832, 834, 836, 838, 840, 842, 844, 846, 848, 850, 852, 854, 856, 858, 860, 862, 864, 866, 868, 870, 872, 874, 876, 878, 880, 882, 884, 886, 888, 890, 892, 894, 896, 898, 900, 902, 904, 906, 908, 910, 912, 914, 916, 918, 920, 922, 924, 926, 928, 930, 932, 934, 936, 938, 940, 942, 944, 946, 948, 950, 952, 954, 956, 958, 960, 962, 964, 966, 968, 970, 972, 974, 976, 978, 980, 982, 984, 986, 988, 990, 992, 994, 996, 998, 1000; 21 St. 610, 612, 614, 616, 618, 620, 622, 624, 626, 628, 630, 632, 634, 636, 638, 640, 642, 644, 646, 648, 650, 652, 654, 656, 658, 660, 662, 664, 666, 668, 670, 672, 674, 676, 678, 680, 682, 684, 686, 688, 690, 692, 694, 696, 698, 700, 702, 704, 706, 708, 710, 712, 714, 716, 718, 720, 722, 724, 726, 728, 730, 732, 734, 736, 738, 740, 742, 744, 746, 748, 750, 752, 754, 756, 758, 760, 762, 764, 766, 768, 770, 772, 774, 776, 778, 780, 782, 784, 786, 788, 790, 792, 794, 796, 798, 800, 802, 804, 806, 808, 810, 812, 814, 816, 818, 820, 822, 824, 826, 828, 830, 832, 834, 836, 838, 840, 842, 844, 846, 848, 850, 852, 854, 856, 858, 860, 862, 864, 866, 868, 870, 872, 874, 876, 878, 880, 882, 884, 886, 888, 890, 892, 894, 896, 898, 900, 902, 904, 906, 908, 910, 912, 914, 916, 918, 920, 922, 924, 926, 928, 930, 932, 934, 936, 938, 940, 942, 944, 946, 948, 950, 952, 954, 956, 958, 960, 962, 964, 966, 968, 970, 972, 974, 976, 978, 980, 982, 984, 986, 988, 990, 992, 994, 996, 998, 1000; 22 St. 610, 612, 614, 616, 618, 620, 622, 624, 626, 628, 630, 632, 634, 636, 638, 640, 642, 644, 646, 648, 650, 652, 654, 656, 658, 660, 662, 664, 666, 668, 670, 672, 674, 676, 678, 680, 682, 684, 686, 688, 690, 692, 694, 696, 698, 700, 702, 704, 706, 708, 710, 712, 714, 716, 718, 720, 722, 724, 726, 728, 730, 732, 734, 736, 738, 740, 742, 744, 746, 748, 750, 752, 754, 756, 758, 760, 762, 764, 766, 768, 770, 772, 774, 776, 778, 780, 782, 784, 786, 788, 790, 792, 794, 796, 798, 800, 802, 804, 806, 808, 810, 812, 814, 816, 818, 820, 822, 824, 826, 828, 830, 832, 834, 836, 838, 840, 842, 844, 846, 848, 850, 852, 854, 856, 858, 860, 862, 864, 866, 868, 870, 872, 874, 876, 878, 880, 882, 884, 886, 888, 890, 892, 894, 896, 898, 900, 902, 904, 906, 908, 910, 912, 914, 916, 918, 920, 922, 924, 926, 928, 930, 932, 934, 936, 938, 940, 942, 944, 946, 948, 950, 952, 954, 956, 958, 960, 962, 964, 966, 968, 970, 972, 974, 976, 978, 980, 982, 984, 986, 988, 990, 992, 994, 996, 998, 1000; 23 St. 610, 612, 614, 616, 618, 620, 622, 624, 626, 628, 630, 632, 634, 636, 638, 640, 642, 644, 646, 648, 650, 652, 654, 656, 658, 660, 662, 664, 666, 668, 670, 672, 674, 676, 678, 680, 682, 684, 686, 688, 690, 692, 694, 696, 698, 700, 702, 704, 706, 708, 710, 712, 714, 716, 718, 720, 722, 724, 726, 728, 730, 732, 734, 736, 738, 740, 742, 744, 746, 748, 750, 752, 754, 756, 758, 760, 762, 764, 766, 768, 770, 772, 774, 776, 778, 780, 782, 784, 786, 788, 790, 792, 794, 796, 798, 800, 802, 804, 806, 808, 810, 812, 814, 816, 818, 820, 822, 824, 826, 828, 830, 832, 834, 836, 838, 840, 842, 844, 846, 848, 850, 852, 854, 856, 858, 860, 862, 864, 866, 868, 870, 872, 874, 876, 878, 880, 882, 884, 886, 888, 890, 892, 894, 896, 898, 900, 902, 904, 906, 908, 910, 912, 914, 916, 918, 920, 922, 924, 926, 928, 930, 932, 934, 936, 938, 940, 942, 944, 946, 948, 950, 952, 954, 956, 958, 960, 962, 964, 966, 968, 970, 972, 974, 976, 978, 980, 982, 984, 986, 988, 990, 992, 994, 996, 998, 1000; 24 St. 610, 612, 614, 616, 618, 620, 622, 624, 626, 628, 630, 632, 634, 636, 638, 640, 642, 644, 646, 648, 650, 652, 654, 656, 658, 660, 662, 664, 666, 668, 670, 672, 674, 676, 678, 680, 682, 684, 686, 688, 690, 692, 694, 696, 698, 700, 702, 704, 706, 708, 710, 712, 714, 716, 718, 720, 722, 724, 726, 728, 730, 732, 734, 736, 738, 740, 742, 744, 746, 748, 750, 752, 754, 756, 758, 760, 762, 764, 766, 768, 770, 772, 774, 776, 778, 780, 782, 784, 786, 788, 790, 792, 794, 796, 798, 800, 802, 804, 806, 808, 810, 812, 814, 816, 818, 820, 822, 824, 826, 828, 830, 832, 834, 836, 838, 840, 842, 844, 846, 848, 850, 852, 854, 856, 858, 860, 862, 864, 866, 868, 870, 872, 874, 876, 878, 880, 882, 884, 886, 888, 890, 892, 894, 896, 898, 900, 902, 904, 906, 908, 910, 912, 914, 916, 918, 920, 922, 924, 926, 928, 930, 932, 934, 936, 938, 940, 942, 944, 946, 948, 950, 952, 954, 956, 958, 960, 962, 964, 966, 968, 970, 972, 974, 976, 978, 980, 982, 984, 986, 988, 990, 992, 994, 996, 998, 1000; 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- 38 St 997, Mar. 4, 1915, C 141—An Act Making appropriations for the legislative, executive, and judicial expenses of the Government for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1916, and for other purposes.
- 38 St 1062, Mar. 4, 1915, C 143—An Act Making appropriations for the support of the Army for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1916.
- 38 St 1089, Mar. 4, 1915, C 144—An Act Making appropriations for the Department of Agriculture for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1916.
- 38 St 1138, Mar. 4, 1915, C 147—An Act Making appropriations to supply deficiencies in appropriations for the fiscal year 1915 and for prior years, and for other purposes.
- 38 St 1188, Mar. 4, 1915, C 161—An Act To authorize the laying out and opening of public roads on the Winnebago, Omaha, Ponca, and Santee Sioux Indian Reservations in Nebraska and on Indian reservations in Montana.
- 38 St 1189, Mar. 4, 1915, C 162—An Act Authorizing the sale of lands in Lyman County, South Dakota.
- 38 St 1192, Mar. 4, 1915, C 168—An Act To provide for the payment of certain moneys to school districts in Oklahoma.
- 38 St 1219, Mar. 4, 1915, C 189—An Act To validate certain homestead entries.
- 38 St 1222, Feb. 24, 1915, J. Res. No. 7—Joint Resolution Authorizing the Secretary of Commerce to postpone the sale of fur-seal skins now in the possession of the Government until such time as in his discretion he may deem such sale advisable.
- 38 St 1228, Mar. 4, 1915, J. Res. No. 19—Joint Resolution Making appropriations for relief and contingent expenses of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, for fulfilling treaty stipulations with various Indian tribes, and for other purposes.
- 38 St 1409, June 15, 1914, C 108—An Act Granting pensions and increase of pensions to certain soldiers and sailors of the Regular Army and Navy, and of wars other than the Civil War, and to certain widows and dependent relatives of such soldiers and sailors.
- 38 St 1478, June 15, 1914, C 110—An Act Granting pensions and increase of pensions to certain soldiers and sailors of the Regular Army and Navy and of wars other than the Civil War, and to certain widows and dependent relatives of such soldiers and sailors.
- 38 St 1279, June 15, 1914, C 111—An Act Granting pensions and increase of pensions to certain soldiers and sailors of the Regular Army and Navy and of wars other than the Civil War, and to certain widows and dependent relatives of such soldiers and sailors.
- 38 St 1305, July 17, 1914, C 130—An Act To carry into effect findings of the Court of Claims in the cases of Charles A. Davidson and Charles M. Campbell.
- 38 St 1308, July 17, 1914, C 177—An Act For the relief of Henry La Ronge.
- 38 St 1311, July 18, 1914, C 188—An Act For the relief of George W. Cary.
- 38 St 1335, July 21, 1914, C 194—An Act Granting pensions and increase of pensions to certain soldiers and sailors of the Regular Army and Navy, and certain soldiers and sailors of wars other than the Civil War, and to widows of such soldiers and sailors.
- 38 St 1387, July 21, 1914, C 196—An Act Granting pensions and increase of pensions to certain soldiers and sailors of the Regular Army and Navy, and certain soldiers and sailors of wars other than the Civil War, and to widows of such soldiers and sailors.
- 38 St 1530, July 21, 1914, C 198—An Act Granting pensions and increase of pensions to certain soldiers and sailors of the Regular Army and Navy, and certain soldiers and sailors of wars other than the Civil War, and to widows of such soldiers and sailors.
- 38 St 1874, July 21, 1914, C 203—An Act Authorizing the disposal of a portion of the Fort Bidwell Indian School, California.
- 38 St 1875, July 28, 1914, C 214—An Act To relinquish, release, and quitclaim all right, title, and interest of the United

States of America in and to certain lands in the State of Minnesota.

- 38 St 1489, Aug. 10, 1914, C 244—An Act Granting pensions and increase of pensions to certain soldiers and sailors of the Regular Army and Navy, and certain soldiers and sailors of wars other than the Civil War, and to widows of such soldiers and sailors.
- 38 St 1489, Aug. 10, 1914, C 246—An Act Granting pensions and increase of pensions to certain soldiers and sailors of the Regular Army and Navy, and certain soldiers and sailors of wars other than the Civil War, and to widows of such soldiers and sailors.
- 38 St 1448, Aug. 13, 1914, C 248—An Act Granting pensions and increase of pensions to certain soldiers and sailors of the Regular Army and Navy, and of wars other than the Civil War, and to certain widows and dependent relatives of such soldiers and sailors.
- 38 St 1444, Aug. 13, 1914, C 249—An Act Granting pensions and increase of pensions to certain soldiers and sailors of the Regular Army and Navy, and of wars other than the Civil War, and to certain widows and dependent relatives of such soldiers and sailors.
- 38 St 1440, Aug. 13, 1914, C 250—An Act Granting pensions and increase of pensions to certain soldiers and sailors of the Regular Army and Navy, and of wars other than the Civil War, and to certain widows and dependent relatives of such soldiers and sailors.
- 38 St 1417, Aug. 13, 1914, C 251—An Act Granting pensions and increase of pensions to certain soldiers and sailors of the Regular Army and Navy and of wars other than the Civil War, and to certain widows and dependent relatives of such soldiers and sailors.
- 38 St 1452, Aug. 22, 1914, C 272—An Act For the relief of May Stanley.
- 38 St 1455, Aug. 22, 1914, C 280—An Act For the relief of B. F. Anderson.
- 38 St 1459, Oct. 17, 1914, C 326—An Act For the relief of Benjamin A. Sanders.
- 38 St 1471, Jan. 7, 1915, C 6—An Act To reimburse Edward B. Kelley for moneys expended while superintendent of the Rosebud Indian Agency in South Dakota.
- 38 St 1478, Feb. 25, 1915, C 61—An Act Confirming patent's heretofore issued to certain Indians in the State of Washington.
- 38 St 1547, Mar. 8, 1915, C 120—An Act To provide for the payment of the claim of J. O. Modestette for services performed for the Chickasaw Indians of Oklahoma.
- 38 St 1539, Mar. 4, 1915, C 194—An Act Granting pensions and increase of pensions to certain soldiers and sailors of the Regular Army and Navy and of wars other than the Civil War, and to certain widows and dependent relatives of such soldiers and sailors.
- 38 St 1508, Mar. 4, 1915, C 221—An Act To award the medal of honor to Major John O. Skannei, surgeon, United States Army, retired.
- 38 St 1594, Mar. 4, 1915, C 226—An Act Granting pensions and increase of pensions to certain soldiers and sailors of the Regular Army and Navy and certain soldiers and sailors of wars other than the Civil War, and to widows of such soldiers and sailors.

39 STAT.

- 39 St 14, Feb. 28, 1916, C 87—An Act Making appropriations to supply further urgent deficiencies in appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1916, and prior years, and for other purposes.
- 39 St 47, Apr. 11, 1916, C 93—An Act Conferring jurisdiction on the Court of Claims to hear, determine, and render judgment in claims of the Sisseton and Wahpeton bands of Sioux Indians against the United States.
- 39 St 48, Apr. 11, 1916, C 95—An Act To amend an Act entitled "An Act for the relief of Indians occupying railroad lands in Arizona, New Mexico, or California," approved March 4, 1914.
- 39 St 68, May 10, 1916, C 117—An Act Making appropriations for the legislative, executive, and judicial expenses of the

* 39 St 611, 29 St 898

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- Government for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1917, and for other purposes.
- 39 St. 123, May 18, 1916; C 125—An Act Making appropriations for the current and contingent expenses of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, for fulfilling treaty stipulations with various Indian tribes, and for other purposes, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1917. Sec. 1—25 U. S. C. 245, 262, 23 U. S. C. 93; 41 U. S. C. 38 U. S. C. 878, 26 U. S. C. 123, 304; 26 U. S. C. 95, 25 U. S. C. 123, Sec 27—25 U. S. C. 142. See USGA Historical note.
- 39 St. 237; June 30, 1916; C 174—An Act To provide for the construction of the Wind River, in the Ponca Indian Reservation, Oklahoma.
- 39 St. 262; July 1, 1916; C 200—An Act Making appropriations for sundry civil expenses of the Government for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1917, and for other purposes. Sec. 1—10 U. S. C. 170.
- 39 St. 341; July 3, 1916; C 213—An Act Providing for patents to homesteaders on the ceded portion of the Wind River Reservation in Wyoming.
- 39 St. 353; July 3, 1916; C 230—An Act To reimburse certain Indians for labor done in building a schoolhouse at Queens River, Quinault Indian Reservation, in the State of Washington.
- 39 St. 389; July 17, 1916; C 248—An Act To amend section ninety-nine of the Act to codify, revise, and amend the laws relating to the judiciary. 26 U. S. C. 160.
- 39 St. 445; Aug. 9, 1916; C 304—An Act To provide for the sale of certain Indian lands in Oklahoma, and for other purposes.
- 39 St. 604; Aug. 11, 1916; C 315—An Act Authorizing the adjustment of rights of settlers on a part of the Navajo Indian Reservation in the State of Arizona.
- 39 St. 606; Aug. 11, 1916; C 320—An Act Authorizing the Secretary of the Interior to make payments to certain Indians of the Rosebud Sioux Reservation, in the State of South Dakota, who were enrolled and allotted under decisions of the United States district and circuit courts for the district of South Dakota.
- 39 St. 619; Aug. 21, 1916; C 368—An Act To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to lease, for production of oil and gas, ceded lands of the Shoshone or Wind River Indian Reservation in the State of Wyoming.
- 39 St. 621; Aug. 21, 1916; C 368—An Act To appropriate money to build and maintain roads on the Spokane Indian Reservation.
- 39 St. 624; Aug. 21, 1916; C 369—An Act Authorizing the Secretary of the Interior to transfer on certain conditions the south half of lot 14 of the southeast quarter of section 21, township 107, range 48, Moody County, South Dakota, to the city of Blandford, to be used as a public park or playgrounds.
- 39 St. 619; Aug. 20, 1916; C 418—An Act Making appropriations

- for the support of the Army for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1917, and for other purposes.
- 39 St. 123, May 18, 1916; C 125—An Act To amend the Act of March 22, 1906, entitled "An Act to authorize the sale and disposition of surplus or unallotted lands of the diminished Colville Indian Reservation, in the State of Washington, and for other purposes."
- 39 St. 373; Aug. 31, 1916; C 425—An Act To amend an Act entitled "An Act to provide for the payment of damage assessments on Indian lands in Oklahoma."
- 39 St. 739; Sept. 7, 1916; C 464—An Act To amend the Act of Feb. 20, 1915 (38 St. 507), providing for the opening of the Fort Assiniboine Military Reservation.
- 39 St. 741; Sept. 7, 1916; C 465—An Act Providing that Indian schools may be maintained without restrictions as to annual rate of expenditure per pupil.
- 39 St. 811; Sept. 8, 1916; C 464—An Act Making appropriations to supply deficiencies in appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1916, and prior fiscal years, and for other purposes.
- 39 St. 841; Sept. 8, 1916; C 468—An Act Making appropriations for the preservation, improvements, and perpetual care of Hutton Cemetery, a burial place of the Wyandotte Indians, in the city of Kansas City, Kansas.
- 39 St. 849; Sept. 8, 1916; C 472—An Act To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to issue a patent in fee simple to the district school board numbered 112, of White Earth Village, Becker County, Minnesota, for a certain tract of land upon payment therefor to the United States in trust for the Chippewa Indians of Minnesota.
- 39 St. 865; Dec. 30, 1916; C 10—An Act Providing for the taxation of the lands of the Winnebago Indians and the Omaha Indians in the State of Nebraska.
- 39 St. 869; Jan. 11, 1917; C 12—Joint Resolution Authorizing the Secretary of the Interior to extend the time for payment of the deferred installments due on the purchase of tracts of the surface of the segregated coal and asphalt lands of the Choctaw and Chickasaw Tribes in Oklahoma.
- 39 St. 897; Jan. 18, 1917; C 10—An Act Providing for the continuance of the Ogea Indian School, Oklahoma, for a period of one year from January 1, 1917.
- 39 St. 970; Jan. 25, 1917; C 21—An Act To permit the Denison Coal Company to relinquish certain lands embraced in its Choctaw and Chickasaw coal lease and to include within and lease other lands within the segregated coal area.
- 39 St. 993; Feb. 17, 1917; C 87—An Act Providing when patents shall issue to the purchaser or heirs on certain lands in the State of Oregon.
- 39 St. 928; Feb. 20, 1917; C 100—An Act To construct a bridge in San Juan County, State of New Mexico.
- 39 St. 937; Feb. 28, 1917; C 117—An Act Authorizing a further extension of time to purchasers of land in the former Cheyenne and Arapahoe Indian Reservation, Oklahoma, within which to make payment.
- 39 St. 944; Feb. 27, 1917; C 133—An Act To authorize agricultural entries on surplus coal lands in Indian reservations. Sec. 1—80 U. S. C. 86, Sec. 2—80 U. S. C. 87; Sec. 3—80 U. S. C. 81; Sec. 4—80 U. S. C. 89.
- 39 St. 968; Mar. 2, 1917; C 146—An Act Making appropriations for the current and contingent expenses of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, for fulfilling treaty stipulations with various Indian tribes, and for other purposes, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1918. Sec. 1, p. 670—25 U. S. C. 247, Sec. 1.

39 St. 993; Feb. 27, 1917; C 133—An Act To authorize agricultural entries on surplus coal lands in Indian reservations. Sec. 1—80 U. S. C. 86, Sec. 2—80 U. S. C. 87; Sec. 3—80 U. S. C. 81; Sec. 4—80 U. S. C. 89.

39 St. 993; Mar. 2, 1917; C 146—An Act Making appropriations for the current and contingent expenses of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, for fulfilling treaty stipulations with various Indian tribes, and for other purposes, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1918. Sec. 1, p. 670—25 U. S. C. 247, Sec. 1.

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39 St. 993; Mar. 2, 1917; C 146—An Act Making appropriations for the current and contingent expenses of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, for fulfilling treaty stipulations with various Indian tribes, and for other purposes, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1918. Sec. 1, p. 670—25 U. S. C. 247, Sec. 1.

39 St. 993; Mar. 2, 1917; C 146—An Act Making appropriations for the current and contingent expenses of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, for fulfilling treaty stipulations with various Indian tribes, and for other purposes, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1918. Sec. 1, p. 670—25 U. S. C. 247, Sec. 1.

39 St. 993; Mar. 2, 1917; C 146—An Act Making appropriations for the current and contingent expenses of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, for fulfilling treaty stipulations with various Indian tribes, and for other purposes, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1918. Sec. 1, p. 670—25 U. S. C. 247, Sec. 1.

39 St. 993; Mar. 2, 1917; C 146—An Act Making appropriations for the current and contingent expenses of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, for fulfilling treaty stipulations with various Indian tribes, and for other purposes, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1918. Sec. 1, p. 670—25 U. S. C. 247, Sec. 1.

- 1, p. 503-25 U. S. C. 57 (89 St. 534, Mar. 1).¹ Sec. 1, p. 504-25 U. S. C. 217. Sec. 1, p. 505-25 U. S. C. 49.² Sec. 2, p. 507-25 U. S. C. 213. Also see 25 U. S. C. 497. Sec. 17, p. 578-25 U. S. C. 58 (30 St. 90, sec. 1; 37 St. 88, sec. 10, 521, sec. 1).³ Sec. 28, p. 501-25 U. S. C. 162.⁴
- 40 St. 562, May 31, 1918, C. 88—An Act To authorize the establishment of a town site on the Fort Hall Indian Reservation, Idaho.
- 40 St. 584; June 4, 1918; C. 92—An Act Making appropriations to supply additional urgent deficiencies in appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1918, on account of war expenses, and for other purposes.⁵
- 40 St. 590; June 14, 1918, C. 101—An Act To provide for determination of heirship in case of deceased members of the Cherokee, Chickasaw, Choctaw, Creek, and Seminole Tribes of Indians in Oklahoma, conferring jurisdiction upon district courts to partition lands belonging to full-blood heirs of allottees of the Five Civilized Tribes, and for other purposes.⁶ Sec. 1-25 U. S. C. 375. Sec. 2-25 U. S. C. 355.
- 40 St. 594; June 27, 1918; C. 100—An Act To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to issue a deed to G. H. Bockwith for certain land within the Flathead Indian Reservation, Montana.
- 40 St. 594; July 1, 1918, C. 113—An Act Making appropriations for sundry civil expenses of the Government for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1919, and for other purposes.⁷ Sec. 1-10 U. S. C. 451; 16 U. S. C. 94; 24 U. S. C. 10, 31 U. S. C. 692.
- 40 St. 737; July 9, 1918; C. 130—An Act Making appropriations for the legislative, executive, and judicial expenses of the Government for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1919, and for other purposes.⁸
- 40 St. 821; July 8, 1918; C. 139—An Act Making appropriations to supply deficiencies in appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1918, and prior fiscal years, on account of war expenses, and for other purposes.⁹
- 40 St. 845; July 8, 1918; C. 148—An Act Making appropriations for the support of the Army for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1919. 10 U. S. C. 754. 40 U. S. C. 754; 40 U. S. C. 37.
- 40 St. 917, July 25, 1918; C. 161—An Act To validate certain public-land entries.¹⁰
- 40 St. 908; Sept. 18, 1918; C. 171—An Act Authorizing the State of Montana to select other lands in lieu of lands in section 18, township 2 north, range 30 east, within the limits of the Huntley irrigation project and the ceded portion of Crow Indian Reservation in said State.¹¹
- 40 St. 1020; Nov. 4, 1918; C. 216—An Act Making appropriations to supply deficiencies in appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1919, and prior fiscal years, on account of war expenses, and for other purposes.¹²
- 40 St. 1083; Jan. 7, 1919, C. 5—An Act To authorize the sale of certain lands to school district numbered 28, of Missouri County, Montana.
- 40 St. 1008, Feb. 4, 1919; C. 13—An Act For the sale of isolated tracts of the public domain in Minnesota.¹³ 48 U. S. C. 1172.
- 329, 329-48 St. 562, 1374, 1288, 1277, 48 St. 246, 390, 1141; 44 St. 438, 904; 45 St. 1561, 1560. 46 St. 1919, 1918, 1917, 1916, 1915, 1914, 1913, 1912, 1911, 1910, 1909, 1908, 1907, 1906, 1905, 1904, 1903, 1902, 1901, 1900, 1899, 1898, 1897, 1896, 1895, 1894, 1893, 1892, 1891, 1890, 1889, 1888, 1887, 1886, 1885, 1884, 1883, 1882, 1881, 1880, 1879, 1878, 1877, 1876, 1875, 1874, 1873, 1872, 1871, 1870, 1869, 1868, 1867, 1866, 1865, 1864, 1863, 1862, 1861, 1860, 1859, 1858, 1857, 1856, 1855, 1854, 1853, 1852, 1851, 1850, 1849, 1848, 1847, 1846, 1845, 1844, 1843, 1842, 1841, 1840, 1839, 1838, 1837, 1836, 1835, 1834, 1833, 1832, 1831, 1830, 1829, 1828, 1827, 1826, 1825, 1824, 1823, 1822, 1821, 1820, 1819, 1818, 1817, 1816, 1815, 1814, 1813, 1812, 1811, 1810, 1809, 1808, 1807, 1806, 1805, 1804, 1803, 1802, 1801, 1800, 1799, 1798, 1797, 1796, 1795, 1794, 1793, 1792, 1791, 1790, 1789, 1788, 1787, 1786, 1785, 1784, 1783, 1782, 1781, 1780, 1779, 1778, 1777, 1776, 1775, 1774, 1773, 1772, 1771, 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- 40 St. 1175; Feb. 20, 1919; C. 44—An Act To establish the Grand Canyon National Park in the State of Arizona.¹⁴ Sec. 1-10 U. S. C. 221; Sec. 2-16 U. S. C. 228.
- 40 St. 1243; Feb. 28, 1919, C. 71—An Act To provide for stock-watering privileges on certain unallotted lands on the Flathead Indian Reservation, Montana.¹⁵
- 40 St. 1304; Feb. 28, 1919; C. 72—An Act For the relief of settlers on certain railroad lands in Montana.¹⁶
- 40 St. 1206; Feb. 28, 1919; C. 78—An Act Granting to the city of San Diego certain lands in the Cleveland National Forest and the Captain Grande Indian Reservation for dam and reclamation purposes for the conservation of water, and for other purposes.¹⁷
- 40 St. 1218, Mar. 1, 1919, C. 86—An Act Making appropriations for the legislative, executive, and judicial expenses of the Government for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1920, and for other purposes.¹⁸
- 40 St. 1231; Mar. 3, 1919, C. 97—An Act To provide for the fourteenth and subsequent decennial censuses.¹⁹
- 40 St.

40 St. 1581, June 4, 1917, Concurrent Res.—Statute of Sequoyah
40 St. 1580, Jan. 24, 1918, Concurrent Res.—Choctaw and Chickasaw Lands"

41 STAT.

- 41 St. 3, June 30, 1910, C 4—An Act Making appropriations for the current and contingent expenses of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, for fulfilling treaty stipulations with various Indian tribes and for other purposes, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1910." Sec. 1, p. 4—25 U S C 244 (40 St. 564, sec. 1) Sec. 1, p. 6—25 U S C 208 (43 St. 856) Sec. 1, p. 9—25 U S C 168 Sec. 17, p. 20—25 U S C 126 Sec. 18, p. 21—See Historical Note 25 U S C 375 Sec. 20, p. 31—25 U S C 309 (41 St. 1231 sec. 1) Sec. 27, p. 34—43 U S C 150
- 41 St. 35, July 11, 1910, C 6—An Act Making appropriations to supply deficiencies in appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1910, and prior fiscal years, and for other purposes"
- 41 St. 104, July 11, 1910, C 8—An Act Making appropriations for the support of the Army for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1910, and for other purposes"
- 41 St. 193, July 19, 1910, C 24—An Act Making appropriations for sundry civil expenses of the Government for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1910, and for other purposes"
- 41 St. 327, Nov. 4, 1910, C 93—An Act Making appropriations to supply deficiencies in appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1910, and prior fiscal years, and for other purposes"
- 41 St. 340, Nov. 9, 1910, C 94—An Act Authorizing the Commissioners of Indian Affairs to transfer fractional block 6, of Nayl's addition, Forest Grove, Oregon, to the United States of America, for the use of the Bureau of Entomology, Department of Agriculture"
- 41 St. 350, Nov. 9, 1910, C 95—An Act Granting citizenship to certain Indians." 48 U S C 8
- 41 St. 395, Nov. 19, 1910, C 106—An Act Authorizing the sale of unallotted and unpartitioned allotments for town-site purposes in the Quapaw Agency, Oklahoma"
- 41 St. 395, Dec. 15, 1910, C 47—An Act Providing additional time for the payment of purchase money under homestead entries of lands within the former Fort Peck Indian Reservation, Montana"
- 41 St. 404, Feb. 11, 1920, C 68—An Act To confer on the Court of Claims jurisdiction to determine the respective rights of and differences between the Fort Berthold Indians and the Government of the United States"
- 41 St. 408, Feb. 14, 1920, C 75—An Act Making appropriations for the current and contingent expenses of the Bureau of

Indian Affairs, for fulfilling treaty stipulations with various Indian tribes, and for other purposes, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1921." Sec. 1, p. 49—25 U S C 380 Also see 25 U S C 389a (47 St. 704) Sec. 1, p. 410—25 U S C 282 Also see 25 U S C 284 Sec. 1, p. 412—25 U S C 120 Sec. 1, p. 414—25 U S C 53 Sec. 1, p. 415—25 U S C 294 Sec. 1, p. 416—25 U S C 418; (47 St. 1417) Sec. 18, p. 420—25 U S C 395

- 41 St. 434, Feb. 14, 1920, C 76—Joint Resolution Giving to discharged soldiers, sailors, and marines a preferred right of homestead entry." 48 U S C 184, 438
- 41 St. 452, Feb. 23, 1920, C 87—An Act For the relief of certain members of the Flathead Nation of Indians, and for other purposes." Sec. 1, p. 462—10 U S C 892 Sec. 2, p. 462—10 U S C 892
- 41 St. 503, Mar. 6, 1920, C 94—An Act Making appropriations to supply deficiencies in appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1920, and prior fiscal years, and for other purposes"
- 41 St. 520, Mar. 12, 1920, C 99—Joint Resolution To amend a certain paragraph of the Act entitled "An Act making appropriations for the current and contingent expenses of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, for fulfilling treaty stipulations with various Indian tribes, and for other purposes, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1921" approved February 14, 1920"
- 41 St. 535, Mar. 19, 1920, C 105—Joint Resolution Amending joint resolution extending the time for payment of purchase money of homestead entries in the former Colville Indian Reservation, Washington"
- 41 St. 549, Apr. 1, 1920, C 119—An Act To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to acquire certain Indian lands necessary for assay purposes in connection with the Blackfoot Indian reclamation project"
- 41 St. 549, Apr. 1, 1920, C 120—An Act Authorizing the Secretary of the Interior to issue patent to School District Numbered 8, Sheridan County, Montana, for block one, in Walker town site, Fort Peck Indian Reservation, Montana, and to said and block in each town site on said reservation for school purposes"
- 41 St. 553, Apr. 15, 1920, C 148—An Act Authorizing and directing the transfer approximately of 10 acres of land to Elmal High School District Numbered 1, Layman, Idaho"
- 41 St. 555, Apr. 28, 1920, C 183—An Act Conferring jurisdiction on the Court of Claims to hear, determine, and render judgment in claims of the Iowa Tribe of Indians against the United States"
- 41 St. 556, May 10, 1920, C 178—An Act For the sale of isolated tracts in the former Fort Berthold Indian Reservation, North Dakota." 48 U S C 1173
- 41 St. 559, May 14, 1920, C 187—An Act To authorize the disposition of certain grazing lands in the State of Utah, and for other purposes"
- 41 St. 573, May 28, 1920, C 208—An Act Authorizing certain

"40 St. 423 43 St. 48, 96, 218, 226, 233, 425, 11 St. 614, 730, 18 St. 693, 19 St. 802, 19 St. 852, 19 St. 858, 19 St. 878, 19 St. 879, 19 St. 880, 19 St. 881, 19 St. 882, 19 St. 883, 19 St. 884, 19 St. 885, 19 St. 886, 19 St. 887, 19 St. 888, 19 St. 889, 19 St. 890, 19 St. 891, 19 St. 892, 19 St. 893, 19 St. 894, 19 St. 895, 19 St. 896, 19 St. 897, 19 St. 898, 19 St. 899, 19 St. 900, 19 St. 901, 19 St. 902, 19 St. 903, 19 St. 904, 19 St. 905, 19 St. 906, 19 St. 907, 19 St. 908, 19 St. 909, 19 St. 910, 19 St. 911, 19 St. 912, 19 St. 913, 19 St. 914, 19 St. 915, 19 St. 916, 19 St. 917, 19 St. 918, 19 St. 919, 19 St. 920, 19 St. 921, 19 St. 922, 19 St. 923, 19 St. 924, 19 St. 925, 19 St. 926, 19 St. 927, 19 St. 928, 19 St. 929, 19 St. 930, 19 St. 931, 19 St. 932, 19 St. 933, 19 St. 934, 19 St. 935, 19 St. 936, 19 St. 937, 19 St. 938, 19 St. 939, 19 St. 940, 19 St. 941, 19 St. 942, 19 St. 943, 19 St. 944, 19 St. 945, 19 St. 946, 19 St. 947, 19 St. 948, 19 St. 949, 19 St. 950, 19 St. 951, 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1109, 19 St. 1110, 19 St. 1111, 19 St. 1112, 19 St. 1113, 19 St. 1114, 19 St. 1115, 19 St. 1116, 19 St. 1117, 19 St. 1118, 19 St. 1119, 19 St. 1120, 19 St. 1121, 19 St. 1122, 19 St. 1123, 19 St. 1124, 19 St. 1125, 19 St. 1126, 19 St. 1127, 19 St. 1128, 19 St. 1129, 19 St. 1130, 19 St. 1131, 19 St. 1132, 19 St. 1133, 19 St. 1134, 19 St. 1135, 19 St. 1136, 19 St. 1137, 19 St. 1138, 19 St. 1139, 19 St. 1140, 19 St. 1141, 19 St. 1142, 19 St. 1143, 19 St. 1144, 19 St. 1145, 19 St. 1146, 19 St. 1147, 19 St. 1148, 19 St. 1149, 19 St. 1150, 19 St. 1151, 19 St. 1152, 19 St. 1153, 19 St. 1154, 19 St. 1155, 19 St. 1156, 19 St. 1157, 19 St. 1158, 19 St. 1159, 19 St. 1160, 19 St. 1161, 19 St. 1162, 19 St. 1163, 19 St. 1164, 19 St. 1165, 19 St. 1166, 19 St. 1167, 19 St. 1168, 19 St. 1169, 19 St. 1170, 19 St. 1171, 19 St. 1172, 19 St. 1173, 19 St. 1174, 19 St. 1175, 19 St. 1176, 19 St. 1177, 19 St. 1178, 19 St. 1179, 19 St. 1180, 19 St. 1181, 19 St. 1182, 19 St. 1183, 19 St. 1184, 19 St. 1185, 19 St. 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- tribes of Indians to submit claims to the Court of Claims, and for other purposes." C 204—An Act To amend an Act entitled "An Act making appropriations for the current and contingent expenses of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, for fulfilling treaty stipulations with various Indian tribes, and for other purposes, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1914," approved June 30, 1913."
- 41 St. 631, May 23, 1920; C 214—An Act Making appropriations for the legislative, executive, and judicial expenses of the Government for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1921, and for other purposes."
- 41 St. 788; June 8, 1920, C 232—An Act Authorizing the Sioux Tribe of Indians to submit claims to the Court of Claims."
- 41 St. 731; June 4, 1920, C 224—An Act To provide for the allotment of lands of the Crow Tribe, for the distribution of tribal funds, and for other purposes."
- 41 St. 874; June 5, 1920, C 236—An Act Making appropriations for sundry civil expenses of the Government for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1921, and for other purposes." p. 937-49 U. S. C. 422
- 41 St. 948; June 6, 1920, C 240—An Act Making appropriations for the support of the Army for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1921, and for other purposes."
- 41 St. 1016; June 5, 1920, C 235—An Act Making appropriations to supply deficiencies in appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1920, and prior fiscal years, and for other purposes."
- 41 St. 1008; June 10, 1920, C 285—An Act To create a Federal Power Commission, to provide for the improvement of navigation, the development of water power; the use of the public lands in relation thereto, and to repeal section 28 of the River and Harbor Appropriation Act, approved August 5, 1917, and for other purposes." Sec 8, p. 1068-36 U. S. C. 790. Sec 4, p. 1065-16 U. S. C. 707. Sec. 17-10 U. S. C. 810. Sec 28, p. 1077-16 U. S. C. 822. Sec. 29, p. 1077-16 U. S. C. 828. Sec 30, p. 1077-16 U. S. C. 701.
- 41 St. 1077; June 14, 1920; C 286—An Act Authorizing the enlistment of non-English speaking citizens and aliens."
- 41 St. 1097; Feb. 6, 1921; C 89—An Act Conferring jurisdiction on the Court of Claims to hear, determine, and render judgment in the Osage civilization-fund claim of the Osage Nation of Indians against the United States."
- 41 St. 1105; Feb. 21, 1921, C. 98—An Act to amend Act of Congress approved June 30, 1918."
- 41 St. 1106; Feb. 21, 1921, C. 94—An Act To authorize the improvement of Red Lake and Red Lake River, in the State of Minnesota, for navigation, drainage, and flood-control purposes."
- 41 St. 1107; Feb. 22, 1921, C. 90—An Act Authorizing the Secretary of the Interior to offer for sale remainder of the coal and asphalt and limestone in segregated mineral land in the Choctaw and Chickasaw Nations, State of Oklahoma."
- 41 St. 1108; Mar. 1, 1921, C. 80—An Act Making appropriations to supply deficiencies in appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1921, and prior fiscal years, and for other purposes."
- 41 St. 1183; Mar. 1, 1921; C. 91—An Act To authorize a lieu selection by the State of South Dakota for 160 acres on Pine Ridge Indian Reservation, and for other purposes. See Historical Note 25 U. S. C. 421.
- 41 St. 1204; Mar. 2, 1921; C. 111—An Act Amending an Act

- to provide for drainage of Indian allotments of the Five Civilized Tribes, approved March 27, 1914 (38 St. 810, Public Numbered 77) "
- 41 St. 1225, Mar. 3, 1921, C. 110—An Act Making appropriations for the current and contingent expenses of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, for fulfilling treaty stipulations with various Indian Tribes, and for other purposes, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1922." See 1, p. 1231-25 U. S. C. 809 (41 St. 31, sec 28); "Sec 1, p. 1232-25 U. S. C. 808"
- 41 St. 1240, Mar. 3, 1921; C. 120—An Act to amend section 3 of the Act of Congress of June 25, 1906, entitled "An Act for the division of the lands and funds of the Osage Indians in Oklahoma, and for other purposes." Sec 3, p. 1260-8 U. S. C. 3
- 41 St. 1302; Mar. 3, 1921, C. 124—An Act Making appropriations for the legislative, executive, and judicial expenses of the Government for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1922, and for other purposes."
- 41 St. 1356; Mar. 8, 1921, C. 135—An Act Providing for the allotment of lands within the Fort Belknap Indian Reservation, Montana, and for other purposes."
- 41 St. 1364, Mar. 4, 1921; C. 165—An Act To perpetuate the memory of the Chickasaw and Seminole Tribes of Indians in Oklahoma."
- 41 St. 1367; Mar. 4, 1921; C. 161—An Act Making appropriations for sundry civil expenses of the Government for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1922, and for other purposes."
- 41 St. 1448; Mar. 4, 1921; C. 174—Joint Resolution Extending the time for payment or purchase money on homestead entries in the former Standing Rock Indian Reservation, in the States of North and South Dakota, and for other purposes."
- 41 St. 1459; Feb. 11, 1920; C. 72—An Act Restoring to Amy E. Hall her homestead right and providing that on any homestead entry made by her she shall be given credit for all compliance with the law on her original homestead entry and for all payments made on same."
- 41 St. 1460; Feb. 17, 1920, C. 78—An Act To authorize the payment of certain amounts for damages sustained by prairie fire on the Rosebud Indian Reservation, in South Dakota."
- 41 St. 1460; Feb. 17, 1920, C. 79—An Act for the relief of William B. Johnson.

"40 St. 88 St. 810
 40 St. 442, 7 St. 40, 90, 212, 218, 225, 228, 423; 10 St. 1100; 11 St. 870, 875, 880, 881, 882, 883, 884, 885, 886, 887, 888, 889, 890, 891, 892, 893, 894, 895, 896, 897, 898, 899, 900, 901, 902, 903, 904, 905, 906, 907, 908, 909, 910, 911, 912, 913, 914, 915, 916, 917, 918, 919, 920, 921, 922, 923, 924, 925, 926, 927, 928, 929, 930, 931, 932, 933, 934, 935, 936, 937, 938, 939, 940, 941, 942, 943, 944, 945, 946, 947, 948, 949, 950, 951, 952, 953, 954, 955, 956, 957, 958, 959, 960, 961, 962, 963, 964, 965, 966, 967, 968, 969, 970, 971, 972, 973, 974, 975, 976, 977, 978, 979, 980, 981, 982, 983, 984, 985, 986, 987, 988, 989, 990, 991, 992, 993, 994, 995, 996, 997, 998, 999, 1000, 1001, 1002, 1003, 1004, 1005, 1006, 1007, 1008, 1009, 1010, 1011, 1012, 1013, 1014, 1015, 1016, 1017, 1018, 1019, 1020, 1021, 1022, 1023, 1024, 1025, 1026, 1027, 1028, 1029, 1030, 1031, 1032, 1033, 1034, 1035, 1036, 1037, 1038, 1039, 1040, 1041, 1042, 1043, 1044, 1045, 1046, 1047, 1048, 1049, 1050, 1051, 1052, 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2381, 2382, 2383, 2384, 2385, 2386, 2387, 2388, 2389, 2390, 2391, 2392, 2393, 2394, 2395, 2396, 2397, 2398, 2399, 2400, 2401, 2402, 2403, 2404, 2405, 2406, 2407, 2408, 2409, 2410, 2411, 2412, 2413, 2414, 2415, 2416, 2417, 2418, 2419, 2420, 2421, 2422, 2423, 2424, 2425, 2426, 2427, 2428, 2429, 2430, 2431, 2432, 2433, 2434, 2435, 2436, 2437, 2438, 2439, 2440, 2441, 2442, 2443, 2444, 2445, 2446, 2447, 2448, 2449, 2450, 2451, 2452, 2453, 2454, 2455, 2456, 2457, 2458, 2459, 2460, 2461, 2462, 2463, 2464, 2465, 2466, 2467, 2468, 2469, 2470, 2471, 2472, 2473, 2474, 2475, 2476, 2477, 2478, 2479, 2480, 2481, 2482, 2483, 2484, 2485, 2486, 2487, 2488, 2489, 2490, 2491, 2492, 2493, 2494, 2495, 2496, 2497, 2498, 2499, 2500, 2501, 2502, 2503, 2504, 2505, 2506, 2507, 2508, 2509, 2510, 2511, 2512, 2513, 2514, 2515, 2516, 2517, 2518, 2519, 2520, 2521, 2522, 2523, 2524, 2525, 2526, 2527, 2528, 2529, 2530, 2531, 2532, 2533, 2534, 2535, 2536, 2537, 2538, 2539, 2540, 2541, 2542, 2543, 2544, 2545, 2546, 2547, 2548, 2549, 2550, 2551, 2552, 2553, 2554, 2555, 2556, 2557, 2558, 2559, 2560, 2561, 2562, 2563, 2564, 2565, 2566, 2567, 2568, 2569, 2570, 2571, 2572, 2573, 2574, 2575,

- 11 St 1466, Apr 15, 1920, C 115—An Act Authorizing the Secretary of the Interior to sell certain lands to school district numbered 21 of Fremont County, Wyoming
- 41 St 1468, Apr 26, 1920, C 116—An Act Authorizing and directing the Secretary of the Interior to convey to the trustees of the Yankton Agency Presbyterian Church, by patent in fee, certain land within the Yankton Indian Reservation
- 41 St 1469, May 10, 1920, C 180—An Act Authorizing the Secretary of the Interior to correct an error in an Indian allotment
- 41 St 1472, June 6, 1920, C 270—An Act Granting pensions and increase of pensions to certain soldiers and sailors of the Regular Army and Navy and of wars other than the Civil War, and to certain widows and dependent relatives of such soldiers and sailors
- 41 St 1531, Mar 1, 1921, C 108—An Act For the relief of the widow of Joseph O Akim
- 41 St 1543, Mar 3, 1921, C 140—An Act Granting pensions and increase of pensions to certain soldiers and sailors of the Regular Army and Navy, and certain soldiers and sailors of wars other than the Civil War, and to widows of such soldiers and sailors
- 41 St 1550, Mar 3, 1921, C 141—An Act Granting pensions and increase of pensions to certain soldiers and sailors of the Regular Army and Navy, and certain soldiers and sailors of wars other than the Civil War, and to widows of such soldiers and sailors
- 41 St 1552, Mar 3, 1921, C 142—An Act Granting pensions and increase of pensions to certain soldiers and sailors of the Regular Army and Navy, and certain soldiers and sailors of wars other than the Civil War, and to widows of such soldiers and sailors
- 41 St 1557, Mar 3, 1921, C 143—An Act Granting pensions and increase of pensions to certain soldiers and sailors of the Regular Army and Navy, and certain soldiers and sailors of wars other than the Civil War, and to widows of such soldiers and sailors
- 41 St 1558, Mar 3, 1921, C 147—An Act Granting pensions and increase of pensions to certain soldiers and sailors of the Regular Army and Navy, and certain soldiers and sailors of wars other than the Civil War, and to widows of such soldiers and sailors
- 41 St 1581, June 11, 1919, Concurrent Res—Indian Appropriation Bill¹⁸
- 41 St 1587, Feb 4, 1920, Concurrent Res—Indian Appropriation Bill¹⁹
- 41 St 1588, Feb 7, 1920, Concurrent Res—Indian Appropriation Bill²⁰
- 42 STAT.**
- 42 St 4, May 6, 1921, C 6—Joint Resolution Making the sum of \$100,000 appropriated for the construction of a diversion dam on the Crow Indian Reservation, Montana, immediately available²¹
- 42 St 20, June 16, 1921, C 28—An Act Making appropriations to supply deficiencies in appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1921, and prior fiscal years, and for other purposes
- 42 St 68, June 30, 1921, C 88—An Act Making appropriations for the support of the Army for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1922, and for other purposes
- 42 St 102, Aug 24, 1921, C 80—An Act Making appropriations to supply urgent deficiencies in appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1922, and for other purposes
- 42 St 208, Nov 2, 1921, C 115—An Act Authorizing appropriations and expenditures for the administration of Indian affairs, and for other purposes²² 25 U S C 18
- 42 St 212, Nov 9, 1921, C 119—An Act To amend the Act entitled "An Act to provide that the United States shall and the States in the construction of rural post roads, and for other purposes," approved July 11, 1910, as amended and supplemented, and for other purposes²³ See S, p. 219-228 U S C 8a See Sec 26, p. 219-228 U S C 25
- 42 St 221, Nov 19, 1921, C 135—An Act Authorizing a per capita payment to the Chippewa Indians of Minnesota from their tribal funds held in trust by the United States²⁴
- 42 St 327, Dec 15, 1921, C 1—An Act Making appropriations to supply deficiencies in appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1922, and prior fiscal years, supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1922, and subsequent fiscal years, and for other purposes
- 42 St 358, Jan 21, 1922, C 32—Joint Resolution To amend a joint resolution entitled "Joint Resolution giving to discharged soldiers, sailors, and marines a preferred right of homestead entry," approved February 14, 1920²⁵ 48 U S C 180, 485
- 42 St 364, Feb 15, 1922, C 100—Joint Resolution Relative to payment of tuition for Indian children enrolled in Montana State public schools²⁶
- 42 St 422, Mar 20, 1922, C 103—An Act Making appropriations for the Legislative Branch of the Government for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1923, and for other purposes
- 42 St 437, Mar 20, 1922, C 104—An Act Making appropriations to supply deficiencies in appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1922, and prior fiscal years, and for other purposes²⁷
- 42 St 470, Mar 28, 1922, C 117—An Act Making appropriations for the Department of Commerce and Labor for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1923, and for other purposes²⁸
- 42 St 469, Apr 25, 1922, C 110—An Act Authorizing extensions of time for the payment of purchase money due under certain homestead entries and Government-land purchases within the former Cheyenne River and Standing Rock Indian Reservations, North Dakota and South Dakota²⁹
- 42 St 507, May 9, 1922, C 188—An Act Extending the period for homestead entries on the south half of the Diminished Bourke Indian Reservation³⁰
- 42 St 532, May 24, 1922, C 109—An Act Making appropriations for the Department of the Interior for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1923, and for other purposes³¹ p. 560—See Historical Note 25 U S C A 385, p. 562—See Historical Note 25 U S C A 285, p. 572-25 U S C 124, p. 478—See Historical Note 25 U S C A 267, 42 U S C 16
- 42 St 565, May 25, 1922, C 201—An Act To amend section 22 of an Act approved February 14, 1920, entitled, "An Act making appropriations for the current and contingent expenses of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, for fulfilling treaty stipulations with various Indian tribes, and for other purposes," for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1921³²
- 42 St 689, June 1, 1922, C 204—An Act Making appropriations for the Departments of State and Justice and for the Judiciary for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1923, and for other purposes
- 42 St 625, June 10, 1922, C 211—An Act Providing for the appropriation of funds for acquiring additional water rights for Indians on the Crow Reservation, in Montana, whose lands are irrigable under the Two Lagunas Irrigation Canal
- 42 St 685, June 12, 1922, C 218—An Act Making appropriations for the Executive and for sundry independent bureaus, boards, commissions and offices, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1923, and for other purposes
- 42 St 716, June 30, 1922, C 223—An Act Making appropriations for the military and nonmilitary activities of the War Department for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1923, and for other purposes
- 42 St 777, July 1, 1922, C 228—An Act Making appropriations to supply deficiencies in appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1922, and for prior fiscal years, supplemental

¹⁸ 40 St 41 St 8;
¹⁹ 40 St 41 St 420;
²⁰ 40 St 41 St 423;
²¹ 40 St 41 St 1287;
²² 40 St 41 St 423;
²³ 40 St 41 St 423;
²⁴ 40 St 41 St 423;
²⁵ 40 St 41 St 423;
²⁶ 40 St 41 St 423;
²⁷ 40 St 41 St 423;
²⁸ 40 St 41 St 423;
²⁹ 40 St 41 St 423;
³⁰ 40 St 41 St 423;
³¹ 40 St 41 St 423;
³² 40 St 41 St 423;

¹⁸ 25 St 642 Oakes Chippewa, 807 U S 1, Nelson, 18 P 2d 629;
¹⁹ 25 St 642 Oakes Chippewa, 807 U S 1, Nelson, 18 P 2d 629;
²⁰ 25 St 642 Oakes Chippewa, 807 U S 1, Nelson, 18 P 2d 629;
²¹ 25 St 642 Oakes Chippewa, 807 U S 1, Nelson, 18 P 2d 629;
²² 25 St 642 Oakes Chippewa, 807 U S 1, Nelson, 18 P 2d 629;
²³ 25 St 642 Oakes Chippewa, 807 U S 1, Nelson, 18 P 2d 629;
²⁴ 25 St 642 Oakes Chippewa, 807 U S 1, Nelson, 18 P 2d 629;
²⁵ 25 St 642 Oakes Chippewa, 807 U S 1, Nelson, 18 P 2d 629;
²⁶ 25 St 642 Oakes Chippewa, 807 U S 1, Nelson, 18 P 2d 629;
²⁷ 25 St 642 Oakes Chippewa, 807 U S 1, Nelson, 18 P 2d 629;
²⁸ 25 St 642 Oakes Chippewa, 807 U S 1, Nelson, 18 P 2d 629;
²⁹ 25 St 642 Oakes Chippewa, 807 U S 1, Nelson, 18 P 2d 629;
³⁰ 25 St 642 Oakes Chippewa, 807 U S 1, Nelson, 18 P 2d 629;
³¹ 25 St 642 Oakes Chippewa, 807 U S 1, Nelson, 18 P 2d 629;
³² 25 St 642 Oakes Chippewa, 807 U S 1, Nelson, 18 P 2d 629;

homestead allotment made to members of the Kansas or Kiow Tribe of Indians in Oklahoma."

48 St. 205; May 28, 1924; C. 204—An Act Making appropriations for the Departments of State and Justice and for the Judiciary, and for the Departments of Commerce and Labor, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1925, and for other purposes."

48 St. 244; May 20, 1924; C. 210—An Act To authorize the leasing for oil and gas mining purposes of unallotted lands on Indian reservations affected by the proviso to section 3 of the Act of February 28, 1891. 26 U. S. C. 395.

48 St. 245; May 31, 1924; C. 215—An Act To provide for the addition of the names of certain persons to the final roll of the Indians of the Flathead Indian Reservation, Montana."

48 St. 246; May 31, 1924; C. 216—An Act To provide for the reservation of certain lands in Utah as a school site for the Indians."

48 St. 248; May 31, 1924; C. 217—An Act Providing for the reservation of certain lands in Utah for certain bands of Paiute Indians."

48 St. 247; May 31, 1924; C. 220—An Act To authorize the setting aside of certain tribal lands within the Quinault Indian Reservation in Washington, for light-house purposes."

48 St. 252; June 2, 1924; C. 231—An Act To provide for the disposal of homestead allotments of deceased allottees within the Blackfeet Indian Reservation, Montana." See Historical Note 26 U. S. C. 851.

48 St. 253; June 2, 1924; C. 232—An Act To provide for the addition of the names of Chester Call and Crooked Nose Woman to the final roll of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Indians, Seeger jurisdiction, Oklahoma."

48 St. 253; June 2, 1924; C. 233—An Act To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to issue certificates of citizenship to Indians." 8 U. S. C. 8, 173.

48 St. 257; June 3, 1924; C. 236—An Act Authorizing payment to certain Red Lake Indians, out of the tribal trust funds, for garden plots surrendered for school-farm use."

48 St. 257; June 3, 1924; C. 240—An Act To authorize acquisition of unreserved public lands in the Columbia or Moses Reservation, State of Washington, under Acts of March 16, 1912, and March 8, 1877, and for other purposes." 43 U. S. C. 208.

48 St. 268; June 4, 1924; C. 249—An Act Authorizing the Wichita and affiliated bands of Indians in Oklahoma to submit claims to the Court of Claims."

48 St. 276; June 4, 1924; C. 253—An Act Providing for the final disposition of the affairs of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians of North Carolina." See Historical Note 26 U. S. C. A. 881.

48 St. 280; June 5, 1924; C. 254—An Act Making appropriations for the Department of the Interior for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1925, and for other purposes."

48 St. 476; June 7, 1924; C. 288—An Act For the continuance

of construction work on the San Carlos Federal irrigation project in Arizona, and for other purposes."

48 St. 477; June 7, 1924; C. 289—An Act Authorizing the Secretary of the Interior to investigate and report to Congress the facts in regard to the claims of certain members of the Sioux Nation of Indians for damages occasioned by the destruction of their houses."

48 St. 477; June 7, 1924; C. 291—An Act Making appropriations for the military and nonmilitary activities of the War Department for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1925, and for other purposes."

48 St. 521; June 7, 1924; C. 292—An Act Making appropriations for the Executive Office and sundry independent executive bureaus, boards, commissions, and offices, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1925, and for other purposes."

48 St. 533; June 7, 1924; C. 298—An Act To provide for a girls' dormitory at the Fort Lapwai Sanatorium, Lapwai, Idaho."

48 St. 535; June 7, 1924; C. 299—An Act To pay tuition of Indian children in public schools."

48 St. 537; June 7, 1924; C. 300—An Act Conferring jurisdiction upon the Court of Claims to hear, examine, adjudicate, and enter judgment in any claims which the Choctaw and Chickasaw Indians may have against the United States, and for other purposes."

48 St. 578; June 7, 1924; C. 308—An Act Making appropriations for the Legislative Branch of the Government for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1925, and for other purposes."

48 St. 586; June 7, 1924; C. 309—An Act to amend and Act entitled "An Act authorizing an appropriation to meet proportionate expenses of providing a drainage system for Platte Indian lands in the State of Nevada within the Newlands reclamation project of the Reclamation Service," approved February 14, 1923."

48 St. 590; June 7, 1924; C. 310—An Act Authorizing an appropriation to enable the Secretary of the Interior to purchase a tract of land, with sufficient water right attached, for the use and occupancy of the Tewaok Band of homeless Indians, located at Ruby Valley, Nevada, 1922-47 St. 511."

48 St. 598; June 7, 1924; C. 311—An Act For the relief of settlers and town-site occupants of certain lands in the Pyramid Lake Indian Reservation, Nevada." See Historical Note 26 U. S. C. A. 421.

48 St. 598; June 7, 1924; C. 313—An Act To authorize the payment of certain taxes to Stevens and Ferry Counties, in the State of Washington, and for other purposes."

48 St. 606; June 7, 1924; C. 318—An Act Authorizing annual appropriations for the maintenance of that portion of Gallup-Durango Highway across the Navajo Indian Reservation and providing reimbursement therefor."

48 St. 694; June 7, 1924; C. 328—An Act To provide for quarters, fuel, and light for employees of the Indian field service. 26 U. S. C. 63.

48 St. 699; June 7, 1924; C. 331—An Act To quiet the title to lands within Pueblo Indian Grants, and for other purposes." See Historical Note 26 U. S. C. A. 351.

48 St. 644; June 7, 1924; C. 335—An Act Conferring jurisdiction upon the Court of Claims to hear, examine, adjudicate, and enter judgment in any claims which the Stockbridge Indians

"48 St. 638. *Cited*: 35 Op. A. G. 1; Op. Sol. M.14237, Dec. 13, 1924.

"48 St. 638. *Cited*: 35 Op. A. G. 1; Op. Sol. M.14237, Dec. 13, 1924.

"48 St. 638. *Cited*: 35 Op. A. G. 1; Op. Sol. M.14237, Dec. 13, 1924.

"48 St. 638. *Cited*: 35 Op. A. G. 1; Op. Sol. M.14237, Dec. 13, 1924.

"48 St. 638. *Cited*: 35 Op. A. G. 1; Op. Sol. M.14237, Dec. 13, 1924.

"48 St. 638. *Cited*: 35 Op. A. G. 1; Op. Sol. M.14237, Dec. 13, 1924.

"48 St. 638. *Cited*: 35 Op. A. G. 1; Op. Sol. M.14237, Dec. 13, 1924.

"48 St. 638. *Cited*: 35 Op. A. G. 1; Op. Sol. M.14237, Dec. 13, 1924.

"48 St. 638. *Cited*: 35 Op. A. G. 1; Op. Sol. M.14237, Dec. 13, 1924.

"48 St. 638. *Cited*: 35 Op. A. G. 1; Op. Sol. M.14237, Dec. 13, 1924.

"48 St. 638. *Cited*: 35 Op. A. G. 1; Op. Sol. M.14237, Dec. 13, 1924.

"48 St. 638. *Cited*: 35 Op. A. G. 1; Op. Sol. M.14237, Dec. 13, 1924.

"48 St. 638. *Cited*: 35 Op. A. G. 1; Op. Sol. M.14237, Dec. 13, 1924.

"48 St. 638. *Cited*: 35 Op. A. G. 1; Op. Sol. M.14237, Dec. 13, 1924.

"48 St. 638. *Cited*: 35 Op. A. G. 1; Op. Sol. M.14237, Dec. 13, 1924.

"48 St. 638. *Cited*: 35 Op. A. G. 1; Op. Sol. M.14237, Dec. 13, 1924.

"48 St. 638. *Cited*: 35 Op. A. G. 1; Op. Sol. M.14237, Dec. 13, 1924.

"48 St. 638. *Cited*: 35 Op. A. G. 1; Op. Sol. M.14237, Dec. 13, 1924.

"48 St. 638. *Cited*: 35 Op. A. G. 1; Op. Sol. M.14237, Dec. 13, 1924.

"48 St. 638. *Cited*: 35 Op. A. G. 1; Op. Sol. M.14237, Dec. 13, 1924.

"48 St. 638. *Cited*: 35 Op. A. G. 1; Op. Sol. M.14237, Dec. 13, 1924.

"48 St. 638. *Cited*: 35 Op. A. G. 1; Op. Sol. M.14237, Dec. 13, 1924.

"48 St. 638. *Cited*: 35 Op. A. G. 1; Op. Sol. M.14237, Dec. 13, 1924.

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"48 St. 638. *Cited*: 35 Op. A. G. 1; Op. Sol. M.14237, Dec. 13, 1924.

"48 St. 638. *Cited*: 35 Op. A. G. 1; Op. Sol. M.14237, Dec. 13, 1924.

- 44 St. 590; May 17, 1926; C. 308—An Act To provide for an adequate water-supply system at the Dresslerville Indian Colony.¹
- 44 St. 600; May 17, 1926; C. 309—An Act to authorize the deposit and expenditure of various revenues of the Indian Service as Indian moneys, proceeds of labor.² Sec 1-23 U. S. C. 155 (22 St. 600, sec 1, 24 St. 408).³ See 25 U. S. C. 161b, 31 U. S. C. 72m. See 2—See Historical Note 25 U. S. C. A. 155
- 44 St. 601; May 17, 1926; C. 312—An Act To confirm the title to certain lands in the State of Oklahoma to the Sine and Fox Nation or their heirs.⁴
- 44 St. 601; May 19, 1926; C. 317—An Act Extending the provisions of section 2455 of the United States Revised Statutes to ceded lands of the Fort Hall Indian Reservation.⁵ 43 U. S. C. 1175
- 44 St. 601; May 19, 1926; C. 338—An Act To allot lands to living children on the Crow Reservation, Montana.⁶
- 44 St. 608, May 19, 1926, C. 343—Joint Resolution Authorizing the Cherokee Indians, the Seminole Indians, the Creek Indians, and the Choctaw Cherokee Indians to prosecute claims, jointly or severally, in one or more petitions, as each of said Indian nations or tribes may elect.⁷
- 44 St. 614; May 21, 1926; C. 356—An Act To amend the second section of the Act entitled "An Act to pension the survivors of certain Indian wars from January 1, 1859, to January, 1861, inclusive, and for other purposes," approved March 4, 1917, as amended.⁸ 38 U. S. C. 876
- 44 St. 614; May 21, 1926, C. 357—An Act To provide for the permanent withdrawal of certain lands adjoining the Mikah Indian Reservation in Washington for the use and occupancy of the Makah and Quileute Indians.⁹
- 44 St. 617, May 22, 1926; C. 373—Joint Resolution Authorizing the Secretary of War to send 800 odds, 350 bed sacks, and allotted Paute Indian lands irrigated under the Nevada Reclamation Association, at Crow Agency, Montana, at the semi-centennial of the Battle of the Little Big Horn, June 24, 25, and 26, 1926.¹⁰
- 44 St. 629; May 25, 1926; C. 370—An Act To authorize the issuance of deeds to certain Indians or Eskimos for tracts set apart to them in surveys of town sites in Alaska, and to provide for the survey and subdivision of such tracts and of Indian or Eskimo town or village.¹¹ Sec 1, p. 420-48 U. S. C. 85m; Sec 2, p. 430-48 U. S. C. 85b; Sec 3, p. 430-48 U. S. C. 85c; Sec 4, p. 430-48 U. S. C. 85d.
- 44 St. 638; May 26, 1926; C. 408—An Act To amend sections 1, 5, 6, 8, and 18 of an Act approved June 4, 1920, entitled "An Act to provide for the allotment of lands of the Crow Tribe, for the distribution of tribal funds and for other purposes."¹²
- 44 St. 670; June 1, 1926; C. 494—An Act To provide for the setting apart of certain lands of the State of California as an addition to the Marongio Indian Reservation.¹³
- 44 St. 680; June 8, 1926; C. 459—An Act To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to purchase certain lands in California to be added to the Santa Ysabel Indian Reservation and authorizing an appropriation of funds therefor.¹⁴
- 44 St. 690, June 8, 1926; C. 463—An Act To provide for allotting in severalty lands within the Northern Cheyenne Indian Reservation in Montana, and for other purposes.¹⁵
- 44 St. 750; June 12, 1926; C. 568—An Act To provide for the distribution of the Supreme Court Reports and amending section 227 of the Judicial Code.¹⁶ 44 U. S. C. 736-738
- 44 St. 740; June 12, 1926; C. 572—Joint Resolution Authorizing
- the Secretary of the Interior to establish a trust fund for the Kiowa, Comanche, and Apache Indians in Oklahoma and making provision for the same.¹⁷
- 44 St. 741; June 14, 1926, C. 576—An Act To authorize the expenditure of tribal funds of the Klamath Indians to pay actual expenses of delegate to Washington, and for other purposes.¹⁸
- 44 St. 741; June 15, 1926, C. 588—An Act For the relief of certain settlers on the Fort Peck Indian Reservation, State of Montana.¹⁹
- 44 St. 746, June 15, 1926, C. 580—An Act Authorizing expenditure of tribal funds of Indians of the Tongue River Indian Reservation, Montana, for expenses of delegates to Washington.²⁰
- 44 St. 701, June 28, 1926; C. 657—An Act To provide for the erection at Burns, Oregon, of a school for the use of the Puute Indian children.²¹
- 44 St. 762; June 28, 1926; C. 608—An Act Authorizing an appropriation for a monument for Quanah Parker, late Chief of the Comanche Indians.²²
- 44 St. 762, June 28, 1926, C. 650—An Act For completion of the road from Tucson to Ajo via Indian Oasis, Arizona.²³
- 44 St. 763; June 28, 1926, C. 661—An Act Setting aside Rice Lake and contiguous lands in Minnesota for the exclusive use and benefit of the Chippewa Indians of Minnesota.²⁴
- 44 St. 764; June 28, 1926; C. 667—An Act To amend the Act of June 3, 1920 (41 St. 738), so as to permit the Cheyenne and Arapahoe Tribes to file suit in the Court of Claims.²⁵
- 44 St. 768; June 28, 1926; C. 669—An Act To provide for the permanent withdrawal of Menominee Island in the Columbia River for the use of the Yakima Indians and Confederated Tribes as a burial ground.²⁶
- 44 St. 771; June 28, 1926, C. 664—An Act To authorize the cancellation and remittance of construction assessments against allotted Paute Indian lands irrigated under the Nevada Reclamation project in the State of Nevada and to reimburse the Truckee-Carson irrigation district for certain expenditures for the operation and maintenance of drains for said lands.²⁷
- 44 St. 775; June 28, 1926; C. 701—An Act To purchase lands for addition to the Papago Indian Reservation, Arizona.²⁸
- 44 St. 776; June 28, 1926; C. 702—An Act To authorize credit upon the construction charges of certain water-right applicants and purchasers on the Yuma and Yuma Mesa auxiliary reclamation projects, and for other purposes.²⁹
- 44 St. 777; June 30, 1926; C. 712—An Act To consolidate, codify, and set forth the general and permanent laws of the United States in force December 7, 1925.³⁰
- 44 St. 801; July 2, 1926; C. 724—An Act Authorizing the Citizen Band of Pottawatomie Indians in Oklahoma to submit claims to the Court of Claims.³¹
- 44 St. 807; July 2, 1926; C. 734—An Act Conferring jurisdiction upon the Court of Claims to hear, examine, adjudicate, and render judgment in claims which the Crow Tribe of Indians may have against the United States, and for other purposes.³²
- 44 St. 806; July 3, 1926; C. 769—An Act To authorize the transfer surplus books from the Navy Department to the Interior Department.³³ 34 U. S. C. 83a.
- 44 St. 841; July 3, 1926, C. 771—An Act Making appropriations to supply deficiencies in certain appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1926, and prior fiscal years, to provide supplemental appropriations for the fiscal years ending June 30, 1923, June 30, 1927, and for other purposes.³⁴
- 44 St. 888; July 3, 1926; C. 778—An Act Authorizing an expenditure of \$6,000 from the tribal funds of the Chippewa Indians of Minnesota for the construction of a road on the Leech Lake Reservation.³⁵
- 44 St. 890; July 3, 1926; C. 779—An Act To amend an Act entitled "An Act to authorize the sale of burnt timber on the

¹ 44 St. 541.

² 40 St. 22 St. 600; 24 St. 408; 39 St. 159; 45 St. 200, 1926; 40 St. 270; 51 St. 291, 1926; 46 St. 192, 1926; 47 St. 172, 1927; 50 St. 504; 52 St. 820; 53 St. 820; 54 St. 820; 55 St. 820; 56 St. 820; 57 St. 820; 58 St. 820; 59 St. 820; 60 St. 820; 61 St. 820; 62 St. 820; 63 St. 820; 64 St. 820; 65 St. 820; 66 St. 820; 67 St. 820; 68 St. 820; 69 St. 820; 70 St. 820; 71 St. 820; 72 St. 820; 73 St. 820; 74 St. 820; 75 St. 820; 76 St. 820; 77 St. 820; 78 St. 820; 79 St. 820; 80 St. 820; 81 St. 820; 82 St. 820; 83 St. 820; 84 St. 820; 85 St. 820; 86 St. 820; 87 St. 820; 88 St. 820; 89 St. 820; 90 St. 820; 91 St. 820; 92 St. 820; 93 St. 820; 94 St. 820; 95 St. 820; 96 St. 820; 97 St. 820; 98 St. 820; 99 St. 820; 100 St. 820; 101 St. 820; 102 St. 820; 103 St. 820; 104 St. 820; 105 St. 820; 106 St. 820; 107 St. 820; 108 St. 820; 109 St. 820; 110 St. 820; 111 St. 820; 112 St. 820; 113 St. 820; 114 St. 820; 115 St. 820; 116 St. 820; 117 St. 820; 118 St. 820; 119 St. 820; 120 St. 820; 121 St. 820; 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- livestock thereon. Sec. 13, p. 1454—48 U. S. C. 471-1, Sec. 14, p. 1455—48 U. S. C. 471-2
- 44 St. 1478, May 17, 1926, C. 325—An Act For the relief of Ivy L. Merrill
- 44 St. 1483, May 29, 1926, C. 427—An Act For the relief of O. H. Lipps
- 44 St. 1485, May 29, 1926, C. 482—An Act For the relief of Gagnon and Company, Incorporated
- 44 St. 1487, June 1, 1926, C. 443—An Act For the relief of R. P. Rinehart, of Chamula, New Mexico
- 44 St. 1484, June 17, 1926, C. 480—An Act Granting pensions and increase of pensions to certain soldiers and sailors of the Regular Army and Navy, and to certain soldiers and sailors of wars other than the Civil War, and to widows of such soldiers and sailors
- 44 St. 1468, June 17, 1926, C. 407—An Act Granting pensions and increase of pensions to certain soldiers and sailors of the Regular Army and Navy, and to certain soldiers and sailors of wars other than the Civil War, and to widows of such soldiers and sailors
- 44 St. 1469, June 18, 1926, C. 429—An Act Authorizing the enrollment of Martha B. Bruce as a Kiowa Indian, and directing issuance of trust patents to her and two others to certain land of the Kiowa Indian Reservation, Oklahoma
- 44 St. 1704, July 3, 1926, C. 824—An Act For the relief of Sam Elden
- 44 St. 1705, July 3, 1926, C. 820—An Act For the relief of Lewis J. Burdick
- 44 St. 1740, July 3, 1926, C. 852—An Act For the relief of certain Indian pensioners
- 44 St. 1747, July 3, 1926, C. 854—An Act For the relief of Archie Beggs, an Indian of the former Isabella Reservation, Michigan
- 44 St. 1774, Feb. 17, 1927, C. 159—An Act Granting pensions and increase of pensions to certain soldiers and sailors of the Regular Army and Navy, and to certain soldiers and sailors of wars other than the Civil War, and to widows of such soldiers and sailors, and so forth
- 44 St. 1766, Feb. 17, 1927, C. 234—An Act For the relief of Joseph B. Tunner
- 44 St. 1811, Mar. 3, 1927, C. 428—An Act For the relief of John Ferrell
- 44 St. 1813, Mar. 3, 1927, C. 428—An Act Granting pensions and increase of pensions to certain soldiers and sailors of the Regular Army and Navy, and to certain soldiers and sailors of wars other than the Civil War, and to widows of such soldiers and sailors, and so forth
- 45 STAT.
- 45 St. 2, Dec. 22, 1927, C. 5—An Act Making appropriations to supply deficiencies in certain appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1928, and prior fiscal years, to provide supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1928, and for other purposes
- 45 St. 64, Feb. 15, 1928, C. 57—An Act Making appropriations for the Department of State and Justice and for the Judiciary, and for the Departments of Commerce and Labor, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1928, and for other purposes
- 45 St. 139, Feb. 22, 1928, C. 116—An Act To authorize appropriation of treaty funds due the Wisconsin Pottawatomi Indians
- 45 St. 190, Mar. 3, 1928, C. 120—An Act To provide for the withdrawal of certain described lands in the State of Nevada for the use and benefit of the Indians of the Walker River Reservation
- 45 St. 190, Mar. 3, 1928, C. 121—An Act To provide for the permanent withdrawal of certain lands bordering on and adjacent to Summit Lake, Nevada, for the Paiute, Shoshone, and other Indians
- 45 St. 161, Mar. 3, 1928, C. 122—An Act To amend section 1 of the Act of June 25, 1910 (36 St. 856), "An Act to provide for determining the heirs of deceased Indians, for the disposition and sale of allotments of deceased Indians, for the keeping of allotments, and for other purposes." 26 U. S. C. 1722 (36 St. 856, sec. 1; 45 St. 647).
- 45 St. 162, Mar. 3, 1928, C. 123—An Act To reserve 120 acres on the public domain for the use and benefit of the Koshareham Band of Indians residing in the vicinity of Koshareham, Utah
- 45 St. 362, Mar. 3, 1928, C. 124—An Act To provide for the permanent withdrawal of certain lands in Inyo County, California, for Indian use
- 45 St. 300, Mar. 7, 1928, C. 137—An Act Making appropriations for the Department of the Interior for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1928, and for other purposes. Sec. 1, p. 505-23 U. S. C. 309 Sec. 1, p. 210-25 U. S. C. 387, sec. 1 Sec. 1 p. 216-25 U. S. C. 202a (44 St. 483; 44 St. 347, sec. 1)
- 45 St. 260, Mar. 10, 1928, C. 316—An Act To amend an Act entitled "An Act for the relief of Indians occupying railroad lands in Arizona, New Mexico, or California," approved March 4, 1913
- 45 St. 312, Mar. 13, 1928, C. 219—An Act Authorizing the Secretary of the Interior to execute an agreement with the Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District providing for conservation, irrigation, drainage, and flood control for the Pueblo Indian lands in the Rio Grande Valley, New Mexico, and for other purposes
- 45 St. 315, Mar. 13, 1928, C. 222—An Act Providing for a per capita payment of \$25 to each enrolled member of the Chippewa Tribe of Minnesota from the funds standing to their credit in the Treasury of the United States
- 45 St. 328, Mar. 13, 1928, C. 232—An Act Making appropriations for the military and penitentiary activities of the War Department for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1928, and for other purposes
- 45 St. 368, Mar. 23, 1928, C. 248—An Act To authorize an appropriation for the construction of a road on the Lummi Indian Reservation, Washington
- 45 St. 368, Mar. 23, 1928, C. 247—An Act Authorizing the Secretary of the Interior to purchase certain lands in the city of Bismarck, Burleigh County, North Dakota, for Indian school purposes
- 45 St. 371, Mar. 27, 1928, C. 258—An Act To amend section 2 of the Act of March 3, 1905, entitled "An Act to ratify and amend an agreement with the Indians residing on the Shoshone or Wind River Indian Reservation, in the State of Wyoming, and to make appropriations to carry the same into effect"
- 45 St. 372, Mar. 27, 1928, C. 255—An Act To provide for the protection of the watershed within the Carson National Forest from which water is obtained for the Taos Pueblo, New Mexico
- 45 St. 375, Mar. 28, 1928, C. 267—An Act To provide for the construction of a hospital at the Fort Bidwell Indian School, California
- 45 St. 375, Mar. 28, 1928, C. 268—An Act To provide for the construction of a school building at the Fort Bidwell Indian School, California
- 45 St. 377, Mar. 28, 1928, C. 271—An Act Authorizing an appropriation for the survey and investigation of the placing of water on the Michoud division and other lands in the Fort Hall Indian Reservation
- 45 St. 378, Mar. 28, 1928, C. 272—An Act To provide funds for the

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- upkeep of the Pujallup Indian Cemetery at Tacoma, Washington.
- 45 St. 380, Mar. 29, 1928, C 378—An Act For the relief of the Ahtapah and Cheyenne Indians, and for other purposes.
- 45 St. 380, Mar. 29, 1928, C 379—An Act to authorize the cancellation of the balance due on a reimbursable agreement for the sale of cattle to certain Rosebud Indians.
- 45 St. 400, Mar. 31, 1928, C 395—An Act to amend the Act of April 25, 1922, as amended, entitled "An Act authorizing extensions of time for the payment of purchase money due under certain homestead entries and Government land purchases within the former Cheyenne River and Standing Rock Indian Reservations, North Dakota and South Dakota."
- 45 St. 401, Apr. 2, 1928, C 397—An Act to authorize the construction of a dormitory at Riverside Indian School at Andover, Oklahoma.
- 45 St. 401, Apr. 2, 1928, C 398—An Act to exempt American Indians born in Canada from the operation of the Immigration Act of 1924. 8 U S C 220a.
- 45 St. 401, Apr. 2, 1928, C 399—Joint Resolution To make immediately available the appropriation for a road across the Kaibab Indian Reservation.
- 45 St. 413, Apr. 10, 1928, C 385—An Act To provide for cooperation by the Smithsonian Institution with State, educational, and scientific organizations in the United States for continuing ethnological researches on the American Indians. Sec 1, p 413—20 U S C 69. Sec 2, p 413—20 U S C 70.
- 45 St. 423, Apr. 11, 1928, C 387—An Act Amending an Act entitled "An Act authorizing the Chippewa Indians of Minnesota to submit claims to the Court of Claims."
- 45 St. 429, Apr. 14, 1928, C 374—An Act to authorize an appropriation from tribal funds to pay part of the cost of the construction of a road on the Crow Indian Reservation, Montana.
- 45 St. 442, Apr. 21, 1928, C 400—An Act To provide for the acquisition of rights of way through the lands of the Pueblo Indians of New Mexico. 25 U S C 322.
- 45 St. 467, Apr. 23, 1928, C 402—An Act To authorize a per capita payment to the Shoshone and Arapaho Indians of Wyoming from funds held in trust for them by the United States.
- 45 St. 482, May 2, 1928, C 481—An Act to amend an Act to allot lands to children on the Crow Reservation, Montana.
- 45 St. 484, May 3, 1928, C 485—An Act Authorizing and directing the Secretary of the Interior to investigate, hear, and determine the claims of individual members of the Sioux Tribe of Indians against tribal funds or against the United States.
- 45 St. 482, May 7, 1928, C 506—An Act Authorizing the appropriation of \$2,500 for the erection of a tablet or marker at Medicine Lodge, Kansas, to commemorate the holding of the Indian peace council, at which treaties were made with the Plains Indians, October, 1907.
- 45 St. 498, May 8, 1928, C 510—An Act To amend the proviso of the Act approved August 24, 1912, with reference to educational leave to employees of the Indian Service. 25 U S C 375 (St. 618 sec 1, 42 St. 820).
- 45 St. 496, May 10, 1928, C 517—An Act To extend the period of restriction in lands of certain members of the Five Civilized Tribes, and for other purposes.

45 St. 497, May 11, 1928, C 519—An Act Authorizing a per capita payment to the Rosebud Sioux Indians, South Dakota.

45 St. 500, May 12, 1928, C 528—An Act To provide for the gratuitous issue of service medals and similar devices, for the replacement of the same, and for other purposes.

45 St. 501, May 12, 1928, C 531—An Act To authorize an appropriation for a road on the Zuni Indian Reservation, New Mexico.

45 St. 517, May 14, 1928, C 551—An Act Making appropriations for the Legislative Branch of the Government for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1929, and for other purposes.

45 St. 518, May 16, 1928, C 572—An Act Making appropriations for the Department of Agriculture for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1929, and for other purposes.

45 St. 578, May 16, 1928, C 580—An Act Making appropriations for the Executive Office and sundry independent executive bureaus, boards, commissions, and offices, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1929, and for other purposes.

45 St. 580, May 16, 1928, C 582—An Act To authorize an appropriation to pay half the cost of a bridge and road on the Hoopa Valley Reservation, California.

45 St. 600, May 17, 1928, C 614—An Act To change the boundaries of the Tule River Indian Reservation, California.

45 St. 601, May 18, 1928, C 628—An Act To confer additional jurisdiction upon the Court of Claims under an Act entitled "An Act authorizing the Chippewa Indians of Minnesota to submit claims to the Court of Claims," approved May 14, 1928.

45 St. 602, May 18, 1928, C 624—An Act Authorizing the attorney general of the State of California to bring suit in the Court of Claims on behalf of the Indians of California.

45 St. 617, May 21, 1928, C 644—An Act to authorize allotments to unallotted Indians on the Shoshone or Wind River Reservation, Wyoming.

45 St. 617, May 21, 1928, C 645—An Act Authorizing the construction of a fence along the east boundary of the Papago Indian Reservation, Arizona.

45 St. 618, May 21, 1928, C 646—An Act For the purchase of certain vacant lands in the vicinity of Winnemucca, Nevada, for an Indian colony, and for other purposes.

45 St. 621, May 21, 1928, C 652—An Act Withdrawing from entry the northwest quarter section 12, township 30 north, range 19 east, Montana Indian.

45 St. 626, May 21, 1928, C 662—An Act To continue the allowance of Sioux benefits.

45 St. 654, May 21, 1928, C 683—An Act To set aside certain lands for the Chippewa Indians in the State of Minnesota.

45 St. 711, May 22, 1928, C 686—An Act To add certain lands to the Montezuma National Forest, Colorado, and for other purposes.

45 St. 717, May 23, 1928, C 707—An Act To reserve certain lands on the public domain in Yucatan, Mexico, for the use and benefit of the Acma Pucilo Indians.

45 St. 733, May 24, 1928, Ch 738—An Act To amend section 4 of the Act entitled "An Act to extend the period of restrictions in lands of certain members of the Five Civilized Tribes, and for other purposes," approved May 10, 1928.

45 St. 737, May 25, 1928, C 741—An Act To provide for the extension of the time of certain mining leases of the coal and asphalt deposits in the segregated mineral land of the Cheateau and Cheateau National, and to permit an extension of time to the purchasers of the coal and asphalt deposits within the segregated mineral lands of the said nations to complete payments of the purchase price, and for other purposes.

45 St. 741, May 26, 1928, C 759—An Act To authorize a per capita payment to the Pine Ridge Sioux Indians of South Dakota.

45 St. 750, May 28, 1928, C 769—An Act To authorize an ap-

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- of Elmore Childers, Creek Indian, minor, roll numbered 854.
- 45 St. 2030, Dec. 15, 1929; C 35—Joint Resolution For the relief of Effa Cowe, Creek Indian, now born, roll numbered 78.
- 45 St. 2030; Dec. 17, 1929; C 87—An Act For the relief of James Huns Along.
- 45 St. 2045, Feb. 2, 1930; C 134—An Act To authorize the payment to Robert Tuguey of royalties arising from an oil and gas well in the bed of the Red River, Oklahoma.
- 45 St. 2046, Feb. 2, 1930; C 138—An Act For the relief of Peter Shupp.
- 45 St. 2253; Feb. 10, 1930. C. 200—An Act For the relief of Charles J. Hunt.
- 45 St. 2260; Feb. 20, 1930; C 294—An Act Granting pensions and increase of pensions to certain soldiers and sailors of the Regular Army and Navy, and so forth, and certain soldiers and sailors of wars other than the Civil War, and to widows of such soldiers and sailors.
- 45 St. 2330; Feb. 28, 1930, C. 411—An Act Authorizing the Secretary of the Treasury to pay the Gallup Undertaking Company for burial of four Navajo Indians.
- 45 St. 2340, Mar. 1, 1930, C. 472—An Act For the relief of James B. Jenkins.
- 45 St. 2357; Mar. 2, 1930; C 621—An Act For the relief of M. T. Niles.
- 45 St. 2376, Mar. 4, 1930, C 720—An Act Granting pensions and increase of pensions to certain soldiers and sailors of the Regular Army and Navy, and so forth, and certain soldiers and sailors of wars other than the Civil War, and to widows of such soldiers and sailors.
- 46 STAT.**
- 46 St. 9, June 13, 1930, C 20—Joint Resolution Amending an appropriation for a consolidated school at Belcourt, within the Turtle Mountain Indian Reservation, North Dakota.
- 46 St. 21; June 18, 1930, C. 28—An Act To provide for the fifteenth and subsequent decennial censuses and to provide for appointment of Representatives in Congress 2 U. S. C. 2.
- 46 St. 32, June 20, 1930, C 38—An Act To fix the compensation of officers and employees of the legislative branch of the Government.
- 46 St. 64; Dec. 28, 1930; C 106—An Act Providing for a per capita payment of \$25 to each enrolled member of the Chippewa Tribe of Minnesota from the funds standing to their credit in the Treasury of the United States.
- 46 St. 88, Mar. 22, 1930, C 86—Joint Resolution Authorizing the use of tribal moneys belonging to the Fort Berthold Indians of North Dakota for certain purposes.
- 46 St. 88, Mar. 24, 1930, C. 87—An Act Authorizing a per capita payment to the Shoshone and Arapahoe Indians.
- 46 St. 90; Mar. 20, 1930, C 92—An Act Making appropriations to supply urgent deficiencies in certain appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1930, and prior fiscal years, to provide urgent supplemental appropriations for the fiscal years ending June 30, 1930, and June 30, 1931, and for other purposes.
- 46 St. 144; Apr. 7, 1930; C 108—An Act To allow credit to homestead settlers and entrymen for military service in certain Indian wars. 49 U. S. C. 243.
- 46 St. 147; Apr. 8, 1930; C 115—An Act To provide for the recording of the Indian sign language through the instrumentality of Major General Hugh L. Scott, retired, and for other purposes.
- 46 St. 149; Apr. 8, 1930, C 122—An Act To authorize the issuance of a fee patent for block 23 within the town of Lee du Flambeau, Wisconsin, in favor of the local public-school authorities.
- 46 St. 154; Apr. 10, 1930 C 180—An Act Granting the consent of Congress to agreements or compacts between the States of Oklahoma and Texas for the purchase, construction, and maintenance of highway bridges over the Red River, and for other purposes.
- 46 St. 168, Apr. 15, 1930, C 180—An Act Providing compensation to the Crow Indians for Custer Battle Field National Cemetery, and for other purposes.
- 46 St. 169; Apr. 15, 1930, C 170—An Act Authorizing the Secretary of the Interior to erect a marker or tablet on the site of the battle between Nez Perce Indians under Chief Joseph and the command of Nelson A. Miles.
- 46 St. 169, Apr. 15, 1930, C 171—An Act To authorize per capita payments to the Indians of the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation, South Dakota.
- 46 St. 178, Apr. 18, 1930, C 184—An Act Making appropriations for the Departments of State and Justice and for the Judiciary, and for the Departments of Commerce and Labor, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1931, and for other purposes.
- 46 St. 218, Apr. 18, 1930, C 185—An Act To authorize an appropriation for purchasing twenty acres for addition to the Hot Springs Reserve on the Shoshone or Wind River Indian Reservation, Wyoming.
- 46 St. 220, Apr. 18, 1930; C 201—An Act Making appropriations for the Executive Office and sundry independent executive bureaus, boards, commissions, and offices, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1931, and for other purposes.
- 46 St. 238, Apr. 20, 1930; C 221—An Act Authorizing the Secretary of the Interior to erect a monument as a memorial to the deceased Indian chiefs and ex-servicemen of the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe of Indians.
- 46 St. 259; Apr. 20, 1930; C 222—An Act To amend the Act authorizing the attorney general of the State of California to bring suit in the Court of Claims on behalf of the Indians of California.
- 46 St. 260; Apr. 20, 1930, C 221—Joint Resolution To pay the judgment rendered by the United States Court of Claims to the Iowa Tribe of Indians, Oklahoma.
- 46 St. 263, May 8, 1930, C 220—An Act To declare valid the title to certain Indian lands.
- 46 St. 268, May 12, 1930, C 224—Joint Resolution Authorizing the use of tribal funds belonging to the Yankton Sioux Tribe of Indians in South Dakota to pay expenses and compensation of the members of the tribal business committee for services in connection with their pipestone claim.
- 46 St. 278; May 13, 1930, C 205—An Act To amend the Act of Congress approved May 29, 1928, authorizing the Secretary of the Treasury to accept title to certain real estate, subject to a reservation of mineral rights in favor of the Blackfoot Tribe of Indians.
- 46 St. 279; May 14, 1930, C 278—An Act Making appropriations for the Department of the Interior for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1931, and for other purposes. Sec. 1, p. 20—25 U. S. C. 387 (45 St. 210, sec. 1, 45 St. 1573, sec. 1).
- 46 St. 324; May 15, 1930; C 285—An Act To provide funds for conversion with the school located at Bryansburg, Montana, in the extension of the high-school building to be available to Indian children of the Blackfoot Indian Reservation.
- 46 St. 370, May 19, 1930, C 302—Joint Resolution To carry out certain obligations to certain enrolled Indians under tribal agreement.
- 46 St. 378, May 23, 1930; C 317—An Act To eliminate certain land from the Tumacacui National Forest, Arizona, as an addition to the Western Navajo Indian Reservation.
- 46 St. 385, May 23, 1930; C 333—An Act Authorizing the Secretary of the Interior to lease any or all of the remaining

* 46 St. 16 St. 1940.

* 46 St. 48 St. 1940.

* 46 St. 58 St. 1942. 46 St. 107

* 46 St. 59 St. 1942.

* 46 St. 15 St. 1918; 26 St. 640, 90 St. 706; 35 St. 912, 444, 758; 43

St. 410, 48 St. 949; 46 St. 100, 106, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, 231, 232, 233, 234, 235, 236, 237, 238, 239, 240, 241, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 250, 251, 252, 253, 254, 255, 256, 257, 258, 259, 260, 261, 262, 263, 264, 265, 266, 267, 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 273, 274, 275, 276, 277, 278, 279, 280, 281, 282, 283, 284, 285, 286, 287, 288, 289, 290, 291, 292, 293, 294, 295, 296, 297, 298, 299, 300, 301, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 307, 308, 309, 310, 311, 312, 313, 314, 315, 316, 317, 318, 319, 320, 321, 322, 323, 324, 325, 326, 327, 328, 329, 330, 331, 332, 333, 334, 335, 336, 337, 338, 339, 340, 341, 342, 343, 344, 345, 346, 347, 348, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360, 361, 362, 363, 364, 365, 366, 367, 368, 369, 370, 371, 372, 373, 374, 375, 376, 377, 378, 379, 380, 381, 382, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 389, 390, 391, 392, 393, 394, 395, 396, 397, 398, 399, 400, 401, 402, 403, 404, 405, 406, 407, 408, 409, 410, 411, 412, 413, 414, 415, 416, 417, 418, 419, 420, 421, 422, 423, 424, 425, 426, 427, 428, 429, 430, 431, 432, 433, 434, 435, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 443, 444, 445, 446, 447, 448, 449, 450, 451, 452, 453, 454, 455, 456, 457, 458, 459, 460, 461, 462, 463, 464, 465, 466, 467, 468, 469, 470, 471, 472, 473, 474, 475, 476, 477, 478, 479, 480, 481, 482, 483, 484, 485, 486, 487, 488, 489, 490, 491, 492, 493, 494, 495, 496, 497, 498, 499, 500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510, 511, 512, 513, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 533, 534, 535, 536, 537, 538, 539, 540, 541, 542, 543, 544, 545, 546, 547, 548, 549, 550, 551, 552, 553, 554, 555, 556, 557, 558, 559, 560, 561, 562, 563, 564, 565, 566, 567, 568, 569, 570, 571, 572, 573, 574, 575, 576, 577, 578, 579, 580, 581, 582, 583, 584, 585, 586, 587, 588, 589, 590, 591, 592, 593, 594, 595, 596, 597, 598, 599, 600, 601, 602, 603, 604, 605, 606, 607, 608, 609, 610, 611, 612, 613, 614, 615, 616, 617, 618, 619, 620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627, 628, 629, 630, 631, 632, 633, 634, 635, 636, 637, 638, 639, 640, 641, 642, 643, 644, 645, 646, 647, 648, 649, 650, 651, 652, 653, 654, 655, 656, 657, 658, 659, 660, 661, 662, 663, 664, 665, 666, 667, 668, 669, 670, 671, 672, 673, 674, 675, 676, 677, 678, 679, 680, 681, 682, 683, 684, 685, 686, 687, 688, 689, 690, 691, 692, 693, 694, 695, 696, 697, 698, 699, 700, 701, 702, 703, 704, 705, 706, 707, 708, 709, 710, 711, 712, 713, 714, 715, 716, 717, 718, 719, 720, 721, 722, 723, 724, 725, 726, 727, 728, 729, 730, 731, 732, 733, 734, 735, 736, 737, 738, 739, 740, 741, 742, 743, 744, 745, 746, 747, 748, 749, 750, 751, 752, 753, 754, 755, 756, 757, 758, 759, 760, 761, 762, 763, 764, 765, 766, 767, 768, 769, 770, 771, 772, 773, 774, 775, 776, 777, 778, 779, 780, 781, 782, 783, 784, 785, 786, 787, 788, 789, 790, 791, 792, 793, 794, 795, 796, 797, 798, 799, 800, 801, 802, 803, 804, 805, 806, 807, 808, 809, 810, 811, 812, 813, 814, 815, 816, 817, 818, 819, 820, 821, 822, 823, 824, 825, 826, 827, 828, 829, 830, 831, 832, 833, 834, 835, 836, 837, 838, 839, 840, 841, 842, 843, 844, 845, 846, 847, 848, 849, 850, 851, 852, 853, 854, 855, 856, 857, 858, 859, 860, 861, 862, 863, 864, 865, 866, 867, 868, 869, 870, 871, 872, 873, 874, 875, 876, 877, 878, 879, 880, 881, 882, 883, 884, 885, 886, 887, 888, 889, 890, 891, 892, 893, 894, 895, 896, 897, 898, 899, 900, 901, 902, 903, 904, 905, 906, 907, 908, 909, 910, 911, 912, 913, 914, 915, 916, 917, 918, 919, 920, 921, 922, 923, 924, 925, 926, 927, 928, 929, 930, 931, 932, 933, 934, 935, 936, 937, 938, 939, 940, 941, 942, 943, 944, 945, 946, 947, 948, 949, 950, 951, 952, 953, 954, 955, 956, 957, 958, 959, 960, 961, 962, 963, 964, 965, 966, 967, 968, 969, 970, 971, 972, 973, 974, 975, 976, 977, 978, 979, 980, 981, 982, 983, 984, 985, 986, 987, 988, 989, 990, 991, 992, 993, 994, 995, 996, 997, 998, 999, 1000.

* 46 St. 176.

* 46 St. 176 St. 1901. 47 St. 1434

* 46 St. 80 St. 800.

* 46 St. 15 St. 949

* 46 St. 40 St. 1915

* 46 St. 58 St. 1942

* 46 St. 58 St. 1942; 43 St. 686

* 46 St. 58 St. 1942

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- tribal lands of the Choctaw and Chickasaw Nations for oil and gas purposes, and for other purposes."
- 40 St 392, May 27, 1930, C 441—An Act Making appropriations for the Department of Agriculture for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1931, and for other purposes."
- 41 St 393, May 27, 1930, C 442—An Act Authorizing reconstruction and improvement of a public road in Wind River Indian Reservation, Wyoming."
- 42 St 431, May 28, 1930, C 541—An Act To authorize the execution of a waiver upon the site of New Echota, capital of the Cherokee Indians prior to their removal west of the Mississippi River, to commemorate its location, and events connected with its history."
- 43 St 422, May 28, 1930, C 448—An Act Making appropriations for the military and nonmilitary activities of the War Department for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1931, and for other purposes."
- 44 St 468, May 29, 1930, C 340—An Act to amend the Act entitled "An Act to amend the Act entitled 'An Act for the recruitment of employees in the classified civil service, and for other purposes,' approved May 22, 1929, and Acts in amendment thereof," approved July 3, 1929, as amended."
- 45 St 496, June 8, 1930, C 394—An Act To amend section 180 title 23, United States Code, as amended."
- 46 St 504, June 8, 1930, C 401—An Act Making appropriations for the Legislative Branch of the Government for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1931, and for other purposes."
- 47 St 531, June 8, 1930, C 424—Joint Resolution To clarify and amend an Act entitled "An Act conferring jurisdiction upon the Court of Claims to hear, examine, adjudicate, and enter judgment in any claims which the Assiniboin Indians may have against the United States, and for other purposes," approved March 2, 1927."
- 48 St 580, June 12, 1930, C 471—Joint Resolution To amend a joint resolution entitled "Joint resolution arising to discharge soldiers, sailors, and marines a preferred right of homestead entry," approved February 14, 1929, as amended January 21, 1929, and as extended December 28, 1929."
- 49 St 581, June 13, 1930, C 477—An Act To amend the Act entitled "An Act to permit taxation of lands of homestead and desert-land entries under the Reclamation Act," approved April 21, 1928, so as to include ceded lands under Indian irrigation projects."
- 50 St 584, June 13, 1930, C 483—An Act To amend the Act approved February 12, 1920, authorizing the payment of interest on certain lands held in trust by the United States for Indian tribes."
- 51 St 785, June 19, 1930, C 540—An Act Ratifying and confirming the title of the State of Minnesota and its grantees to certain lands patented to it by the United States of America."
- 52 St 787, June 19, 1930, C 544—An Act To confer full rights of citizenship upon the Cherokee Indians resident in the State of North Carolina, and for other purposes."
- 53 St 788, June 19, 1930, C 545—An Act Providing for the sale of the remainder of the coal and asphalt deposits in the segregated mineral land in the Choctaw and Chickasaw Nations, Oklahoma, and for other purposes."
- 54 St 793, June 21, 1930, C 569—An Act Authorizing an appropriation for payment of claims of the Sisseton and Wahpeton Bands of Sioux Indians."
- 55 St 805, June 24, 1930, C 583—An Act To amend the Act entitled "An Act for the construction of the United States and the States in the construction of rural post roads, and for other purposes," approved July 11, 1910, as amended and supplemented, and for other purposes."
- 56 St 820, June 27, 1930, C 686—An Act Authorizing an appropriation for the purchase of land for the Indian colony near Bly, Nevada, and for other purposes."
- 57 St 820, June 27, 1930, C 687—An Act To provide for the payment of benefits received by the Platte Indian Reservation lands within the Newlands irrigation project, Nevada, and for other purposes."
- 58 St 820, June 27, 1930, C 648—An Act Making appropriations to supply deficiencies in certain appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1930, and prior fiscal years, to provide supplemental appropriations for the fiscal years ending June 30, 1930, and June 30, 1931, and for other purposes."
- 59 St 1029, June 18, 1930, C 14—An Act To repeal obsolete statutes, and to improve the United States Code."
- 60 St 1030, Dec 20, 1930, C 70—An Act Making supplemental appropriations to provide for emergency construction on certain public works during the remainder of the fiscal year ending June 30, 1931, with a view to increasing employment."
- 61 St 1033, Dec 22, 1930, C 23—An Act Authorizing the bands on tribes of Indians known and designated as the Middle Oregon or Warm Springs Tribe of Indians of Oregon or either of them, to submit their claims to the Court of Claims."
- 62 St 1016, Jan 31, 1931, C 61—An Act Authorizing the Secretary of the Interior to acquire land and erect a monument at the site near Crookston in Polk County, Minnesota, to commemorate the signing of a treaty on October 2, 1863, between the United States of America and the Chippewa Indians."
- 63 St 1048, Jan 31, 1931, C 68—An Act To provide for an Indian village at Biko, Nevada."
- 64 St 1047, Jan 31, 1931, C 70—An Act Authorizing the appropriation of Oregon funds for attorneys' fees and expenses of litigation."
- 65 St 1050, Feb 8, 1931, C 101—An Act To amend an Act for the relief of certain tribes of Indians in Montana, Idaho, and Washington."
- 66 St 1050, Feb 8, 1931, C 102—An Act Authorizing an additional capita payment to the Shoshone and Arapahoe Indians."
- 67 St 1051, Feb 4, 1931, C 104—An Act Authorizing the construction of the Michaud division of the Fort Hall Indian irrigation project, Idaho, an appropriation therefor, and the completion of the project, and for other purposes."
- 68 St 1054, Feb 6, 1931, C 111—An Act Making appropriations to supply urgent deficiencies in certain appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1931, and for prior fiscal years, to provide urgent supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1931, and for other purposes."
- 69 St 1054, February 10, 1931, C 117—An Act To provide for the advance planning and regulated construction of public works for the stabilization of the industry, and for aiding in the prevention of unemployment during periods of business depression."
- 70 St 1002, Feb 13, 1931, C 124—An Act Authorizing an appropriation for payment to the Uintah, White River, and Ute and Arapahoe Bands of the Indians in the State of Utah for certain lands, and for other purposes."
- 71 St 1093, Feb 13, 1931, C 125—An Act To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to adjust payment of charges due on the Blackfoot Indian Irrigation Project, and for other purposes."
- 72 St 1102, Feb 14, 1931, C 128—An Act Providing for the sale of timberland in four townships in the State of Minnesota."
- 73 St 1102, Feb 14, 1931, C 134—An Act Authorizing a per capita payment of \$50 to the members of the Menominee

St 46 St 797
St 47 St 798
St 48 St 1004
St 49 St 614, 615, 616, 617, 618, 619, 620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627, 628, 629, 630, 631, 632, 633, 634, 635, 636, 637, 638, 639, 640, 641, 642, 643, 644, 645, 646, 647, 648, 649, 650, 651, 652, 653, 654, 655, 656, 657, 658, 659, 660, 661, 662, 663, 664, 665, 666, 667, 668, 669, 670, 671, 672, 673, 674, 675, 676, 677, 678, 679, 680, 681, 682, 683, 684, 685, 686, 687, 688, 689, 690, 691, 692, 693, 694, 695, 696, 697, 698, 699, 700, 701, 702, 703, 704, 705, 706, 707, 708, 709, 710, 711, 712, 713, 714, 715, 716, 717, 718, 719, 720, 721, 722, 723, 724, 725, 726, 727, 728, 729, 730, 731, 732, 733, 734, 735, 736, 737, 738, 739, 740, 741, 742, 743, 744, 745, 746, 747, 748, 749, 750, 751, 752, 753, 754, 755, 756, 757, 758, 759, 760, 761, 762, 763, 764, 765, 766, 767, 768, 769, 770, 771, 772, 773, 774, 775, 776, 777, 778, 779, 780, 781, 782, 783, 784, 785, 786, 787, 788, 789, 790, 791, 792, 793, 794, 795, 796, 797, 798, 799, 800, 801, 802, 803, 804, 805, 806, 807, 808, 809, 810, 811, 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- Plambeau Indian Reservation, in Wisconsin, not needed for allotment, tribal, or administrative purposes.
- 47 St. 131, June 8, 1932, C 207—An Act To authorize transfer of the abandoned Indian-school site and building at Zeba, Michigan, to the LaCrosse Band of Lake Superior Indians.
- 47 St. 130, June 8, 1932, C 208—An Act To authorize the exchange of a part of the Rapid City Indian School land for a part of the Pennington County Farm, South Dakota.
- 47 St. 130, June 8, 1932, C 209—An Act To provide revenue, equalize taxation, and for other purposes. See 624—See note at end of 20 U S C 20; See 1112-20 U S C 1630.
- 47 St. 200, June 11, 1932, C 242—An Act To amend section 100 of the Act to codify, revise, and amend the laws relating to the Judiciary U S C, tit. 25, sec. 157.
- 47 St. 302, June 13, 1932, C 245—An Act To amend the Act of March 2, 1917 (30 St. 983; U S Code, title 25, sec. 242).
- 47 St. 806, June 14, 1932, C 264—An Act Providing for payment of \$25 to each enrolled Chippewa Indian of the Red Lake Band of Minnesota from the timber funds standing to their credit in the Treasury of the United States.
- 47 St. 307, June 14, 1932, C 275—An Act To amend an Act (ch. 300) entitled "An Act authorizing the Coos (Korewa) Bay, Lower Umpqua (Klaskanine), and Siuslaw Tribes of Indians of the State of Oregon to present their claims to the Court of Claims," approved February 23, 1920 (45 St. 1260).
- 47 St. 307, June 14, 1932, C 267—An Act Authorizing a per capita payment of \$30 to the members of the Menominee Tribe of Indians of Wisconsin from funds on deposit to their credit in the Treasury of the United States.
- 47 St. 824, June 18, 1932, C 270—An Act Granting to the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California certain public and reserved lands of the United States in the counties of Los Angeles, Riverside, and San Bernardino, in the State of California.
- 47 St. 814, June 27, 1932, C 278—An Act For the relief of homesteaders on the Dinmabed Colville Indian Reservation, Washington.
- 47 St. 835, June 27, 1932, C 270—An Act Authorizing expenditures from Colorado River tribal funds for reimbursable loans.
- 47 St. 1230, June 28, 1932, C 284—An Act To amend sections 826 and 829 of the United States Criminal Code of 1910 and sections 548 and 549 of the United States Code of 1920.
- 47 St. 837, June 28, 1932, C 285—An Act To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to extend or renew the contracts of employment of the attorneys employed to represent the Chippewa Indians of Minnesota in litigation arising in the Court of Claims under the Act of May 14, 1928 (44 St. 958).
- 47 St. 841, June 29, 1932, C 300—An Act To amend section 60 of the Judiciary U S C, tit. 25, sec. 150, as amended.
- 47 St. 852, June 30, 1932, C 814—An Act Making appropriations for the Legislative Branch of the Government for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1933; and for other purposes.
- 47 St. 420, June 30, 1932, C 810—An Act To provide for expenses of the Crow and Fort Peck Indian Tribal Councils and authorized delegates of such tribes.
- 47 St. 421, June 30, 1932, C 317—An Act Amending the Act of May 25, 1918, with reference to employing farmers in the Indian Service, and for other purposes.
- 47 St. 452, June 30, 1932, C 330—An Act Making appropriations for the Executive Office and sundry independent executive bureaus, boards, commissions, and offices, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1933, and for other purposes.
- 47 St. 474, June 30, 1932, C 338—An Act Relating to the acquisition of restricted Indian lands by States, counties, or municipalities. 26 U S C, § 409a (46 St. 1471).
- 47 St. 476, July 1, 1932, C 381—An Act Making appropriations

- for the Departments of State and Justice and for the Judiciary, and for the Departments of Commerce and Labor, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1933, and for other purposes.
- 47 St. 625, July 1, 1932, C 394—An Act Making appropriations to supply deficiencies in certain appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1932, and prior fiscal years, to provide supplemental appropriations for the fiscal years ending June 30, 1932, and June 30, 1933, and for other purposes.
- 47 St. 601, July 1, 1932, C 389—An Act To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to adjust reimbursable debts of Indians and tribes of Indians.
- 47 St. 777, July 1, 1932, C 435—An Act Making appropriations for the Department of Agriculture for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1933, and for other purposes.
- 47 St. 681, July 14, 1932, C 432—An Act Making appropriations for the military and nonmilitary activities of the War Department for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1933, and for other purposes.
- 47 St. 700, July 21, 1932, C 520—An Act To relieve devaluation, to broaden the lending powers of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, and to create employment by providing for and expediting a public-works program.
- 47 St. 717, Jan. 20, 1933, C 15—An Act Providing for payment of \$25 to each enrolled Chippewa Indian of Minnesota from timber funds standing to their credit in the Treasury of the United States.
- 47 St. 776 Jan. 20, 1933, C 21—An Act Relating to the deferment and adjustment of construction charges for the years 1931 and 1932 on Indian irrigation projects.
- 47 St. 777, Jan. 27, 1933, C 22—An Act Relative to restrictions applicable to Indians of the Five Civilized Tribes in Oklahoma.
- 47 St. 780, Jan. 30, 1933, C 20—An Act Making appropriations to supply urgent needs of the United States for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1933, and prior fiscal years, to provide supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1933, and for other purposes.
- 47 St. 807, Feb. 14, 1933, C 67—Joint Resolution To carry out certain obligations to certain enrolled Indians under tribal agreement.
- 47 St. 808, Feb. 15, 1933, C 74—An Act To establish the boundary lines of the Chippewa Indian territory in the State of Minnesota.
- 47 St. 818, Feb. 18, 1933, C 93—An Act To authorize an appropriation to carry out the provisions of the Act of May 3, 1928 (45 St. 481).
- 47 St. 819, Feb. 17, 1933, C 97—An Act Repealing certain provisions of the Act of June 21, 1903, as amended, relating to the sale and encumbrance of lands of Kickapoo and affiliated Indians of Oklahoma.
- 47 St. 820, Feb. 17, 1933, C 98—An Act Making appropriations for the Department of the Interior for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1934, and for other purposes. P 820, sec. 1-25.

* Oiled; Op. Sol. May 15, 1938.

* Ag. 59 St. 1128.

* Ag. 59 St. 988.

* Ag. 45 St. 1260.

* Ag. 45 St. 975; 45 St. 835.

* Ag. 47 St. 820; 45 St. 322; 45 St. 170; 1707; 50 St. 564; 62 St. 291.

* Ag. 44 St. 768; 45 St. 1161. Oiled; Memo Sol., Dec. 17, 1935; Andrews, 71 P. 245.

* Ag. 44 St. 658; 40 St. 423. A. 48 St. 890.

* Ag. 48 St. 495.

* Ag. 48 St. 571. Oiled; 10 L. D. Memo, 844, Memo Sol. Off., July 20, 1935.

* Ag. 40 St. 87.

* Ag. 48 St. 1471. Oiled; Memo Sol. Off., Oct. 26, 1932; May 20, 1934; Memo, Ind. Off., Jan. 1938; Memo Sol., Dec. 21, 1935; Nov. 20, 1937; Minnesota, 805 U S, 832.

* Ag. 39 St. 820.

* 25 St. 64; 45 St. 638; 40 St. 228, 802, 820, 1122, 1533. S. 47 St. 620.

* Ag. 41 St. 406. Oiled; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 807; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 622; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 643; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 644; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 645; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 646; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 647; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 648; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 649; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 650; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 651; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 652; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 653; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 654; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 655; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 656; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 657; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 658; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 659; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 660; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 661; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 662; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 663; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 664; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 665; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 666; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 667; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 668; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 669; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 670; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 671; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 672; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 673; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 674; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 675; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 676; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 677; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 678; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 679; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 680; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 681; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 682; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 683; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 684; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 685; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 686; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 687; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 688; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 689; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 690; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 691; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 692; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 693; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 694; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 695; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 696; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 697; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 698; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 699; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 700; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 701; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 702; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 703; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 704; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 705; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 706; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 707; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 708; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 709; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 710; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 711; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 712; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 713; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 714; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 715; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 716; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 717; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 718; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 719; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 720; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 721; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 722; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 723; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 724; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 725; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 726; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 727; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 728; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 729; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 730; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 731; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 732; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 733; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 734; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 735; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 736; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 737; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 738; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 739; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 740; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 741; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 742; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 743; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 744; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 745; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 746; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 747; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 748; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 749; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 750; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 751; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 752; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 753; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 754; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 755; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 756; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 757; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 758; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 759; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 760; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 761; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 762; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 763; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. No. 764; 72d Comm. 1st sess. Sen. Rep. 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- of the watershed within the Crows National Forest for the Pueblo de Taos Indians of New Mexico and others interested, and to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to contract relating thereto and to amend the Act approved June 7, 1924, in certain respects." 25 U S C 331 note (secs. 4-9).
- 48 St. 112; June 3, 1933, C. 46—An Act Authorizing a per capita payment of \$100 to the members of the Menominee Tribe of Indians of Wisconsin from funds on deposit to their credit in the Treasury of the United States.
- 48 St. 146; June 16, 1933, C. 76—An Act Providing for per capita payments to the Sauzeau Indians in Oklahoma from fund-landings to their credit in the Treasury.
- 48 St. 150, June 16, 1933, C. 90—An Act To encourage national industrial recovery, to foster fair competition, and to provide for the construction of certain useful public works, and for other purposes. Sec. 201-49 U. S. C. 401; Sec. 203-40 U. S. C. 405; Sec. 220-40 U. S. C. 411; Sec. 304-16 U. S. C. 712, 40 U. S. C. 414.
- 48 St. 251, June 16, 1933, C. 95—An Act Providing for payment of \$50 to each enrolled Chippewa Indian of the Red Lake Band of Minnesota from the timber funds standing to their credit in the Treasury of the United States.
- 48 St. 274, June 16, 1933, C. 100—An Act Making appropriations to supply deficiencies in certain appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1933, and prior fiscal years, to provide supplemental appropriations for the fiscal years ending June 30, 1933, and June 30, 1934, and for other purposes."
- 48 St. 288, June 16, 1933, C. 101—An Act Making appropriations for the Executive and sundry independent executive bureaus, boards, commissions, and offices, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1934, and for other purposes.
- 48 St. 311, June 16, 1933, C. 104—An Act To amend Public Act Numbered 495 of the Seventy-second Congress, relating to sales of timber on Indian land." 25 U. S. C. 407a (47 St. 1938, sec. 1)."
- 48 St. 308, Feb. 19, 1934, C. 15—An Act Granting certain property in the State of Michigan for instructional purposes.
- 48 St. 382; Mar. 2, 1934, C. 35—An Act Making appropriations for the Department of the Interior for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1935, and for other purposes." Sec. 1, p. 886-48 U. S. C. 901; Sec. 1, p. 870-25 U. S. C. 387 (45 St. 210 sec. 1; 207a, sec. 1; 40 St. 200, sec. 1; 1128, sec. 1; 47 St. 100, sec. 1; 820, sec. 1)."
- 48 St. 586; Mar. 5, 1934, C. 48—An Act To repeal certain specific Acts of Congress and an amendment thereto enacted to regulate the manufacture, sale, or possession of intoxicating liquors in the Indian Territory, now a part of the State of Oklahoma." 25 U. S. C. 244a.
- 48 St. 597; Mar. 5, 1934, C. 49—Joint Resolution To amend Public Act Numbered 81 of the 73d Congress, relating to the sale of timber on Indian land." 25 U. S. C. 407a (47 St. 1938, sec. 1; 48 St. 811)."
- 48 St. 401; Mar. 10, 1934, C. 55—An Act To promote the conservation of wildlife, fish, and game, and for other purposes. Sec. 4-16 U. S. C. 610, sec. 6-16 U. S. C. 608.
- 48 St. 407; Mar. 28, 1934, C. 59—An Act Making appropriations for the Department of Agriculture and for the Farm Credit Administration for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1935, and for other purposes."
- 48 St. 501, Mar. 27, 1934, C. 83—An Act To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to place with the Oklahoma Historical Society, at Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, as custodian for the United States, certain records of the Five Civilized Tribes, and of other Indian tribes in the State of Oklahoma, under rules and regulations to be prescribed by him. 25 U. S. C. 193a.
- 48 St. 509; Mar. 28, 1934, C. 102—An Act Making appropriations for the Executive Office and sundry independent executive bureaus, boards, commissions, and offices, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1935, and for other purposes.
- 48 St. 518; Apr. 7, 1934, C. 104—An Act Making appropriations for the Departments of State and Justice and for the judiciary, and for the Departments of Commerce and Labor, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1935, and for other purposes."
- 48 St. 633; Apr. 13, 1934, C. 116—An Act To repeal an Act of Congress entitled "An Act to prohibit the manufacture or sale of alcoholic liquors in the Territory of Alaska, and for other purposes," approved February 14, 1917, and for other purposes."
- 48 St. 684; Apr. 16, 1934, C. 140—An Act To amend sections 3 and 4 of an Act of Congress entitled "An Act for the protection and regulation of the fisheries of Alaska," approved June 20, 1906, as amended by the Act of Congress approved June 8, 1924, and for other purposes." Sec. 1-15 U. S. C. 233; Sec. 2-48 U. S. C. 232.
- 48 St. 690; Apr. 16, 1934, C. 147—An Act Authorizing the Secretary of the Interior to arrange with States or Territories for the education, medical attention, relief of diseases, and social welfare of Indians, and for other purposes." Sec. 1-25 U. S. C. 453. Sec. 2-25 U. S. C. 453. Sec. 3-25 U. S. C. 454. Sec. 4-25 U. S. C. 455. Sec. 5-25 U. S. C. 456.
- 48 St. 694; Apr. 26, 1934, C. 105—An Act Making appropriations for the military and nonmilitary activities of the War Department for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1935, and for other purposes."
- 48 St. 647; Apr. 30, 1934, C. 109—An Act To amend section 1 of the Act entitled "An Act to provide for determining the heirs of the deceased Indians, for the disposition and sale of allotments of deceased Indians, for the leasing of allotments, and for other purposes," approved June 25, 1910, as amended." 25 U. S. C. 872 (36 St. 855, sec. 1, 48 St. 101).
- 48 St. 697; May 7, 1934, C. 121—An Act Granting citizenship to the Metlakathli Indians of Alaska." Sec. 1-3 U. S. C. 3b; Sec. 2-8 U. S. C. 3c.
- 48 St. 693; May 7, 1934, C. 222—An Act Providing for payment of \$25 to each enrolled Chippewa Indian of Minnesota from the funds standing to their credit in the Treasury of the United States.
- 48 St. 780; May 22, 1934, C. 810—An Act Authorizing the conveyance of certain lands to the State of Nebraska."
- 48 St. 787; May 21, 1934, C. 321—An Act Repealing certain sections of the Revised Code of Laws of the United States relating to the Indians."
- 48 St. 791; May 21, 1934, C. 829—An Act To provide for an appropriation of \$50,000 with which to make a survey of the Old Indian Trail known as the "Natchez Trace," with a view of constructing a national road on this route to be known as the "Natchez Trace Parkway."
- 48 St. 795; May 28, 1934, C. 337—An Act To provide for the exchange of Indian and privately owned lands, Fort Mojave Indian Reservation, Arizona."
- 48 St. 811; May 28, 1934, C. 304—An Act To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to issue patents for lots to Indians

- 49 St. 1013, Aug. 31, 1935, C 827—An Act To provide funds for cooperation with Canton Hall School District, Sioux County, North Dakota, for extension of public-school buildings to be available for Indian children.
- 49 St. 1014, Aug. 30, 1935, C 828—An Act To provide funds for cooperation with Fort Yates School District, Sioux County, North Dakota, for extension of public-school buildings to be available for Indian children.
- 49 St. 1019, Aug. 30, 1935, C 832—An Act Authorizing the Chippewa Indians of Wisconsin to submit claims to the Court of Claims.
- 49 St. 1085, Sept. 3, 1935, C 840—An Act To refer the claim of the Menominee Tribe of Indians to the Court of Claims with the absolute right of appeal to the Supreme Court of the United States.
- 49 St. 1091, Jan. 17, 1936, C 7—An Act To reserve certain public-domain lands in Nevada and Oregon as a grazing reserve for Indians of Fort McBratney, Nevada.
- 49 St. 1100, Feb. 11, 1936, C 44—An Act To reimpose and extend the first period on lands reserved for the Pinta Band of Mission Indians, California.
- 49 St. 1109, Feb. 11, 1936, C 49—An Act Making appropriations to provide urgent supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1936, to supply deficiencies in certain appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1936, and for prior fiscal years, and for other purposes.
- 49 St. 1157, Feb. 11, 1936, C 50—An Act To provide for the leasing of restricted Indian lands of Indians of the Five Civilized Tribes in Oklahoma. 25 U S C 852a.
- 49 St. 1201, May 12, 1936, C 158—An Act To amend section 3 of the Act approved May 10, 1928, entitled "An Act to extend the period of restriction in lands of certain members of the Five Civilized Tribes, and for other purposes," as amended February 14, 1934.
- 49 St. 1107, May 18, 1936, C 150—An Act Making appropriations for the Executive Office and sundry independent executive bureaus, boards, commissions, and offices, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1937, and for other purposes.
- 49 St. 1206, Apr. 14, 1936, C 215—An Act To create a commission and to extend further relief to water users on United States reclamation projects and on Indian irrigation projects.
- 49 St. 1214, Apr. 17, 1936, C 233—An Act Making appropriations for the Legislative Branch of the Government for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1937, and for other purposes.
- 49 St. 1235, Apr. 20, 1936, C 230—An Act Granting a leave of absence to settlers of homestead lands during the year 1936. 48 U S C 237e.
- 49 St. 1250, May 1, 1936, C 254—An Act To extend certain provisions of the Act approved June 18, 1934, commonly known as the Wheeler-Everett Act (Public Law Numbered 388, 78th Congress, 48 St. 64), for Territory of Alaska, to provide for the designation of Indian reservations to Alaska, and for other purposes. Sec. 1—48 U S C 302, Sec. 2—48 U S C 353a.
- 49 St. 1208, May 6, 1936, C 840—Joint Resolution To amend Public Act Numbered 455, 72d Congress. 25 U S C 407a.
- 49 St. 1272, May 15, 1936, C 300—An Act For the relief of the Confederate Bands of Ute Indians Located in Utah, Colorado, and New Mexico.
- 49 St. 1273, May 15, 1936, C 301—An Act To amend an Act entitled "An Act authorizing the Chippewa Indians of Minnesota to submit claims to the Court of Claims," approved May 14, 1928 (44 St. 555).
- 49 St. 1278, May 15, 1936, C 302—An Act To provide funds for cooperation with Wallpuit School District Numbered 49, Stevens County, Washington, for the construction of a public-school building to be available for Indian children of the Spokane Reservation.
- 49 St. 1274, May 15, 1936, C 304—An Act To provide funds for cooperation with the public-school district of Hays, Montana, for construction and improvement of public-school buildings to be available for Indian children.
- 49 St. 1270, May 15, 1936, C 308—An Act To amend an Act entitled "An Act authorizing certain tribes of Indians to submit claims to the Court of Claims, and for other purposes," approved May 28, 1928.
- 49 St. 1278, May 15, 1936, C 401—An Act Making appropriations for the military and nonmilitary activities of the War Department for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1937, and for other purposes.
- 49 St. 1300, May 15, 1936, C 405—An Act Making appropriations for the Departments of State and Justice and for the Judiciary, and for the Departments of Commerce and Labor for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1937, and for other purposes.
- 49 St. 1421, June 4, 1936, C 480—An Act Making appropriations for the Department of Agriculture and for the Farm Credit Administration for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1937, and for other purposes.
- 49 St. 1468, June 4, 1936, C 490—An Act To amend an Act entitled "An Act authorizing the Secretary of the Interior to arrange with States or Territories for the education, medical attention, relief of distress, and social welfare of Indians, and for other purposes." Sec. 1—25 U S C 432 (48 St. 590, s. 1) Sec. 2—25 U S C 433 (48 St. 590, s. 2) Sec. 3—25 U S C 434 (48 St. 590, s. 3) Sec. 4—25 U S C 465 (48 St. 590, s. 4).
- 49 St. 1450, June 4, 1936, C 491—An Act To amend the last paragraph, as amended, of the Act entitled "An Act to refer the claims of the Delaware Indians to the Court of Claims, with the right of appeal to the Supreme Court of the United States," approved February 7, 1935.
- 49 St. 1450, June 4, 1936, C 492—An Act To authorize an appropriation to pay non-Indian claimants whose claims have been extinguished under the Act of June 7, 1924, but who have been found entitled to awards under said Act as supplemented by the Act of May 31, 1935.
- 49 St. 1513, June 15, 1936, C 540—An Act Limiting the operation of sections 100 and 118 of the Criminal Code and section 100 of the Revised Statutes of the United States with respect to counsel in certain cases.
- 49 St. 1450, June 15, 1936, C 582—An Act To amend the Federal Aid Highway Act, approved July 11, 1916, as amended and supplemented, and for other purposes. Sec. 6—25 U S C 819a.
- 49 St. 1528, June 18, 1936, C 599—An Act To consolidate the Indian pueblos of Jemez and Pecos, New Mexico.
- 49 St. 1542, June 20, 1936, C 629—An Act To reserve restricted Indians whose lands have been taxed or have been lost by failure to pay taxes, and for other purposes. Sec. 2—25 U S C 412a.
- 49 St. 1543, June 20, 1936, C 624—An Act To provide for the disposition of tribal funds now on deposit, or later placed to the credit of the Crow Tribe of Indians, Montana, and for other purposes.
- 49 St. 1544, June 20, 1936, C 627—An Act To reserve certain public-domain lands in New Mexico as an addition to the school reserve of the Jicarilla Indian Reservation.
- 49 St. 1558, June 20, 1936, C 646—Joint Resolution Authorizing distribution to the Indians of the Blackfoot Indian Reservation, Montana, of the judgment rendered by the Court of Claims in their favor.
- 49 St. 1559, June 20, 1936, C 650—Joint Resolution Authorizing distribution to the Gros Ventre Indians of the Fort Belk-

¹ 49 St. 848, 200.

² 49 St. 848, 200.

³ 49 St. 848, 200; 19 St. 70, 22 St. 80, 26 St. 140; 35 St.

51, 45 St. 1164, A 52 St. 904.

⁴ 49 St. 848, 200; 30 St. 916.

⁵ 49 St. 848, 200.

⁶ 49 St. 848, 200; 7 St. 1086, Jan. 13, 1937, May 14, 1938; Glenn,

10 St. 208.

⁷ 49 St. 848, 200; 30 St. 916, A 52 St. 904, R 40 St. 2385.

⁸ 49 St. 848, 200; 30 St. 916, A 52 St. 904, R 40 St. 2385.

⁹ 49 St. 848, 200; 30 St. 916, A 52 St. 904, R 40 St. 2385.

¹⁰ 49 St. 848, 200; 30 St. 916, A 52 St. 904, R 40 St. 2385.

¹¹ 49 St. 848, 200.

¹² 49 St. 848, 200.

¹³ 49 St. 848, 200.

¹⁴ 49 St. 848, 200.

¹⁵ 49 St. 848, 200.

¹⁶ 49 St. 848, 200.

¹⁷ 49 St. 848, 200.

¹⁸ 49 St. 848, 200.

¹⁹ 49 St. 848, 200.

²⁰ 49 St. 848, 200; 11 L. D. Memo. 497, 12 L. D. Memo. 703,

May 15, 1936, U. S. v. Kincaid, 301 U S 110.

²¹ 49 St. 848, 200.

²² 49 St. 848, 200.

²³ 49 St. 848, 200.

²⁴ 49 St. 848, 200.

²⁵ 49 St. 848, 200.

²⁶ 49 St. 848, 200.

²⁷ 49 St. 848, 200.

²⁸ 49 St. 848, 200.

²⁹ 49 St. 848, 200.

³⁰ 49 St. 848, 200.

³¹ 49 St. 848, 200.

³² 49 St. 848, 200.

³³ 49 St. 848, 200.

³⁴ 49 St. 848, 200.

³⁵ 49 St. 848, 200.

³⁶ 49 St. 848, 200.

³⁷ 49 St. 848, 200.

³⁸ 49 St. 848, 200.

³⁹ 49 St. 848, 200.

- 50 St. 72; Apr. 22, 1937; C 123—An Act To reserve certain public domain in California for the benefit of the Capitán Grande Band of Mission Indians.
- 50 St. 130; May 18, 1937; C 233—An Act Making appropriations for the Legislative Branch of the Government for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1938, and for other purposes.*
- 50 St. 138; May 19, 1937; C 237—An Act Amending section 2 of Public Law Numbered 718 of the Seventy-fourth Congress, being an Act entitled "An Act to relieve restricted Indians whose lands have been taxed or have been lost by failure to pay taxes, and for other purposes." 25 U. S. C. 432a (40 St. 354).
- 50 St. 210; May 27, 1937; C 270—An Act to reemphasize a trust on certain lands allotted on the Yankana Indian Reservation.*
- 50 St. 213; May 28, 1937; C 277—An Act Making appropriations to supply deficiencies in certain appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1937, and for prior fiscal years to provide supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1937, and for other purposes.*
- 50 St. 233; May 28, 1937; C 280—An Act to reserve certain lands in the State of Utah for the Kootenai Band of Paiute Indians.
- 50 St. 230; May 28, 1937; C 283—An Act To reserve certain lands in the State of Utah for the Shoshone Band of Paiute Indians.
- 50 St. 211; May 28, 1937; C 283—An Act To reserve certain lands in the State of Utah for the Koo-sharen Band of Paiute Indians.
- 50 St. 201; May 10, 1937; C 350—An Act Making appropriations for the Departments of State and Justice and for the Department of the Departments of Commerce and Labor, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1938, and for other purposes.*
- 50 St. 310; June 28, 1937; C 883—An Act To establish a Civilian Conservation Corps, and for other purposes. Sec. 1—16 U. S. C. 594; Sec. 7—16 U. S. C. 594; Sec. 8—16 U. S. C. 594; Sec. 9—16 U. S. C. 594; Sec. 10—16 U. S. C. 594; Sec. 11—16 U. S. C. 594; Sec. 12—16 U. S. C. 594; Sec. 13—16 U. S. C. 594; Sec. 14—16 U. S. C. 594; Sec. 15—16 U. S. C. 594.
- 50 St. 320; June 28, 1937; C 886—An Act Making appropriations for the Executive Office and sundry independent executive bureaus, boards, commissions, and offices, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1938, and for other purposes.*
- 50 St. 303; June 28, 1937; C 894—An Act Making appropriations for the Department of Agriculture and for the Farm Credit Administration for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1938, and for other purposes.*
- 50 St. 411; June 29, 1937; C 406—An Act To authorize an appropriation to carry out the provisions of the Act of May 3, 1928 (45 St. 484), and for other purposes.*
- 50 St. 412; July 1, 1937; C 423—An Act Making appropriations for the Military Establishment for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1938, and for other purposes.*
- 50 St. 468; July 9, 1937; C 475—Joint Resolution Providing for the participation of the United States in the world's fair to be held by the San Francisco Bay Exposition, Incorporated, in the city of San Francisco during the year 1939, and for other purposes.*
- 50 St. 630; July 28, 1937; C 527—An Act To extend the boundaries of the Papago Indian Reservation in Arizona.* Sec. 1—26 U. S. C. 403a; Sec. 2—26 U. S. C. 403b; Sec. 3—26 U. S. C. 403c.
- 50 St. 637; July 28, 1937; C 529—An Act Providing for the sale of the two dormitory properties belonging to the Chinlewan Nation or Tribe of Indians, in the vicinity of the Murray State School of Agriculture at Tishomingo, Oklahoma.
- 50 St. 641; Aug. 9, 1937; C 670—An Act Making appropriations for the Department of the Interior for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1938, and for other purposes.* Sec. 1, p. 577—25 U. S. C. 887.
- 50 St. 650; Aug. 16, 1937; C 651—An Act To authorize the Five Civilized Tribes, in suits heretofore filed under their original jurisdiction, to present claims to the United States Court of Claims by amended petitions to conform to the evidence, and to authorize said court to adjudicate such claims upon their merits as though filed within the time limitation fixed in said original jurisdictional acts.*
- 50 St. 180; Aug. 16, 1937; C 701—An Act To authorize the exchange of certain lands within the Great Smoky Mountains National Park for lands within the Cherokee Indian Reservation, North Carolina, and for other purposes.*
- 50 St. 709; Aug. 16, 1937; C 702—An Act To authorize the acquisition by the United States of certain tribal owned lands of the Indians of the Shoshone of Wind River Indian Reservation, Wyoming, for the Wind River irrigation project.
- 50 St. 737; Aug. 21, 1937; C 725—An Act To create a commission and to extend further relief to water users on United States reclamation projects and on Indian irrigation projects.*
- 50 St. 755; Aug. 21, 1937; C 757—An Act Making appropriations to supply deficiencies in certain appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1937, and for prior fiscal years to provide supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1938, and for other purposes.*
- 50 St. 783; Aug. 25, 1937; C 759—An Act Granting pensions and increases of pensions to certain soldiers who served in the Indian Wars from 1817 to 1838, and for other purposes.* Secs. 1 and 2—38 U. S. C. 381-1.
- 50 St. 825; Aug. 25, 1937; C 770—An Act Limiting the operation of sections 109 and 113 of the Mineral Code and section 190 of the T-wood Statutes of the United States with respect to owned in certain cases.*
- 50 St. 800; Aug. 25, 1937; C 772—An Act Providing for the manner of payment of taxes on the production of minerals, including gas and oil, in Oklahoma. 25 U. S. C. 510.
- 50 St. 810; Aug. 25, 1937; C 773—An Act To authorize the reservation of minerals in future sales of lands of the Choctaw-Chickasaw Indians in Oklahoma. 25 U. S. C. 414.
- 50 St. 811; Aug. 25, 1937; C 774—An Act To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to lease or sell certain lands of the Agua Caliente or Palm Springs Reservation, California, for public airport use, and for other purposes.*
- 50 St. 814; Aug. 26, 1937; C 832—An Act Authorizing the construction, repair, and preservation of certain public works on rivers and harbors, and for other purposes.*
- 50 St. 862; Aug. 28, 1937; C 868—An Act To amend section 8 of the Act of June 18, 1934 (48 St. 954 958), relating to Indian Lands in Arizona.* 25 U. S. C. 461 (48 St. 981).
- 50 St. 934; Aug. 28, 1937; C 908—An Act To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to relinquish, in favor of the Blackfoot Tribe of the Blackfoot Indian Reservation, Montana, the interest in certain land acquired by the United States under the Federal Reclamation Laws.
- 50 St. 973; Aug. 28, 1937; C 874—An Act Authorizing the establishment of a revolving loan fund for the Klamath Indians, Oregon, and for other purposes. Sec. 1—25 U. S. C. 530; Sec. 2—25 U. S. C. 531; Sec. 3—25 U. S. C. 532; Sec. 4—25 U. S. C. 533; Sec. 5—25 U. S. C. 534; Sec. 6—25 U. S. C. 535.
- 50 St. 873; Aug. 28, 1937; C 875—An Act Making further provision with respect to the funds of the Metlakatla Indians of Alaska.*
- 50 St. 884; Aug. 31, 1937; C 890—An Act Relating to certain lands within the boundaries of the Crow Reservation, Montana.*
- 50 St. 900; Sept. 1, 1937; C 897—An Act To provide subsistence for the Eskimos and other natives of Alaska by establishing for them a permanent and self-sustaining economy; to encourage and develop native activity in all branches of the reindeer industry; and for other purposes.* Sec. 1—48

* 50 St. 47 St. 148

* 50 St. 47 St. 148. *Op. Bol.* Apr. 14, 1938.* 50 St. 47 St. 148. *Op. Bol.* Nov. 29, 1937, Feb. 14, 1938.* 50 St. 24 St. 842. *Op. Bol.* 84 St. 828.* 50 St. 24 St. 842. *Op. Bol.* 84 St. 828.* 50 St. 24 St. 842. *Op. Bol.* 84 St. 828.* 50 St. 24 St. 842. *Op. Bol.* 84 St. 828.* 50 St. 24 St. 842. *Op. Bol.* 84 St. 828.* 50 St. 24 St. 842. *Op. Bol.* 84 St. 828.* 50 St. 24 St. 842. *Op. Bol.* 84 St. 828.* 50 St. 24 St. 842. *Op. Bol.* 84 St. 828.* 50 St. 24 St. 842. *Op. Bol.* 84 St. 828.* 50 St. 24 St. 842. *Op. Bol.* 84 St. 828.* 50 St. 24 St. 842. *Op. Bol.* 84 St. 828.* 50 St. 24 St. 842. *Op. Bol.* 84 St. 828.* 50 St. 24 St. 842. *Op. Bol.* 84 St. 828.* 50 St. 24 St. 842. *Op. Bol.* 84 St. 828.* 50 St. 24 St. 842. *Op. Bol.* 84 St. 828.* 50 St. 24 St. 842. *Op. Bol.* 84 St. 828.* 50 St. 24 St. 842. *Op. Bol.* 84 St. 828.* 50 St. 24 St. 842. *Op. Bol.* 84 St. 828.

- 52 St. 1034, June 24, 1938, C. 645—An Act Relating to the tribal and individual affairs of the Osage Indians of Oklahoma.¹
- 52 St. 1037, June 24, 1938, C. 648—An Act To authorize the deposit and investment of Indian funds.² Sec. 1—25 U. S. C. 162a, Sec. 3—See Historical Note 25 U. S. C. A. 162a 25 USCA 162a Historical Note Section 2 of Act of June 24, 1938, cited to the text repealed Act of May 25, 1918, c. 56, sec. 28, 40 St. 591, which was continued in former sec. 102 of this title, and all inconsistent acts
- 52 St. 1114, June 25, 1938, C. 681—An Act Making appropriations to supply deficiencies in certain appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1938, and for prior fiscal years, to provide supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1938, and June 30, 1939, and for other purposes.³
- 52 St. 1169, June 25, 1938, C. 686—An Act To amend the Act of Congress entitled "An Act to establish an Alaska Game Commission, to protect game animals, land fur-bearing animals, and birds in Alaska, and for other purposes," approved January 13, 1925, as amended.⁴ Sec. 1—48 U. S. C. 206, Sec. 2—48 U. S. C. 207, Sec. 4—48 U. S. C. 108, Sec. 6—48 U. S. C. 109
- 52 St. 1173, June 25, 1938, C. 687—An Act To provide for conveying to the State of North Dakota certain lands within Burleigh County within that State for public use
- 52 St. 1171, June 25, 1938, C. 689—An Act To amend an Act approved June 14, 1908 (48 St. 263) entitled "An Act to prevent aliens from fishing in the waters of Alaska."⁵ 48 U. S. C. 233.
- 52 St. 1207, June 25, 1938, C. 710—An Act Authorizing the Secretary of the Interior to pay salaries and expenses of the chairman, secretary, and interpreter of the Klamath General Council, members of the Klamath Business Committee and other committees appointed by said Klamath General Council, and official delegates of the Klamath Tribe
- 52 St. 1209, June 28, 1938, C. 716—An Act Conferring jurisdiction upon the United States Court of Claims to hear, examine, adjudge, and render judgment on any and all claims which the Ute Indians or any Tribe or Band thereof may have against the United States, and for other purposes.⁶
- 52 St. 1212, June 28, 1938, C. 717—An Act Authorizing the Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians in the State of Minnesota to file suit in the Court of Claims, and for other purposes.⁷
- 52 St. 1213, June 28, 1938, C. 719—An Act To authorize the sale of certain lands of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, North Carolina.
- 52 St. 1241, June 29, 1938, C. 812—An Act To establish the Olympic National Park, in the State of Washington, and for other purposes. Sec. 5—30 U. S. C. 255
- 52 St. 1243, June 29, 1938, C. 814—An Act To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to place certain records of Indian tribes of Nebraska with the Nebraska State Historical Society, at Lincoln, Nebraska, under rules and regulations to be prescribed by him.
- 52 St. 1271, Apr. 6, 1938, C. 80—An Act For the relief of employees of the Indian Service for destruction by fire of personally owned property in Government quarters at the Pevic Indian School, South Dakota
- 52 St. 1273, Apr. 13, 1938, C. 154—An Act For the relief of Frank Christy and other disbursing agents in the Indian Service of the United States
- 52 St. 1288, Apr. 15, 1938, C. 164—An Act For the relief of Nelson W. Apple, George Marsh, and Camille Carmignani
- 52 St. 1291, Apr. 15, 1938, C. 166—An Act To extend the Metlakatla Indian Citizenship Act
- 52 St. 1308, May 16, 1938, C. 221—An Act For the relief of Wilson H. Parks, Elmer Parks, and Jessie A. Parks
- 52 St. 1324, June 14, 1938, C. 880—An Act For the relief of Mr. and Mrs. James Crawford
- 52 St. 1331, June 15, 1938, C. 408—An Act For the relief of Josephine Russell
- 52 St. 1334, June 15, 1938, C. 414—An Act For the relief of the estate of Lillie Linton, and Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Trent
- 52 St. 1347, June 15, 1938, C. 453—An Act For the relief of Shubald Smith
- 52 St. 1348, June 15, 1938, C. 452—An Act For the relief of the Long Bell Lumber Company
- 52 St. 1353, June 16, 1938, C. 507—An Act For the relief of Florentino Jimenez and Feliciano Dominguez
- 52 St. 1355, June 16, 1938, C. 507—An Act For the relief of C. G. Pretting Manufacturing Company
- 52 St. 1383, June 20, 1938, C. 547—An Act For the relief of certain individuals in connection with the construction, operation, and maintenance of the Fort Hall Indian irrigation project, Idaho
- 52 St. 1382, June 23, 1938, C. 621—An Act For the relief of Moses Red Bird
- 52 St. 1395, June 25, 1938, C. 656—An Act For the relief of William C. Willman
- 52 St. 1408, June 25, 1938, C. 721—An Act For the relief of John Fanning
- 52 St. 1412, June 25, 1938, C. 732—An Act For the relief of John Haslam
- 52 St. 1418, June 25, 1938, C. 746—An Act For the relief of William F. Bourland
- 52 St. 1437, June 29, 1938, C. 833—An Act For the relief of William Monroe
- 52 St. 1438, June 29, 1938, C. 834—An Act For the relief of Emons Wolfer

¹ 10, 45 St. 1478.² 40 St. 661, sec. 28.³ 37, 28 St. 886, 48 St. 886; 48 St. 1059; 47 St. 110; 48 St. 306, 37A 1021, 1227, 49 St. 131, 1763, 1764, 1769; 50 St. 223, 564, 570, 571, 37B 677, 681, 690; 32 St. 291. 49, 50 St. 504.⁴ 49 St. 739, 46 St. 1111. 49, 50 St. 385.⁵ 49 St. 268.⁶ 49 St. 884; 49 St. 884. Cited Memo Bol., Aug. 27, 1938.⁷ 49, 13 St. 607; 26 St. 642.⁸ 49, 48 St. 607.⁹ 12 St. 220, sec. 10, 441, sec. 1, 13 St. 177.

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- Op Sol, D 40462, Oct 31, 1917, Five Civilized Tribes—Eminent Domain.
- Memo Sol, Dec 11, 1918, Five Civilized Tribes—Coal Lessees.
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- Letter to Col J G Scroggins from Sp Asst to the A G, Apr 1, 1921, Water Right—Mopra River Reservation.
- Op Sol, M 3493, Apr 4, 1921, Five Tribes—Expiration Trust Period.
- 18 L D 70, Apr 16, 1921, Allotments to Indians and Eskimos—Alaska.
- Op Sol, M 3376, July 14, 1921, Mopra River Reservation—Water Right.
- Op Sol, M 4018, July 29, 1921, Right to Citizenship.
- 48 L D 455, Sept 20, 1921, Fort Hall Lands.
- Op Sol, M 6083, Oct 28, 1921, Chippewa Tribe—Wills by Allottees.
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- M 6805, Nov 22, 1921, Crow—Additional Allotments—Disposition.
- M 6883, Nov 23, 1921, Osage—Payments to Minors.
- 46 L D 882, Dec 13, 1921, Occupancy—Preference Right—Withdrawal.
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- M 4017, Jan 4, 1922, Osage—Payments to Minors.
- 48 L D 667, Jan 31, 1922, Allotment—Coal Lands—Surface Rights.
- 485, Feb 3, 1922, Allotment—Alaska—Withdrawal.
- Op Sol, M 7002, Mar 10, 1922, Kiowa, Comanche—Patented Allotments.
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- 49 L D 846, Nov 13, 1922, Taxability and Alienability—Allotted Lands.
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- 896, Jan 2, 1923, Condemnation of Lands Allotted in Severalty.
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- Op Sol, M 6380, June 19, 1923, Ft Hall—Lands for Reservoir.
- M 11094, Nov 5, 1923, Interior Employees—Land Ownership.
- M 11201, Nov 28, 1923, Indian Cession Manuage.
- M 11108, Dec 4, 1923, Quapaw—Mining Lease.
- M 10626, Dec 13, 1923, Creek—Emolument—Allotment.
- M 11410, Jan 28, 1924, Flathead—Power Site on Allotted Land.
- A 2492, Feb 12, 1924, Mineral Leasing Act.
- 50 L D 515, Mar 12, 1924, Status of Alaskan Natives—Title Lands.
- Op Sol, M 11665, Apr 10, 1924, Chippewa—Enrollment.
- M 7310, May 28, 1924, Chelewa and Chickasaw—Coal Royalties.
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- M 12098, June 6, 1924, Exchange of Allotted Land—Flathead.
- 50 L D 551, June 10, 1924, Inter-marriage—Enrollment of Children Born.
- Op Sol, M 13881, June 17, 1924, Chippewa—Enrollment.
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- 50 L D 672, Nov 15, 1924, Ft Apache Reservation—Mineral Leases.
- 676, Nov 21, 1924, Extent of Title to Lands Patented as Mission Claims.
- Op Sol, M 14017, Dec 1, 1924, Title to Land.
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- 50 L D 691, Dec 24, 1924, State Right to Tax Patents in Fee.
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- 51 L D 145, May 10, 1925, Allotments to Indians and Eskimos in Alaska.
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- 51 L D 828, Jan 20, 1926, Taxation—Reservation.
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- 51 L D 501, July 20, 1926, Survey and Disposition of Indian Possessions.
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- Memo Sol Off, Sept 3, 1926, Certificate of Competency Revoked—Claim.
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- 51 L D 619, Nov 6, 1926, Assessment Charges on Irrigation Projects.
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 54 I D 250, July 22, 1933, Investment of Osage Funds
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 54 I D 810, Oct. 14, 1933, Life Insurance Policies
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M. 27814, Jan. 30, 1935, Land Title Status.

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Feb. 7, 1935, Matrimonial Power Site.

Feb. 8, 1935, Juvenile—Timber.

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M. 27960, May 14, 1935, Bed of Arkansas River—Title.

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Op. Sol., M. 27770, May 22, 1935, Issuance of Patents—Quinalt River.

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Memo Ind. Off., May 27, 1935, Papago—Water Rights.

Memo Sol., May 27, 1935, Reservations—Montana Criminal Code.

55 I. D. 208, May 31, 1935, Determination of Heirs—Wills—Approval.

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Op. Sol., M. 28033, June 4, 1935, Seminole Nation—Attorneys' Contract.

Memo Sol., June 4, 1935, Five Tribes—Oil Leasing Regulations.

Memo Sol. Off., June 11, 1935, Legislation—Sale of Restricted Lands.

55 I. D. 282, June 22, 1935, Public Land Allotments—Alaska.

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55 I. D. 295, July 17, 1935, Allotment Selections—Ft. Belknap.

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July 25, 1935, Grazing on Tribal Lands—Dept. Powers.

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Memo Sol. Off., Aug. 6, 1935, California—Land Claims.

Op. Sol., M. 28126, Aug. 12, 1935, Personnel Employment—Indian Trusts.

Memo Sol. Off., Aug. 20, 1935, Navajo—Addition to Reservation.

Memo Sol., Aug. 27, 1935, Chiricahua—Constitution—Organization.

Memo Sol. Off., Sept. 3, 1935, Menominee Indian Mills—Legislation.

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Sept. 20, 1935, Cherokee—Distribution of Oil Royalties.

Sept. 21, 1935, Five Tribes—Land Partition.

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Memo Sol. Off., Oct. 28, 1935, Mining, Reservation—Wheeler-Howard Act.

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55 I. D. 401, Nov. 27, 1935, Law and Other Regulations.

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Dec. 10, 1935, Reimbursement of Canceled Sale—Pyramid Lake.

Op. Sol., M. 28230, Dec. 18, 1935, Timber Contracts—Colville River.

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Dec. 17, 1935, Oange—Jurisdiction—Crimes and Misdemeanors.

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Dec. 20, 1935, Chippewa—Rollment.

55 I. D. 404, Dec. 23, 1935, Grazing Regulations—Tribal Lands.

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Jan. 20, 1936, Shoshone Leases—Sup't's Authority.

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March 18, 1936, Delaware—Appropriation for.

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M. 28108, March 18, 1936, Payment of Water Right Charges—Pueblos.

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March 25, 1936, Kiowa Crop Mortgage.

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55 I. D. 475, March 31, 1936, Ownership of Island within Reservation.

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55 I. D. 450, April 23, 1936, Title to Right-of-Way Lands.

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55 I. D. 450, April 23, 1936, Disposition of Oange Trust Funds.

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 May 15, 1936, Tribal Ownership of Non-Indian Lands—
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 50 I D 7, Sept 24, 1936, Irrigation Project Assessments—Fort
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 50 I D 10, Feb 18, 1937, Eligibility in Grazing Privileges
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 58 I D 102, April 8, 1937, Power of Congress to Enact Legislation
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 50 I D 110, April 19, 1937, Reservation of Waters—Alaska
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 58 I D 107, May 6, 1937, Liquor Traffic—Alaska
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- H Ex Doc No 68, vol VII, Jan 6, 1873, Report on the Choctaw claims—Sec'y G S Boutwell
- H Ex Doc No 90, vol VII, Jan 8, 1873, Negotiations with the Ute Indians in Colorado
- H Ex Doc No 159, vol IX, Feb 8, 1873, Report on the Miami Indians and the rights of settlers on their lands
- H Rept No 80, vol I, (H R 306), Feb 22, 1873, Treaty stipulations with Choctaw Nation
- H Rept No 58, vol III, Investigation of Indian frauds
- 43 C 1 Sen Ex Doc No 33, vol I, Feb 23, 1874, Treaty with Chippewa Indians
- Sen Misc Doc No 71, vol I, Feb 20, 1874, Letter relating to Indian lands in New York, and memorial protesting against sale without consent
- Sen Misc Doc No 95, vol I (S 692), March 31, 1874, Letter on jurisdiction of U S courts on Indian reservations—Sec'y Columbus Delano
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- H Ex Doc No 12, vol VIII, Dec 4, 1878, Report on Cheyenne and Arapahoe Reservation
- H Ex Doc No 61, vol IX, Jan 22, 1874, Treaties with Shawnee and Bannock Indians
- H Ex Doc No 91, vol IX, Jan 2, 1874, Report on the Mission Indians—Acting Sec'y B R Cowen
- II Ex Doc No 124, vol X, Feb 3, 1874, Agreement with Bannock Indians in Idaho
- II Ex Doc No 177, vol XII, March 9, 1874, Letter on sale of liquor to Indians—Sec'y Columbus Delano
- H Misc Doc No 87, vol II, Jun 22, 1874, Protest by Indians of Indian Territory against establishment of a government without their consent
- Sen Rept No 335, vol II (S 650), May 8, 1874, Title to the Abenecoe Shawnee Lands
- Sen Rept No 307, vol II (S 625), May 20, 1874, Interdiction over Indian reservation
- H Rept No 478, vol III (H R 3880), April 20, 1874, Seven Indians in New York
- 43 C 2 Sen Misc Doc No 71, vol I, Jan 20, 1875, Memorial of citizens of Cheek Nation against establishment of a Territorial government
- II Ex Doc No 17, vol XII, Dec 28, 1874, Facilities at Choctaw Indians to individuals
- H Ex Doc No 31, vol XII, Dec 22, 1874, Lands of Choctaw Indians of North Carolina
- II Ex Doc No 61, vol XII, Dec 17, 1874, Letter on timber on Indian reservation—Sec'y Columbus Delano
- II Ex Doc No 101, vol XV, Jan 13, 1875, Treaty with Indian tribes in Kansas
- 44 C 1 Sen Ex Doc No 34, March 7, 1887, Report on liquor in the Indian Territory—Acting Sec'y of War G M Robinson
- Sen Misc Doc No 91, vol I, April 17, 1876, Apache Indians in New Mexico
- II Misc Doc No 107, vol V, April 18, 1876, On the management of the Indian Department
- II Rept No 183, vol I, (H R 3163), Feb 25, 1876, Klamath Indian Reservation
- II Rept No 409, vol III (H R 3403), May 17, 1876, Chums of the Choctaw Indians
- II Rept No 647, vol V (H R 3693), June 9, 1876, A claim of the Cherokee Indians, Eastern Band
- 44 C 2 H Rept No 186, vol II (H R 3070), March 2, 1877, On the Osage Indians
- 45 C 2 Sen Ex Doc No 74, vol II, May 9, 1878, Letter on lives in Indian Territory—Sec'y Carl Schurz
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- Sen Misc Doc No 8, vol I (S 107), Dec 10, 1877, Memorial relating to the Indians, Choctaw delegates
- Sen Misc Doc No 18, vol I (S 107), Jan 14, 1877, Memorial against bill to enable Indians to become citizens
- H Misc Doc No 8, vol I (H R 2289), Jan 15, 1878, Memorial for payment of annuities
- H Rept No 66, vol I (H R 2687), Jan 22, 1878, Election of a delegate from Indian Territory
- H Rept No 251, vol II (H R 3650), Feb 26, 1878, Case of Choctaw Indians
- H Rept No 1002, vol V (H R 4968), June 17, 1878, Election of delegate from Indian Territory
- 45 C 3 Sen Ex Doc No 62, vol IV, Feb 8, 1879, Message on the Ute Indians—President R B Hayes
- Sen Misc Doc No 73, vol I (S 1322), Feb 19, 1879, Memorial against a U S court in Indian Territory
- Sen Rept No 731, vol II (S 1189), Feb 6, 1879, Lands in Klamath Indian Reservation
- Sen Rept No 744, vol III, Feb 11, 1879, Indian Territory
- II Rept No 73, vol I (H R 6247), Jan. 28, 1879, Klamath Indian Reservation
- H Rept No 165, vol I (H R 6268), March 8, 1879, Lands in Indian Territory in severalty
- 46 C 1 Sen Ex Doc No 20, vol I, June 20, 1879, Report on arrest of Cherokee Indians—Sec'y G A McGraw
- H Rept No 4, vol I (H R 440), May 16, 1879, Amount due the Choctaw Nation
- H Rept No 29, vol I, June 11, 1879, Indian training schools
- 46 C 2 Sen Ex Doc No 124, vol IV, March 10, 1880, Land patents to Indians
- Sen Misc Doc No 46, vol I, March 3, 1880, Resolution on making the Indian Territory a judicial district
- Sen Rept No 352, vol I (S 1467), March 8, 1880, Jurisdiction of Northern District of Texas
- Sen Rept No 670, vol VI (S 1298), May 31, 1880, Removal of Omaha Indians (majority and minority reports)
- Sen Rept No 708, vol VII (S Res 120), June 8, 1880, Removal of Northern Cheyenne Indians
- H Rept No 2, vol I (H R 831), Dec 10, 1879, Lands of Indian tribes—Warm Springs, Umatilla, etc
- H Rept No 431, vol II (H R 415), March 9, 1880, Creek orphan fund
- II Rept No 430, vol II (H R 350), March 9, 1880, Police for Indian reservations
- H Rept No 762, vol III (H R 1735), April 6, 1880, Industrial school for Indians
- II Rept No 755, vol III (H R 5034), April 6, 1880, U S courts in Indian Territory
- II Rept No 755, pt 2, vol III (H R 5034), April 10, 1880, Minority report on U S courts in Indian Territory
- II Rept No 1319, vol IV (H R 5038), On lands in severalty to Indians
- II Rept No 1576, vol V (H R 6038), May 28, 1880, Minority report on lands in severalty to Indians
- 46 C 3 Sen Ex Doc No 81, vol III, Feb 2, 1881, Letter on Ute commission—Sec'y Carl Schurz
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- S Rept No 549, vol I, Feb 9, 1881, Claims of Western Cherokee Indians
- 47 C 2 H Misc Doc vol 16, chap. XVI, June 30, 1880, Indian reservations from the public domain
- 48 C 2 Sen Ex Doc No 17, vol I, pt I, 1885, Leasing of Indian lands in the Indian Territory
- Sen Ex Doc No 65, vol I, pt 2, Special report of 1888 on Indian education and civilization
- 49 C 1 Sen Rept No 1278, vol VIII, IX, Condition of Indians in Indian Territory
- 72 C 1 H Misc Doc No 445, pt 15, 1892, Report on Indians (taxed and not taxed at 11th Census 1890)
- Sen Rept No 251, Vol. II (S 1548), Report on Indian Affairs
- Sen Rept No 910 (S 3407), New York Indians
- Sen Rept No 1003, vol V (S 2068), Taxation of Indian lands
- 52 C 2 26 (our Rec, p 2182, 1888, Indian litigation
- II Rept No 2844, vol II (H R 1877), Indian courts in Indian Territory
- 53 C 2 H Misc Doc vol 87, pt 3, 488, First annual message on removal—President Andrew Jackson
- Sen Rept No 877 (1894), Conditions of lands in Five Civilized Tribes
- 54 C 1 Sen Rept No 235, vol I (S 265), Taxation of allotted lands
- Sen Rept No 902, vol V (S 3051), Rights of mixed blood Indians
- H Rept No 2278, vol IX (H R 8584), To confirm title of mixed blood Indians to their lands
- 54 C 2 II Rept No 2095, vol III (H R 4876), Grazing on Indian lands
- 55 C 1 Sen Doc No 24, vol II, Indian Territorial courts, appeal of Cherokees
- Sen Rept No 6, vol I (S 378), To confirm title of mixed blood Indians to their lands
- Sen Rept No 7, vol I (S 374), Taxation of allotted lands
- 56 C 2 Sen Doc No 274, vol XXII, Protests of Choctaws against H R 8584
- H Rept No 593, vol III (H R 8581), Protection of people of Indian Territory
- 56 C 2 Sen Rept No 2483, vol V (H R 10701), To admit Indians to citizenship
- 57 C 1 35 Cong Rec, Pt I, p 90 (1901), Discussion of Allotment Act in message to Congress
- H Rept No 1782, vol VII (S 4284), Indian lands, suits for recovery, status of limitations to apply.

- H Rept No 2704, vol IX (H R 10300), Jurisdiction over certain crimes on South Dakota Reservations
- 57 C 2 Sen Doc No 38, vol V (H R 12543), Hearings on Statehood for Indian Territory
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- 58 C 1 & 2 Sen Doc No 161, vol V, To remove restrictions upon sale of allotments
- Sen Doc No 280, vol VII, Investigation of allotments in Indian Territory
- H Doc No 528, Investigation of certain official Indian Territory
- 60 C 1 Sen Doc 142 (1905-6), Alaska Territory
- H Doc No 920, Handbook of American Indians north of Mexico (Hodge)
- 60 C 1 Sen Doc No 215, vols XIV, XV, XVI, Investigation of affairs of Kickapoo Indians
- Sen Rept No 181, vol I (S 1830), Dakota Indians, suit in U S Court of Claims
- H Rept No 154, vol II (H 15041), Removal of restrictions on Indian lands in Oklahoma
- 61 C 1 & 2 Sen Rept No 368, vol III (H R 14972), To determine heirs of deceased Indians
- H Rept No 1135 (H 24902), Determination of heirs of deceased Indians—sale of allotments
- 62 C 1 & 2 Sen Rept No 147, vol I (S 3514), Jurisdiction in suits relating to allotments of lands
- Sen Rept No 720, (H R 1332), Regulation of Indian allotments disposed of by will
- 62 C 8 Sen Rept No 1213, vol I (H 20874), Report on appropriations for fulfilling treaty stipulations with various Indian tribes
- 63 C 2 H Doc No 1080, vol 128, Treaty items—Indian appropriation bill
- 63 C 8 Sen Doc No 084, vol XVI, Indian conditions
- H Doc No 1283, vol 103, St Croix Chippewa Indians—Tribal rights
- H Doc No 1690 (1915), Seneca and other Indians of the Five Nations of New York
- H Doc No 1683, vol 104, St Croix Chippewa Indians—Enrollment
- H Doc No 1698, vol 104, Indian conditions
- 64 C 1 Sen Rept No 168, vol I (S 1728), Removal of restrictions from lands of Quapaw allottees
- Sen Rept No 782, vol III (S 5016), Warm Springs Reservation—Boundaries
- 65 C 1 H Rept No 192 (II R 195), Coal and asphalt rights of Choctaw and Chickasaw Nations
- 65 C 2 Sen Rept No 207 (II R 195), Coal and asphalt rights of Choctaw and Chickasaw Nations
- Sen Rept No 380, vol I (S 4151), Five Civilized Tribes—Determination of heirs
- 66 C 1 Sen Rept No 185, vol I (S 1015), Dakota Indians—Suit in U S Court of Claims
- Sen Rept No 222 (H 5007), Citizenship to Indians who served in war with Germany
- H Rept No 140 (H R 5007), Citizenship to Indians who served in war with Germany
- 67 C 1 H Rept No 264 (S J Res 50), Five Civilized Tribes—Income tax
- 67 C 2 H Rept No 545, (S J Res 50), Five Civilized Tribes—Income Tax
- 67 C 8 Sen Rept No 1078 (S 4061), Water rights—Blackfoot Reservation
- H Rept No 1566 (S 4061), Water rights—Blackfoot Reservation
- 67 C 4 H Rept No 1351 (H R 11474), Condemnation for public purposes of land included in Indian allotment
- 68 C 1 65 Cong Rec, pp 5621-5622, 5803-6304 Re departmental decision in granting citizenship to Indians
- Sen Rept No 441 (H R 6356), Granting citizenship to Indians
- H Rept No 105, 243 (H R 6483), Osage Indian—Division of lands and funds inherited by person not of Indian blood
- H Rept No 222 (H R 6355), Granting citizenship to Indians
- 68 C 2 Sen Rept No 1118 (H R 7897), Assiniboine Indian claims
- H Rept No 1214 (II R 7897), Assiniboine Indian claims
- 69 C 1 Hearings, II Comm on Ind Aff, H R 7820, Reservation Claims of Indian (Chippewa)
- Sen Rept No 082 (S 1010), Chippewa Indian classification
- Sen Rept No 710 (S 3033), Condemnation—Pueblo lands
- Sen Rept No 1019 (S 4347), Development of oil and gas mining leases on Indian reservations
- Sen Rept No 1341 (H R 12383), Development of oil and gas mining leases on Indian reservations
- II Rept No 867 (II R 11171), Indian trust funds—regulating deposit and expenditure
- II Rept No 953 (H R 11201), Condemnation—Pueblo Lands
- 69 C 2 Sen Rept No 1240 (S 4893), Oil and gas mining leases on Executive Order reservations
- 70 C 1 Hearings, Sen Subcomm on Comm on Ind Aff, Survey of conditions of the Indians in the United States, Part I—Akima Wash, and Klamath Falls, Ore, Nov 1923, Part II—San Francisco and Riverside, Calif, Salt Lake City, Utah, Nov 1923, Part III—Health and sanitation on reservations, Dec 1923—Jan 1924, Part IV—Individual cases including Jackson Barnett, Feb—Mar 1924
- H Doc No 141, Rio Grande Conservancy District
- Sen Rept No 918 (S 4222), Creation of Indian trust estates
- H Rept No 480 (II R 70), Rio Grande Conservancy District
- II Rept No 740 (H R 10300), Amend Chippewa Indians jurisdictional act
- H Rept No 816 (H R 9483), Rights-of-way through Pueblo Indian land
- II Rept No 1858 (H R 7204), Creation of Indian trust estates
- II Rept No 1851 (H R 12414), Classification of Chippewa Indians
- 70 C 2 Sen Doc No 203 (1052-20), Indian lands
- H Rept No 3215 (H R 15723), Inspection of Indian reservations
- 71 C 1 Hearings, Sen Subcomm on Comm on Ind Aff, S Res 79 and 303, Survey of conditions of the Indians in the United States, Part V—Haywood, Lac du Flambeau, Madison, Wis, Pierce, S Dak, Winnebago, Neb, July, 1920
- Sen Doc No 16, Improvement of conditions on Indian reservations in Arizona
- Sen Doc No 208, Information relative to additional land for Indians
- 71 C 2 Hearings, Sen Comm on Ind Aff, S Res 282, Federal aid to states where nontribe Indian lands are located
- Hearings, Sen Comm on Ind Aff, S 1572, Jan 22 and March 19, 1930, Shoshone and Wahpeton Indians—Claims
- Hearings, Sen Comm on Ind Aff, S 2501, Feb 21, 1930, Creation of Indian trust estates
- Hearings, Sen Comm on Ind Aff, S 3150, Feb 26, 1930, Final enrollment of Indians of Klamath Reservation
- Hearings, Sen Comm on Ind Aff, S 3782, March 12, 1930, Addition to Western Navajo Indian Reservation
- Hearings, Sen Comm on Ind Aff, S 3041, April 13, 1930, Seminole Indians jurisdictional act
- Hearings, Sen Comm on Ind Aff, S 4105, April 26 and 28, 1930, Incorporation of Klamath Indian Tribe
- Hearings, Sen Comm on Ind Aff, S 3888, April 30, 1930, Fort Hall, Idaho, Indian irrigation project
- Hearings, Sen Comm on Ind Aff, S 615, May 1, 1930, Ute Indians jurisdictional act
- Hearings, Sen Subcomm of Comm on Ind Aff, Survey of conditions of the Indians in the United States, Part 6—Hearings on reimbursable features of Indian appropriations, Washington, D C, Jun 21, 1930, Part 7—Ft. Rucker, Rosend, Terry, Waggoner, S D, July 13-15, 17, 10, 1929; Part 8—Hearings on mismanagement of Phoenix School,

- Ariz., and boarding schools in general, at Washington, D. C., May 25, 27, 1930, Part II—North Dakota, July 1929, Part 10—Flathead power development, July 29, 30, 1929, March 24, 25 and April 10, 1930, Part 12—New York Indians, March 1, Nov. 23-26, 1929, Jan. 3, 1930, Part 14—Oklahoma (Five Civilized Tribes) Nov. 1929, Part 19—New Mexico and Colorado, May 1931, Part 29—Pueblo Land Rights, May 8, 9, 1931, Jan. 29-31, 1932, Part 22—Grazing on Indian lands, Jan. 21, 22, Feb. 4, 1932
- Hearings, H. Comm. on Ind. Aff., H. R. 8021, Feb. 1, April 1930, Claims of Sisseton and Wahpeton Bands of Sioux Indians
- Hearings, H. Comm. on Ind. Aff., H. R. 8070, Feb.—April 1930, Creation of Indian trust estates
- Hearings, H. Comm. on Ind. Aff., H. R. 9720, March 19—April 17, 1930, Indians of New York
- Hearings, H. Comm. on Ind. Aff., H. R. 16639, April 3, 1930, Claims of Pillager Band of Chippewa Indians in Minnesota
- Sen. Doc. No. 153 Flathead power development
- Sen. Rept. No. 158 (S. Res. 70, 70th Cong.), Survey of Conditions of Indian Lands in Chinook
- Sen. Rept. No. 372 (S. 1932), Claims of Sisseton and Wahpeton Bands of Sioux Indians
- Sen. Rept. No. 510 (S. 4208), Payment of interest on trust funds of Indian tribes
- H. Rept. No. 115 (H. R. 1421), Policy jurisdiction over rights-of-way Blackfoot Reservation
- H. Rept. No. 1272 (H. R. 11782), Payment of interest on trust funds of Indian tribes.
- 71 C 8 Hearings, Sen. Subcomm. of Comm. on Ind. Aff., Survey of conditions of the Indians, Part 11—Oil leases and operations in S. W., Jan. 30, 31, Feb. 8, 5, 1931, Part 13—Klamath Oregon logging operations, Jan. 30-31, Feb. 8, 5, 1931, Part 15—Oklahoma, Nov. 17-22, 1930, Part 16—Omaha, Catawba, Seminole Reservations and Choctaw Indian Agency, March 29, 28, 31, 1930, Nov. 6, 8, and Dec. 10, 1930, Part 17—Arizona, April-May, 1931, Part 18—Navajo in Arizona and New Mexico, April, May 1931, Part 21—Hearings at California, Nevada, Oregon, Washington, Jan. 1930, April, May, June, 1931, Part 24—Quapaw mining lease, Oklahoma, Nov. Dec. 1930
- Hearings, Sen. Comm. on Ind. Aff., S. 5928, Feb. 18, 1931, To quiet title of Pueblo Indian land
- Hearings, H. Comm. on Ind. Aff., H. R. 13827, Jan. 19 and 21, 1931, Distribution of permanent fund of Chippewas, Minnesota
- Hearings, H. Comm. on Ind. Aff., H. R. 11208, Feb. 18, 1931, Ratification of leases with Seneca Indians
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- 72 C 1 Hearings, Sen. Comm. on Ind. Aff., S. 1930, Jan. 20, 1932, Creation of Indian trust estates
- Hearings, Sen. Comm. on Ind. Aff., S. 1108, March 23, 1932, Authorizing Tungst and Enida Indians to bring suit in Court of Claims
- Hearings, Sen. Comm. on Ind. Aff., S. 2268, March 30, 1932, Providing for Choctaw and Chickasaw enrollments
- Hearings, Sen. Comm. on Ind. Aff., S. 2035, April 7, 1932, Revision of timber contracts with Indians
- Hearings, Sen. Comm. on Ind. Aff., S. 3698, April 19, 1932, Organizing Klamath Indian Corporation
- Hearings, Sen. Comm. on Ind. Aff., S. 3608, April 20, 1932, Apportionment of waters of Ahtanum Creek, Wash
- Hearings, Sen. Comm. on Ind. Aff., S. 2671, May 28-29, 1932, To provide for final enrollment of Indians of Klamath Indian Reservation in Oregon
- Hearings, Sen. Subcomm. of Comm. on Ind. Aff., Survey of conditions of the Indians, Part 23—Montana July 22-24, 1930, Aug. 1-2, 1930, Part 25—Indian claims against Government, Jan., Mar., Nov., Dec. 1930 Mar., June 1931, Part 26—Hearings on Indian situations in Missouri, Texas, Oklahoma, and Florida, Jan. 31, Dec. 6, 10, 1930, Jan. 22, June 30, 1932, Part 27—Navajo, Idaho, Utah, Sept. 12-14, 1932, Part 28—Neveda, Dec. 10, 17, 18, 20, 1932, Part 29—California, Sept. 20-24, 27-28, 1932, Part 32—Idaho and Washington, Oct. 23-25, 28, 1933
- Hearings, H. Comm. on Ind. Aff., H. R. 8071, Feb. 17, 1932, Authorization of appropriations, to pay in part liability of United States to certain Pueblos
- Hearings, H. Comm. on Ind. Aff., H. R. 10927, April 28, 1932, Confering jurisdiction on Court of Claims to adjudicate rights of Ojibwa and Mesquian Tribes of Indians
- Hearings, H. Comm. on Ind. Aff., H. R. 8750, May 10-10, 1932, Extension of restriction period applicable to Indians of Five Civilized Tribes in Oklahoma
- Hearings, H. Comm. on Ind. Aff., H. R. 10884, May 25, 1932, Authorizing reimbursable debts of Indians and tribes of Indians
- Sen. Rept. No. 652 (S. 3877), Irrigation construction charges on Indian projects
- H. Rept. No. 943 (H. R. 8818), Irrigation construction charges on Indian projects
- H. Rept. No. 951 (H. R. 10884), Adjustment of reimbursable Indian debts
- H. Rept. No. 1802 (H. R. 6084), Determination of heirs of deceased Indians in relation to contracts for sale of tribal timber
- 72 C 2 Hearings, Sen. Comm. on Ind. Aff., S. 5928, Dec. 7, 1932, Boundary, Navajo-Hopi Indian Reservation
- Hearings, Sen. Comm. on Ind. Aff., S. 5924, Jan. 25, 1933, Fish and Game within Allegheny, Calaveras, and Old Spanish Reservations
- Sen. Rept. No. 25, pt. 4, Indian irrigation projects
- Sen. Rept. No. 25, pt. 5, Administration of Indian trust funds
- Sen. Rept. No. 1261 (H. R. 6084), Revision of timber contracts with Indians
- Sen. Rept. No. 1885, Tax exempt lands
- 73 C 1 Hearings, Sen. Subcomm. of Comm. on Ind. Aff., Survey of the conditions of the Indians, Part 81—Montana, Oct. Nov. 1933, Part 38—San Diego and San Francisco Calif., June 20, July 2, 1934
- Sen. Doc. No. 12, vol. 1, pp. 607-632, Report of Forest Service on Indian forests
- 73 C 2 Hearings, Sen. Comm. on Ind. Aff., S. J. Res. 95, April 24, 1932, To restore lands of Navajo Indian Reservation in Arizona to exploration and location under public land mining laws
- Hearings, Sen. Comm. on Ind. Aff., S. 2755 and S. 3045, 1934, To grant to Indians living under Federal allotment freedom to organize for purposes of local self-government and economic enterprise, etc
- Hearings, H. Comm. on Ind. Aff., H. R. 7002, 1934, Readjustment of Indian Affairs
- Sen. Doc. No. 170 (S. 320), Claims of Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians of North Dakota
- Sen. Rept. No. 147, Survey of conditions of Indians—Flathead power rates
- Sen. Rept. No. 881 (S. 1888), Conservation of grazing resources in Indian lands
- Sen. Rept. No. 392 (S. 1888), Administration of tribal forest and grazing lands
- Sen. Rept. No. 513 (S. 2571) Report on Johnson-O'Malley Bill for federal-state cooperation in education, social welfare, etc. of Indians
- Sen. Rept. No. 684 (S. 2671), Repealing obsolete laws relating to Indians
- Sen. Rept. No. 1080 (S. 3045), To conserve and develop Indian lands and resources (Wheeler-Howard Bill)
- Sen. Rept. No. 1250 (S. 3605), Collateral requirements as to deposits of Indian funds

- Sen Rept No 1423 (1934), Modification of Indian liquor laws
- H Rept No 624 (H R 5383), Payment of tax upon royalty interests of restricted Indians of Five Civilized Tribes
- H Rept No 825 (H R 5076) 1934, Determination of Indian heirs and disposition of allotments of deceased Indians
- H Rept No 891 (H R 1871), Conservation of grazing resources in Indian lands
- H Rept No 1099 (S 1888), Conservation of grazing resources in Indian lands
- H Rept No 1100 (S 1889), Administration of tribal forest and game lands
- H Rept No 1904 (H R 7002) 1934, Readjustment of Indian Affairs (Wheeler-Howard Bill)
- 74 C 1 Hearings, Sen Comm on Ind Aff, S 2047, April 8-11, 1935 To promote general welfare of Indians of Oklahoma
- Hearings, Sen Comm on Ind Aff, S 1793, May 6-July 1, 1935, California Indians jurisdictional act
- Hearings, Sen Comm on Ind Aff, S 2731, June 10 and 17, 1935, To create an Indian Affairs Commission
- Hearings, Sen Comm on Ind Aff, S 3293, July 20 and 27, 1935, Old age pensions for Indians
- Hearings, H Comm on Ind Aff (H R 6284) April-May 1935, Promote welfare of Indians of Oklahoma
- Sen Rept No 438 (S 2213), Defining exterior boundaries, Navajo Indian Reservation
- Sen Rept No 615 (S 2050), Granting concessions and leasing lands—the reservation sites and Indian irrigation projects
- Sen Rept No 900 (S 2203), To promote the development of Indian arts and crafts and create a board to assist therein
- Sen Rept No 1104 (S 1793) 1935, California Indians jurisdictional act
- Sen Rept No 1107 (S 3289), Old age pensions for Indians
- Sen Rept No 1232 (S 2047), Welfare of Indians of Oklahoma
- H Rept Nos 288, 290 (H R 5429, 5430), Claims of Stockbridge and Munsee Indians
- H Rept No 830 (H R 2048), Chippewa Indians of Minnesota jurisdictional act
- H Rept No 357 (H R 4128), Public-domain lands in Nevada and Oregon as grazing reserve for Indians of Fort McDowell, Nev (Palute and Shoshone)
- H Rept No 478 (H R 6542), Defining exterior boundaries, Navajo Indian Reservation, New Mexico
- H Rept No 701 (H R 6935), Confering jurisdiction on district courts over Osage Indian drug and liquor addicts, April 19, 1935
- H Rept No 1883 (H J Res 215), Authorize the modification of terms of existing contracts for sale of timber on Indian land
- H Rept No 1707 (H R 8018), Old age pensions for Indians
- 74 C 2 Hearings, Sen Comm on Ind Aff, S 2047, 1936, To promote general welfare of Indians of Oklahoma
- Hearings, Sen Subcomm of Comm on Ind Aff, Survey of the conditions of Indians, Part 86—Metlakatla Indians, Alaska, May 19, 1934, July 12, 1936, Part 86—Alaska (including remainder), July, 1936
- Hearings, H Comm on Ind Aff, H R 8390, 1936, Condition of Indians in United States
- H Rept No 2244 (H R 9806), Extension of provisions of Wheeler-Howard Act to Alaska
- H Rept, 2998 (H R 7764), To relieve restricted Indians whose lands have been taxed, etc
- 75 C 1 Hearings, Sen Comm on Ind Aff, S 1424, Oct 24, 1935—Aug 19, 1937, Mission Indians, Palm Springs Band—allotments
- Hearings, Sen Subcomm of Comm on Ind Aff, Survey of conditions of Indians, Part 84—Navajo Boundary and Pueblos in New Mexico, March, May, 1936, Aug 17-19, 21, 30, 1936
- Hearings, Sen Comm on Ind Aff, S 1071, March 8-22, May 15, 1937, California Indians jurisdictional act
- Hearings, Sen Comm on Ind Aff, S 1770, Aug 9, 1937, California Indians jurisdictional act
- Hearings, H Comm on Ind Aff, H R 5243, March 10, 1937, California Indians jurisdictional act
- Hearings, H Comm on Ind Aff, H R 7598, March 17, 1937, Tax upon land and zinc on Quapaw Indian lands in Oklahoma
- Hearings, H Comm on Ind Aff, H R 6753, April 21, 22 and July 24, 1937, Conditions of Sioux Indians
- Hearings, H Comm on Ind Aff, H R 7598, May 13, 1937, Klamath Indians payments
- Hearings, H Comm on Ind Aff, H R 1908, June 24, 1937, California Indians jurisdictional act
- Sen Rept No 832 (S 1501) 1937, To relieve restricted Indians whose lands have been taxed, etc
- Sen Rept No 551 (S 2167) 1937, To authorize the deposit and investment of Indian funds
- Sen Rept No 985 (S 2080) 1937, Leasing Indian lands for mining purposes
- 75 C 3 Sen Cong Rec pt 9, pp 175-180 Speech by Delegate J D Diamond on Natives of Alaska
- Hearings, Sen Comm on Ind Aff, S 2820, March 22, 1938, Delaware Indians jurisdictional act
- Hearings, Sen Comm on Ind Aff, S 3080, 4086, Relating to restrictions of Osage property acquired by deed or devise
- Hearings, Sen Comm on Ind Aff, S 2854, May 6, 1938, Prairie Band of Pottawatomie Indians jurisdictional bill
- Hearings, Sen Comm on Ind Aff, S Res 158, May 6, 1938, Love of Reverend by states due to tax-exempt Indian lands
- Hearings, H Comm on Ind Aff, H R 7450, March 15-June 1, 1938, Palm Springs Band of Mission Indians—to authorize sale of part of lands belonging to Palm Springs or Agua Caliente Band of Mission Indians
- Hearings, H Comm on Ind Aff, H R 6539, April 11, 1938, Fort Hall Indians jurisdictional act
- Hearings, H Comm on Ind Aff, H R 8701, May 19, 1938, Osage Indians, tribal and individual affairs
- H Doc 483, Alaska, Its Resources and Development, 1937
- Sen Rept No 1469 (S 8484) 1939, Citizenship to Metlakatla Indians—Alaska
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